

1 **GILMANTON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

2 **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2012**

3 **GILMANTON SCHOOL SCIENCE ROOM**

4 Board Members Present: Renee Kordas, Frank Weeks, and Ella Jo Regan

5 Administrators Present: Superintendent John Fauci, Principal Carol Locke, Vice Principal Deb  
6 Bergeron, Student Services Director Emily Reese

7 Others Present: Lynn Paige, Karen Clifford, Denise Sherburne, Malcom MacLeod, Michelle  
8 Heyman, Liz Brulotte, Frank Gianni, Erica Presby-Breault, Karen Stockwell

9 **CALL TO ORDER**

10 Board Chair Renee Kordas called the Work Session Meeting to order at 6:10 P.M.

11 Ella Jo Regan stated that with the new SAU configuration, we need to monitor new, current,  
12 SAU administrative model.

13 **DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED 2012-2013 BOARD GOALS, DISTRICT GOALS,**  
14 **SCHOOL GOALS**

15 Board Chair Renee Kordas read the following School Board Goals to all present.

16 **Board Goals:**

- 17 1. To continue to work collaboratively with the Gilford Board to maintain and increase  
18 communication between districts.
- 19 2. To support a comprehensive academic program at all levels.  
20 Board Chair Renee Kordas stated this is important to continue.
- 21 3. To continue to update School Board policies as needed.
- 22 4. To continue with the short and long term plans for the facility maintenance and future  
23 space needs.  
24 Board Chair Renee Kordas stated this is important, especially with the school being full.
- 25 5. To support compliance requirements for the School Corrective Action Plan.  
26 Board Chair Renee Kordas stated she hopes that we will be able to remove this goal next  
27 year.
- 28 6. To prepare a budget that supports the educational needs of students while remaining  
29 fiscally responsible to the community.  
30 Ella Jo Regan stated she likes the way this goal is written.

31 Superintendent Fauci read the following District Goals to all present. He stated that all goals can  
32 be found on the district link on the website.

33 **District Goals:**

- 34 1. To oversee and coordinate curriculum, instruction, assessment processes and programs  
35 with an emphasis in all academic areas.

- 36 Superintendent Fauci stated that this is an ongoing, continuous initiative and should be  
37 kept as a goal.
- 38 2. The Gilmanton School District is committed to improve student achievement through a  
39 comprehensive, standards aligned, Response to Intervention (RTI) model enabling early  
40 identification and intervention for all students with academic or behavioral difficulties  
41 prior to student failure with the primary goal of improving all student achievement and  
42 growth.
- 43 Superintendent Fauci stated that Student Services Director Emily Reese worked hard on  
44 this goal and she asked that it be kept in.
- 45 3. Meet or exceed the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) target in all areas with emphasis on  
46 the special education cell and alternative assessment for out in-district as well as our out-  
47 of-district students.
- 48 It was predicted at a workshop from the commissioner that 86% of schools in NH will not  
49 make AYP. In 2014, it will have to be at 100%, and she predicts that 100% will fail to  
50 make APY. The state has proposed a waiver for NCLB, and it is not as punitive to  
51 districts as the ramifications of not making AYP.
- 52 4. To continue to communicate with the Gilford administration to establish better day-to-  
53 day education cell and alternative assessment for our in-district as well as our out-of-  
54 district students.
- 55 Superintendent Fauci stated he thinks this is happening, to the point where there is much  
56 communication on student issues. Frank Weeks stated he would like to see how  
57 Gilmanton students compare with Gilford students. Superintendent Fauci stated that this  
58 information has been requested in the past, and they have been told it is too difficult to  
59 tease out.
- 60 5. To continue to facilitate external communication and collaboration by building  
61 relationships with local government, businesses, residents, and other community  
62 agencies.
- 63 Superintendent Fauci states he feels this needs to be an ongoing goal.
- 64 6. To monitor the new facility manager model of management in an effort to conserve  
65 financial resources.
- 66 Superintendent Fauci stated he thinks we can omit this goal because we have reached it.  
67 Ella Jo Regan stated it needs to stay in some form, including such wording as where and  
68 how money has been saved. Board Chair Renee Kordas suggested monitoring the savings  
69 and proposed changing the goal to read that we will “continue to monitor the new...”.
- 70 7. To manage the District resources effectively and develop a new budget that maintains  
71 sound fiscal stewardship of community resources. To have the Superintendent, Business  
72 Administrator and school administration work collaboratively in an effort to effectively  
73 support student learning and to communicate the stratus of the budget to the Board and  
74 community.
- 75 Superintendent Fauci stated we should keep this goal.
- 76 8. To continue to promote efficient communication between the school and the SAU office.  
77 Superintendent Fauci proposed removing this goal because we have achieved this.  
78 Principal Locke was asked her opinion, and she agreed that we no longer need it.
- 79 9. The Gilmanton School District is dedicated to making an effort to locate, identify, and  
80 evaluate every child from age 3 to 21 who is suspected of a disability. Furthermore, the  
81 district will continue to work in consistent collaboration with all educational facilities

