

1 **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

2 **TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015**

3 **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

4 Board Members Present: Michael Hatch, Frank Weeks, Adam Mini, Malcolm MacLeod, Robert  
5 Carpenter

6 Administrators Present: Principal Locke, Vice Principal Deb Bergeron, Director of Student  
7 Services Emily Reese, Superintendent Fauci, Business Administrator Donna Clairmont

8 Others Present: Lawrence Smotrilla, Courtenay Phillips

9 **CALL TO ORDER:**

10 Board Chair Michael Hatch called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

11 **PROOF OF POSTING:**

12 Proof of posting was verified by Superintendent Fauci.

13 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

14 Superintendent Fauci stated that the minutes from March were not included in the Board packet  
15 but they were e-mailed to Board members.

16 **CORRESPONDENCE**

17 A letter of retirement was submitted by Susie French.

18 A letter of resignation was submitted by Audra Warren.

19 A letter of resignation was submitted by Business Administrator Clairmont.

20 A letter of resignation was submitted by Jacob Goodwin.

21 A thank you card was submitted by Trish Hickey.

22 A thank you letter was submitted by David Pinkham, GHS Athletic Director and Shawn Garrett-  
23 GHS Head Football Coach for the donation made by Gilmanton.

24 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

25 none

26 **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

27 Board Member Report: Frank Weeks and Adam Mini attended the GHS Board Meeting and  
28 reported that the biggest topic was grades. The Board voted to change the policy back, so the  
29 policy will revert retroactively. The Gilford High School Guidance Department will contact

30 Gilmanton students to see if they want to take honors now that weighted grades are back in  
31 effect.

32 The next Board meeting will be a joint meeting with Gilford and Gilmanton.

33 Adam Mini said there was some information presented about college data. Gilford High School  
34 has 18% dropout rate of college freshmen. NH has 30% 4 year graduation rate.

35 Robert Carpenter said he attended the seminar sponsored by the Department of Education  
36 yesterday at which the Sanborn School presented about how they evolved. There was a lot of  
37 effort and resistance at the beginning, but it is worth it. Pending house bill 323, there may be  
38 another opportunity to participate in a pilot program. There will be another informational session  
39 coming up at the Sanborn School.

#### 40 **Principal's Report:**

41 **Current Enrollment-** We currently have 413 students at the Gilmanton School, up two students  
42 from last month. Current class numbers are as follows: K-44; 1-44 (up one student); 2-50; 3-55  
43 (up one student); 4-43; 5-45; (up one student); 6-40; 7-44; and 8-48 (down one student).

44 **Kindergarten Registration-** We have forty-two students registered for next year's kindergarten  
45 (up four students from last month) and ten projected retentions. We are planning to have three  
46 kindergarten teachers and two first grade teachers during the 2015-2016 school year.  
47 Kindergarten screening will be during the week of June 15.

48 **Smarter Balanced Testing-** Eighth graders are finishing their Smarter Balanced Testing this  
49 week and next, which will complete the testing for our students. We have learned many lessons  
50 during this testing window; we will be changing our approach next year.

51 **Eighth Grade Transitions-** Students have registered for next year's courses in Gilford, and they  
52 will make one more trip to the high school before school ends. On June 2 they will tour the  
53 building and listen to information regarding their ninth grade year.

#### 54 **Upcoming Events-**

55 May 14- Monster Band Concert- 7PM in Gilford

56 May 15- Kindergarten Mother's Day Tea, postponed from May 8

57       Grade 2 to the Boston Aquarium

58       Grade 5 to the Discovery Center in Concord

59       Semi-Formal Dance, Grades 7 and 8

60 May 15- Trimester 3 Progress Reports.

61 May 20- Early Release - Diabetes Education

62 May 21- Memorial Day Assembly at 9 AM; Grade 1 to Squam Lake; Track

63       Championship Meet in Belmont; Spring Choral Concert at Gilford, 7 PM

64 May 24- Memorial Day Service at 11:30 AM at the Smith Meeting House- Ms. Sawyer and  
65 Band

66 May 28- Art Club and Advanced Spanish to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston

67 May 29- Great East Festival

68 May 30-31 Softball and Baseball Tournaments (Locations TBD)

69 **Superintendent's Report:**

70 Superintendent Fauci stated that he is still chasing down some residency issues, but a letter will  
71 soon be sent out.