82 working with our identified students ensuring all student needs are met adequately and  
83 appropriately.  
84 Ella Jo Regan asked if this was a new goal. Student Services Director Emily Reese said it  
85 was new 2 years ago. Frank Weeks asked how a three year old could be identified if  
86 parents do not know about this service. Student Services Director Emily Reese explained  
87 that an ad is placed in the paper. She further explained that early intervention is usually  
88 implemented by a pediatrician. Then, children become the districts responsibility at age  
89 three. Frank Weeks asked if there are some who can fall through the cracks.  
90 Superintendent Fauci stated that it is possible but we take all measures to prevent that  
91 from happening.

- 92 10. To maintain the Technology Plan that is consistent with the needs of the District and the  
93 Department of Education.

94 Superintendent Fauci stated he had mixed feelings about this goal when reviewing it. In  
95 2013 Common Core is being implemented, and with that is a different method of testing.  
96 In spring of 2015 kids will be tested on Common Core using Smarter Balance, a  
97 computer based approach, much like the NWEA. However, the technology needed for  
98 that has not yet been determined by the state. There is discussion about video and audio  
99 components, and that requires broadband. Superintendent Fauci fears our broadband  
100 width will not support the needs of the assessment. The Wi-Fi needs to be sound because  
101 there will be a lot of students using the internet at the same time and schools that don't  
102 have the proper broadband width will be unprepared and the internet may not work. This  
103 is a work in progress, but it needs to be on our radar. Otherwise we will not be able to test  
104 students as mandated. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked when we will know the  
105 requirements. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron stated that we should have an idea in the fall.  
106 Principal Locke explained that Karen Boutwell completed a survey outlining our current  
107 technology, as have other schools in the State, to determine the current technologies  
108 available to students. Board Chair Renee Kordas stated she is concerned about the timing  
109 of the budget. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron stated that 21 states are participating in the  
110 assessment. Superintendent Fauci stated that our hardware is okay, but we are already  
111 having issues with our broadband width which could cause the internet to shut down.  
112 Principal Locke added that we will need headphones added to our budget as well so that  
113 students may listen to various components of the test without disturbing others.  
114 Superintendent Fauci raised concerns about the test, questioning whether the state is  
115 testing content or the ability to access the assessment. For instance, what about the  
116 student with a broken hand who can't type?  
117 Ella Jo Regan suggested changing the wording of goal #10. Superintendent Fauci said he  
118 does have a reworded goal to replace the existing one. He added that the new assessment  
119 is not our initiative, and it is due to the Common Core. The new, additional goal will  
120 read, To develop the tech infrastructure required to ....

121 Board Chair Renee Kordas is concerned about removing the goal that includes the  
122 technology plan. Ella Jo Regan asked that if we do that, won't we meld it with  
123 Superintendent Fauci's goal? Board Chair Renee Kordas stated that Superintendent  
124 Fauci's proposed goal is specific to testing, adding that she thinks we should include  
125 them both separately.

- 126 11. To maintain the Professional Development Plan that is consistent with the needs of the  
127 school community and the Department of Education.  
128 Superintendent Fauci stated this is ongoing goal. The plan needs to be updated every  
129 three years. However, staffing at the state level has been reduced due to budget  
130 constraints, resulting in a slower review rate.
- 131 12. To implement the Emergency Response Plan and have appropriate drills to ensure the  
132 safety of staff and students.  
133 Superintendent Fauci informed the board that the new Police Chief stated our Emergency  
134 Response Plan is on the cutting edge. Superintendent Fauci stated we need to start  
135 thinking of real life scenarios. Principal Locke stated they were waiting to have the  
136 shades installed in the Main Office, which will change how drills are handled. The office  
137 will no longer be a fishbowl and the office staff will be able to act without being seen  
138 from the many windows in the office. When the interim Police Chief was employed, he  
139 and administration discussed what happens if there is a shooting. There is only one  
140 officer on duty, and Student Service Director Emily Reese stated that it takes 18 minutes  
141 for a second officer to respond. Superintendent Fauci stated that all the rooms are  
142 numbered and a color code system is in place. The Police Chief felt it would be helpful to  
143 record a video of the building's infrastructure so they have a visual in the cruisers and  
144 one at the station. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked if Superintendent Fauci changed the  
145 wording of this goal. Ella Jo Regan suggested using the wording "to continue to  
146 improve".
- 147 13. To continue to be proactive with communication to the community and the various town  
148 departments, to be responsive to members of the community and the need for access and  
149 communication.  
150 Superintendent Fauci stated this is another ongoing important goal.

151 Ella Jo Regan clarified that by adding a separate goal regarding the Common Core testing, this  
152 now gives us 14 District goals.

### 153 School Goals

154 Principal Locke asked for teacher feedback regarding the School Goals, which she compiled and  
155 included in the revised School Goals. She reviewed the following 2012-2013 School Goals.

- 156 1. Continue to improve instruction for all students based on current best practices.  
157 a. Use CORE Curriculum Mapping to implement curriculum, instruction, and  
158 assessment so that they align with the National Standards.  
159 The wording of this goal was changed to reflect needing to align with the National  
160 Standards, but we kept the idea that we need to explore new CORE options.  
161 Heather Driscoll has just developed a Science component.
- 162 b. To explore new CORE options as they become available, i.e. Science, Social  
163 Studies, and Technology.
- 164 c. Continue to train all staff members in the processes and procedures of Guided  
165 Reading in order to deliver consistent, effective reading instruction.  
166 We are going to continue ensure everyone is trained in Guided Reading. Frank  
167 Weeks asked what Guided Reading is. Principal Locke explained it to be a  
168 process using real books to guide children through the reading process in a small-  
169 group setting. Books are available in various levels and students are taught skills,

170 such as fluency, decoding, and other reading strategies, at their instructional level.  
171 The actual instruction is a technique which is followed, but it is not a boxed  
172 program. Principal Locke further explained running records, which are an  
173 assessment tool used to determine children's reading level. Frank Weeks asked if  
174 the children bring their own books to use. Student Services Director Emily Reese  
175 explained that there is a library of leveled Guided Reading books which Margaret  
176 Roberts has compiled. Comprehension is also a skill addressed in Guided  
177 Reading. Some students are great oral readers and are great at fluency, but they  
178 just don't understand what they are reading. Vice Principal Deb Bergeron stated  
179 that, at a recent workshop she attended, there is a discrepancy between how much  
180 fiction vs. non-fiction is read. Principal Locke added that from age two, children  
181 should be exposed to an equal amount of fiction and non-fiction. If we expose  
182 them at a young age, children will naturally develop an interest in both genres and  
183 they won't have such a negative view of non-fiction.