72 A lot of time has been spent interviewing candidates for open positions, four of which are being  
73 brought forward for Board approval tonight. Because Superintendent Fauci knows we have three  
74 additional candidates coming forward soon, he would prefer to not wait an entire month before  
75 hiring because we may lose someone.

76 An illness began at school on Thursday. We had about 20% of students out with vomiting.  
77 Superintendent Fauci informed the Board and parents. The nurse was in touch with the  
78 Department of Public Health and she received direction about cleaning the building. Parents  
79 were encouraged to keep children out of school 24 hours after illness. At the highest, we had  
80 over 30% of students absent. Yesterday we had 20 people absent and absences were even fewer  
81 today. Robert Carpenter asked if we contacted the bus company regarding cleaning.  
82 Superintendent Fauci said we didn't. Principal Locke said that we did take the students to eat  
83 outside and we canceled the dance per the recommendation from the Department of Health.

84 Superintendent Fauci will be attending the Primex workshop for the next two days.

85 **Modular Update- Funding**

86 A schematic of the modular was included in the Board packet, but it does not include the  
87 connector. Some changes were suggested. However, when the architect was consulted, we found  
88 some of the suggested changes are structural and would increase the price if made. Some minor  
89 changes were made. He still has to work on the plans for the connector. As soon as we receive  
90 those, the plan will be ready to go to the state and to the fire department for review and next  
91 steps.

92 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont said that Aries offers financing at an interest rate of  
93 12%, which is high. The annual cost through Aries would be \$52,000. However, Merchant's  
94 Bank offered financing of \$182,277 at 1.2%. Franklin Savings Bank was also contacted and  
95 offered a 5 year loan at a rate of 2.85%. Superintendent Fauci contacted Franklin Savings Bank  
96 to see if they could offer a lower rate to be more competitive. He was told that they cannot come  
97 close to the rate offered by Merchant's Bank. Merchants bank offered a level principal method of  
98 \$39,408 at the highest, \$37,045 at the lowest, and a mortgage of \$38,296. Through Franklin  
99 Savings Bank, the cost would be \$3,265 per month and \$31,892 per year. That amounts to  
100 \$4,800 in interest over the 5 year loan.

101 **Septic System Update -Bids**

102 RFS came out last week to look at the system and the septic design of both fields and they  
103 created some test pits. The new system will be a Presby system, which includes a pumping  
104 station and alternating fields to prolong the life of the system. The time line is favorable with the  
105 project anticipated to be completed mid-summer. RFS will be supervising the project. Once we  
106 award the bid to a contractor to install, they will oversee everything. We should have the  
107 drawings in a week or two and Superintendent Fauci anticipates having a contractor bid ready for  
108 approval at the next Board meeting. Business Administrator Donna Clairmont and  
109 Superintendent Fauci asked for direction about how to advertise, noting that a concern they share  
110 is that they know at least two companies that are interested, one of which replaced the last septic  
111 and the other for which a budget committee member is employed. Superintendent Fauci said  
112 both of those companies helped us determine the cost of the new septic so we could come  
113 forward with an accurate number for the warrant article. Board Chair Michael Hatch suggested  
114 advertising in a wide scope including the Laconia Daily Sun and Concord Monitor.  
115 Superintendent Fauci said he will advertise as soon as he receives the plans.