- 184 d. To explore more strategies to help improve reading comprehension, K-8.
  - 185 e. Focus writing instruction on the Six Traits Writing Program, adopting a common  
186 language and consistent expectations across the grade levels.  
187 Principal Locke stated Six Traits is ongoing. Teachers who are experts in  
188 implementing Six Traits train other teachers in the process.
  - 189 f. Continue to train all staff members in Handwriting Without Tears in order to offer  
190 a more consistent approach to handwriting.  
191 Principal Locke stated that Handwriting Without Tears writing program is being  
192 adopting slowly. Our Occupational Therapy staff Susie French and Cindy Fillion,  
193 are experts and teach teachers the process of Handwriting Without Tears. Ella Jo  
194 Regan asked what the difference is with this program vs. others. Principal Locke  
195 explained it just teaches different strokes.
  - 196 g. Focus professional development efforts on best practices such as differentiated  
197 instruction, Response To Intervention (RTI), and data analysis in order to meet  
198 the needs of all learners.
  - 199 h. Continue to integrate technology across the curricula areas, using such tools as  
200 IPADS, Smart Boards, and mobile laptops.  
201 Principal Locke explained that teachers participate in technology integration  
202 instruction once per week. Though the Tech Integration Instruction position was  
203 not funded, it is still happening during team times. We will be using this time to  
204 analyze NECAP data.
- 205 2. Improve the use of data and assessment to enhance student learning.
- 206 a. Increase teacher participation in using data effectively to drive instruction.
  - 207 b. To further develop common and consistent short-term assessment tools that focus  
208 on specific skills in order to facilitate individualized student instruction and value-  
209 added grouping. This is a grant specific term that refers to extra instruction that  
210 does not remove a child from the classroom.
  - 211 c. Continue to train staff members to use available testing tools such as  
212 accommodations, modifications, released items, writing prompts, and Study  
213 Island to prepare for NECAP Testing.
  - 214 d. Continue to implement value-added small group work through the Trailing Model  
215 and the CORE Phase 5 Documents in Literacy and Mathematics.

- 216 Goal 2 was reviewed, but no changes were made.
- 217 3. Continue to build a collaborative culture through the concepts of Professional Learning
- 218 Communities (PLC's).
- 219 a. Find creative ways to utilize all of our human resources to improve instruction.
- 220 Principal Locke explained that students are currently working on test taking
- 221 strategies and reviewing for the upcoming NECAP tests. They are now using
- 222 2011 released items. We have been struggling to find enough people to fit in
- 223 extra blocks. There has been a great deal of juggling of human resources to make
- 224 sure all needs are being met. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked for PLC to be
- 225 spelled out in the goals.
- 226 b. Seek ways to encourage and support collaboration among staff members through
- 227 active participation in daily, weekly, and monthly meetings.
- 228 Principal Locke explained that after being taught a skill, small groups are taken by
- 229 tutors and work on skills students have not mastered.
- 230 c. Continue to provide a safe and orderly school environment for students, staff, and
- 231 community through effective discipline, daily organization, and clear
- 232 expectations.
- 233 Vice Principal Deb Bergeron has been working diligently on encouraging
- 234 collaboration, and all teams have a wing meeting each week. However, it is
- 235 difficult to create a tool that is short term. She has been encouraging teachers to
- 236 work collaboratively to create tests so they can be analyzed together.
- 237 d. Continue to foster mutual communication with GMHS staff and administration.
- 238 e. Continue to maintain a current website, including updated Teacher Webpages.
- 239 f. Find innovative ways to educate and engage the community and families
- 240 regarding teaching and learning.
- 241 g. Practice the Emergency Management Plan to ensure that staff and students are
- 242 prepared for emergency situations.
- 243 4. Practice the Emergency Management Plan to ensure that staff and students are prepared
- 244 for emergency situations.
- 245 We are still brainstorming best ways to evacuate.

246 Board Chair Renee Kordas asked if everyone is okay with maintaining the goals. Superintendent

247 Fauci stated they flowed nicely.

248 **On a motion made by Ella Jo Regan, seconded by Frank Weeks, the board unanimously**

249 **voted to adjourn the work session at 6:52 p.m.**

250 Board Chair Renee Kordas called the School Board meeting to order at 6:52 p.m.

251 **PROOF OF POSTING:**

252 Proof of posting was verified by Superintendent Fauci.

253 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

254 Superintendent Fauci asked to amend the agenda to include correspondence by Mr. McLeod.

255 Superintendent Fauci asked if the chair would consider conducting interviews prior to other

256 business. Board Chair Renee Kordas agreed to this request.

257 Other additions to the agenda include the nomination of Paul Cammarota of the 7/8 Boys  
258 Basketball Coach and Richard Bushnell as the 7/8 Girls Basketball Coach.

259 Superintendent Fauci suggested the E-mail poll be acted on in public. This pertains to the school  
260 district clerk.

261 **On a motion made by Ella Jo Regan, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously**  
262 **agreed to accept the agenda as amended.**

263 **CORRESPONDENCE**

264 A letter of resignation from School Board Member Cindy Houghton was received on August 15.

265 A Thank You note was received from Sally Hatch for the dish garden sent by the School Board.

266 Letters of interest for the vacant School Board position were received from Sally Sykie, Malcom  
267 MacLeod, and Lynn Paige.

268 **DISCUSSION:**

269 On a motion made by Ella Jo Regan, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously voted to  
270 accept the resignation of Cindy Houghton as School Board Member.

271 Interviews for the new School Board Member were conducted. School Board Chair Renee  
272 Kordas asked same questions of both candidates. Two candidates present at the meeting were  
273 interviewed tonight. The final interview will be conducted On October 9, 2012, and the decision  
274 will be made in October.

275 The following responses to the interview questions have been summarized.

276 Candidate: Lynn Paige

277 1. Tell us about yourself:

278 Lynn Paige. She has lived in Gilmanton for 37 years, attended Gilmanton School, and has  
279 previously worked for Gilmanton School as a paraprofessional. She has a Realtor license  
280 and feels she has a lot of knowledge and will be an asset to the Board and to the school.

281 2. Why are you interested in becoming a School Board member?

282 Lynn stated she can make changes to the perception of the town toward the school.

283 3. What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the School Board?

284 Lynn hopes to get the community to feel good about the school and boost people's  
285 opinions. She would like to elicit changes townspeople would like to see, in order to  
286 benefit the children.

287 4. How would you go about bringing the community around?

288 Lynn stated she would like to see more community involvement and opportunities for  
289 community input. Some avenues could include the internet and different meeting places  
290 to learn about public opinions and wants. She added that currently, we don't always get  
291 the numbers of residents at the meetings that she would like to see attend.

292 5. Have you ever served on any kind of board?

293 Lynn stated that she has not.

294 6. What unique quality do you think you would bring to the School Board?

295 Lynn feels she has vast knowledge in different areas. She is not a newcomer and she has  
296 been here since day one. She knows a lot of staff and students, as well as many of the  
297 older residents.

298 7. What do you think your responsibilities are as a School Board member?

299 Lynn stated that she would be responsible for making sure money is spent properly, that  
300 the staff is cohesive and that students get best education possible.

301 8. What ways would you use to increase communication between the Board and the  
302 community?

303 Lynn reiterated that she would utilize the internet to encourage more online interaction.  
304 She also suggested an online forum or e-mail through which parents can ask questions or  
305 make comments to the School Board.

306 9. Scenario: At a recent School Board meeting, the vote did not go in your favor. Later, a  
307 neighbor asks you about it. What would your response be?

308 She stated she would ask her fellow Board members what can be discussed, adding that  
309 she would look into policies and procedures prior to making any comment.

310 10. What if a reporter called you about a meeting or asking for information about a topic?

311 Lynn reiterated that she would refrain from comment until investigating Board policies.

312 11. What do you think is the greatest problem facing the Gilmanton students and schools  
313 today?

314 Lynn stated the greatest challenge is trying to make sure children end up with correct  
315 education. She added that there is concern about teaching to the test, noting that we  
316 shouldn't just teach to the test because of the legislature. We have to fight for what we  
317 think is right.

318 12. How do you perceive the role of the School Board in relation to the school and the  
319 community?

320 Lynn stated that the Board should uphold what the citizens desire, make sure teachers'  
321 needs are addressed, and that all sides are looked at.

322 The follow responses to the interview questions have been summarized.

323 Candidate: Malcom MacLeod

324 1. Tell us about yourself:

325 Malcom MacLeod. He works in the sales department of NH Ball Bearings and has been  
326 there for 5 yrs. He moved to Gilmanton from Laconia two years ago. He currently has  
327 two children in the Gilmanton School. He is impressed with personality of staff. Malcom  
328 grew up in Derry, NH and has a Bachelor degree from SNHU.