### 116 **Technology Upgrade Quotes**

117 We still have the one new quote from Exsro. Network Administrator Art Reardon received a  
118 quote from Carousel, which is a vendor that has vendor opportunity, much like an insurance  
119 agency that shops individual companies for the best deal. Mr. Reardon stated that we are looking  
120 for hardware that can make multiple connections at once. The future of schools is to BYOD  
121 (bring your own device). Mr. Reardon would like these devices to auto connect, print, and filter  
122 so kids can complete assignments. Ultimately, he would like the ability to flood the network.  
123 Adam Mini said that the goal of this plan was not to enhance the network, but to stop the drops,  
124 noting that people have been frustrated about the cost of the cabling and how little it helps with  
125 the network dropping. Superintendent Fauci clarified that our improvements would occur in  
126 phases, the first of which is the cabling, the second of which is the network. Adam Mini asked  
127 what these quotes give us in terms of infrastructure. Mr. Reardon explained we have ten access  
128 points, two of which are dead and eight of which are still working. Even the remaining access  
129 points are at the end of life. Improved network connectivity will allow students to move among  
130 classrooms with a device and maintain the wireless connection, which does not occur at this  
131 time. We are looking for reliability and connectivity throughout the school. Adam Mini said that  
132 at the last Board meeting they were trying to compare numbers and got confused with what is  
133 offered in each bid. Mr. Reardon explained using Extreme as an example: A quantity of 10 is a  
134 promotion bundle and it would give us 30 total access points.

135 Adam Mini asked about a Cisco, a company with which he is familiar. Mr. Reardon said he once  
136 worked for Cisco and explained that Aruba Wireless is education centered, whereas Cisco is  
137 business-g geared for multiple buildings and doesn't have the same expansion capabilities. Adam  
138 Mini's concern is that Mr. Reardon is just one person, so if he ever leaves, he doesn't want him to  
139 be the only person who knows how to fix the system. Mr. Reardon said he has never set things  
140 up that way. Mr. Reardon also noted that while we have approximately \$55,000 to spend on the  
141 upgrades, he may not need all the access points, so the cost could be less.

142 Mr. Reardon suggested Juniper Switching and Aruba Wireless even though the Extreme switches  
143 are durable and similar to HP. Superintendent Fauci clarified that the cost of the switches do not  
144 include installation. Mr. Reardon said he will install the switches himself.

145 Malcolm MacLeod asked if we should expect to have a recurring switch support cost of  
146 \$4,415.40, which we will. However, we can budget for such costs in future budgets.

147 Superintendent Fauci asked how much of this will permeate throughout the building. Mr.  
148 Reardon said the computer room will house the core switch and further explained that the police  
149 could be outside the building and access the cameras in the building. Malcolm MacLeod asked  
150 how far it will cover. Mr. Reardon said the connection may extend to the library. Malcolm  
151 MacLeod asked if the network can be password protected. Mr. Reardon said we can have a  
152 public SSID that will keep people out who we don't want to have access. We can also identify  
153 which devices should access the public network vs. the school network.

154 Business Administrator Clairmont said for next year it would be covered under the \$55,000.  
155 When building future budgets, include licenses and fees.

156 Malcolm MacLeod asked if Art Reardon thinks we will ever have to replace the network. Mr.  
157 Reardon said we have at least five years with this network. Malcolm MacLeod asked the longest  
158 we could go. Mr. Reardon said hardware is unpredictable because technology is constantly  
159 evolving. Superintendent Fauci asked how our servers are. Art said they are old and we will have  
160 to look at replacing them soon. We currently have seven servers, but his goal is to have three.  
161 Superintendent Fauci asked for a ballpark amount. Mr. Reardon said the servers will cost  
162 approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000 a piece. Superintendent Fauci said his fear is that the current  
163 servers are at the end of life. To spend the \$42,000 we need for the drops, then to have a server  
164 issue could cost us \$18,000 more. is it worth it to get them or do we wait until something  
165 happens. Adam Mini suggested tabling until the fund balance comes back. Mr. Reardon will get  
166 prices for servers for the next meeting.

167 Malcolm MacLeod asked if the support cost listed on the quote is for parts or labor. Mr. Reardon  
168 said it is for parts and he will do most of the labor himself. He has used this program for 12  
169 years. He explained that the previous company his predecessor used is now defunct and has  
170 folded. With Carousel, we get stellar results and he also likes them because they are a large  
171 company and they provide almost immediate resolution to any problem. He said schools often  
172 get pushed around by vendors, but Carousel responds quickly and equated them to the big  
173 brother who keeps the bully at bay. He is looking too protect the future of the school. Adam  
174 MacLeod encouraged taking advantage of professional development for technology.

175 Superintendent Fauci thank Mr. Reardon for all the hard work.

## 176 **Gilman Award**

177 The Gilman Award will be discussed in non-public.

## 178 **Nomination of Jill Nielson as Middle school Science Teacher**

179 Superintendent Fauci spoke to the process- We try to involve all the stakeholders. A chair of a  
180 committee is an administrator (Vice Principal Deb Bergeron for Science, Principal Locke for  
181 Library, Director of Student Services Emily Reese for English, and Principal Locke and Vice  
182 Principal Deb Bergeron for Special Education.) We get quite a bit of interest from the staff to  
183 participate on committees and he takes the recommendations of the interview committees very  
184 seriously. They sort through the resumes and decide who to interview, then develop questions

185 asked of all candidates. Two or three names are brought forward to Superintendent Fauci, he  
186 meets with the candidate, and confers with Principal Locke. Finally, a single name is brought  
187 forward for Board approval. The most important thing we do as admin. is who we put in front of  
188 kids.

189 Superintendent Fauci stated that Jill Nielson has a great history of coaching and her reference  
190 checks were outstanding highlighting skills with student advocacy, great rapport, and hands-on  
191 lessons.

### 192 **Nomination of Jolene Wernig-Librarian Position**

193 Jolene Wernig is currently employed in Alton and was one of two candidates. She is an  
194 outstanding candidate. Superintendent Fauci spoke to her superintendent and to her former  
195 principal and both had great things to say. Ms. Wernig has a strong computer background and  
196 has a great philosophy about literary collections and how to keep them current. She is also a  
197 former guidance counselor.

### 198 **Nomination of Amber Casale-English Teacher Position Tutor**

199 Amber Casale has been in the building for several years and is a strong candidate. She is a  
200 certified teacher and has a great rapport with the middle school team.

### 201 **Nomination of Nancy Fournier-Director of Student Services**

202 Nancy Fournier currently works in Barnstead as a special educator and case manager where she  
203 is highly regarded. She has great recommendations from Northwood where she was previously  
204 employed. She is a hard worker and though she has never been an administrator before, she has a  
205 strong desire to succeed. She is one of two certified applicants. This is an area of critical  
206 shortage.

### 207 **1st Reading of Policies**

#### 208 **Policy GCI-Professional Staff Development Opportunities**

209 Malcolm MacLeod asked about the wording "funding is available for teachers". Principal  
210 Locke said that past practice has been that teachers pay for their own re-certification. The policy  
211 suggests that teachers access professional development monies for re-certification. The Board  
212 agreed to remove that wording.

213 Malcolm MacLeod asked about devices gifted at workshops. The district owns any  
214 device given at workshops because the district pays for the workshop, but the teacher receiving it  
215 may use it in the classroom. Principal Locke said that if something is given, the workshop is  
216 typically much more expensive, so it is not actually a gift.

#### 217 **Policy GBEEA-Confidential Student Information**

218 Adam Mini asked if current volunteers have to sign any documentation regarding  
219 confidential information. Principal Locke said we do not have them do that, but superintendent  
220 Fauci noted that we do have an instrument for that. Principal Locke agreed we should implement

221 it. Principal Locke said we don't require volunteers to be fingerprinted, so they are never alone  
222 with students. However, she does agree that they are privy to confidential information.

223 **Policy JICM- Bring your own Device/Technology**

224 Adam Mini asked if we are ready to agree on this. Principal Locke said that we do have  
225 language in the handbook that students can bring in their own kindles and laptops if necessary.  
226 Malcolm MacLeod asked if this is causing issues. Principal Locke said that kids were able to  
227 bring in cell phones to listen to music, but they abused that, so we revisited use. Student cell  
228 phone use is not permitted in the building. Board Chair Michael Hatch said this policy is just  
229 setting parameters. Adam Mini is concerned that this is opening doors we are not prepared for.  
230 Board Chair Michael Hatch said other language in the policy has us covered.

231 **Proposed 2015-2016 Holiday Schedule**

232 The policy was reviewed.

233 **Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2015**

234 Change line 338: Adam Carpenter to Adam Mini

235 Correct spelling of “catch” on line 288.

236 **Meeting Minutes of March**

237 On line 53: Note that essays written on March 11 were for the Blue Ribbon application.

238 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

239 Lawrence Smotrilla asked if there is there something wrong with the two servers to bring use to  
240 seven. Mr. Mini said that they no longer work and Mr. Reardon wants to replace and consolodate  
241 the remaining with three more powerful servers. Mr. Smotrilla asked if we have \$55,000 and we  
242 are spending \$42,000, can't we buy one new, and rotate the old ones out. Board Chair Michael  
243 Hatch said he thinks Mr. Reardon feels the new ones will have much more capacity, so we can  
244 consolidate the seven to three.

245 Mr. Smotrilla asked if licensing is settled to be in the budget or is that an out of pocket expense  
246 for the teachers. Board Chair Michael Hatch confirmed it is out of pocket expense because that's  
247 how it is always been.

248 Mr.Smotrilla asked if parents are allowed at school dances. Principal Locke said that if parents  
249 want to go, they certainly can.

250 Finally, Mr. Smotrilla asked about the upcoming Board schedule. Board Chair Michael Hatch  
251 explained that we will have a joint meeting with Gilford next month then we will break into  
252 separate meetings. We do meet throughout the summer.

253 **ACTION ITEMS**

254 On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted  
255 to accept the letter or retirement from Susie French.

256 Principal Locke noted we are having a retirement party on June 10 at the Library for Mrs.  
257 French, Mrs. Kirby, and Mrs. Fougere.

258 On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously  
259 voted to accept the letter of resignation from Audra Warren.

260 On a motion made by Frank Weeks, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board unanimously  
261 voted to accept the letter of resignation from Business Administrator Clairmont Clairmont.

262 Malcolm thanked Business Administrator Clairmont for having so much to offer and  
263 being so knowledgeable.

264 On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously  
265 voted to accept the letter of resignation from Jacob Goodwin.

266 On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board unanimously  
267 voted to accept the technology update quotes from Carousel Juniper 42,756.85

268 On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board  
269 unanimously voted to approve the hiring of Jill Nielson as the Middle School Science Teacher.

270 Salaries are commensurate with degree and collective bargaining agreement.

271 On a motion made by Frank Weeks, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously voted to  
272 approve the hiring of Jolene Wernig as Librarian.

273 Frank asked about salary. Superintendent Fauci said her salary will likely be higher than  
274 the current Librarian because she has more experience.

275 On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously  
276 voted to approve the hiring of Amber Casale as English Teacher.

277 On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously  
278 voted to approve the hiring of Nancy Fournier as Director of Student Services.

279 On a motion made by Malcolm , seconded by Adam, the Board unanimously approved the first  
280 reading of policies GCI, GBEAA, and JICM.

281 On a motion made by Robert Carpenter, seconded by Adam Mini, the Board unanimously  
282 approved the 2015-2016

283 On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously  
284 approved the meeting minutes of April 14, 2015 as amended.

285 On a motion made by Adam Mini, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board unanimously  
286 approved the meeting minutes of March 11, 2015 as amended.

287 Frank asked about requiring students to attend a dance. Principal Locke clarified that students  
288 could be excused if parents have other obligation. She is trying to encourage students to attend  
289 dances so they can be a part of the fund raising for their own trip rather than just skipping  
290 because they didn't feel like going.



291 On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Robert Carpenter, the Board  
292 unanimously voted to approve for the funding note through Merchants Bank at 1.62% with  
293 annual payments of \$38,246.

294 Potential new hires-how to move forward. Frank Weeks suggested that Superintendent Fauci  
295 have the ability to use his discretion.

296 Frank Weeks motioned and Malcolm MacLeod seconded to allow Superintendent Fauci to make  
297 decisions about the three potential candidates.

298 On an amended motion made by Frank Weeks, seconded by Malcolm MacLeod, the Board  
299 unanimously voted to allow Superintendent Fauci to make decisions about four potential  
300 candidates.

301 On a motion made by Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Robert Carpenter, by roll call vote, the  
302 Board went in to non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II ( c ) at 7:48 p.m.

303 The Board came out of non-public session at 8:25 p.m.

304 The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

305 Respectfully submitted,

306 Robert Carpenter,  
307 School Board Clerk