329 2. Why are you interested in becoming a School Board Member?

330 Malcom explained he is interested in participating in government. He enjoys being  
331 involved and has been involved in union activities. He stated he is a big believer in  
332 individual contributions.

333 3. What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the School Board?

334 Malcom explained that he has no particular agenda. He likes the positive atmosphere of  
335 the school and wants to preserve that. He feels he brings a fresh outlook and weighs each  
336 situation as it comes.

337 4. Have you ever served on any kind of board?

338 He stated he has never served.



- 339 5. What unique quality do you think you would bring to the School Board?  
340 Malcom stated he is fair-minded, is good at seeing both sides of a situation, and at using  
341 common sense.
- 342 6. What do you think your responsibilities are as a School Board member?  
343 Malcom stated that the responsibilities of a Board member are outlined in the district  
344 goals and, additionally, to help provide the best education possible in a good fiscal  
345 manner.
- 346 7. What ways would you use to increase communication between the Board and the  
347 community?  
348 Malcom stated that he doesn't mean to copy Lynn's answer, but he agrees with her  
349 opinion that the internet is a good way. E-mails and message boards can help grow  
350 participation.
- 351 8. How would you go about bringing the community around?  
352 Malcom stated that if he was a salesperson, he would use marketing research. He said  
353 those results could be adapted for the School Board's purposes and used to address the  
354 public's concerns. Those issues are what people will be most engaged in.
- 355 9. Scenario: At a recent School Board meeting, the vote did not go in your favor. Later, a  
356 neighbor asks you about it. What would your response be?  
357 Malcom stated that he would not give a comment and he would wait for instruction from  
358 the Board.
- 359 10. What if a reporter called you about a meeting or asking for information about a topic?  
360 He reiterated that he would refrain from comment.
- 361 11. What do you think is the greatest problem facing the Gilmanton students and schools  
362 today?  
363 Some upcoming problems he sees are the implementation of new, mandatory  
364 curriculums, but not enough funding to implement them. He added that he still has a lot  
365 to learn.
- 366 12. How do you perceive the role of the School Board in relation to the school and the  
367 community?  
368 Malcom stated the School Board plays an important role in putting the needs of the  
369 community in harmony with the needs of the school. He wants to see how they can meet  
370 in the middle.

371 The final candidate, Sally Sykie, will be interviewed on October 9, 2012. The term for this  
372 Board position lasts until March. If the elected member wishes to continue as a Board  
373 member, his/her name will be put on the ballot. Frank Weeks pointed out that we have a joint  
374 meeting on the October 1, 2012, and suggested conducting the final interview then, so the  
375 new member can begin on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Superintendent Fauci pointed out that the October 1, 2012  
376 meeting will be held at Gilford High School, so it would not be a good arena in which to  
377 conduct an interview. The original dates will be maintained.

## 378 **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 379 **Board Member Reports**

#### 380 **Frank Weeks**

- 381 1. St. Paul's Advanced Scholar Program: Brianna Bowen was acknowledged for her  
382 participation in the Biomedical Ethics Program.
- 383 2. Freshmen Jump Start Program: 116 students (127 freshmen) attended this introduction to  
384 Gilford H.S. Five Gilmanton students also had the opportunity to talk about any concerns  
385 to Gilford Superintendent Hemmingway.
- 386 3. Autumn Play: Out of a cast of 21, eight Gilmanton students are members.
- 387 4. Letter from David Chong: David is doing very well as a Marine recruit at Parris Island,  
388 SC; and relates that the training is "most difficult".  
389 Karen Stockwell asked if we can have his address. Frank Weeks stated that he will bring  
390 it in.
- 391 5. First day of school: students reacted very well when the fire alarm went off at the start of  
392 the school day.

### 393 **Principal's Report**

394 **School Begins:** We had a smooth beginning to our school year. Professional staff met on August  
395 27, and Deb Bergeron facilitated Math CORE work that will bring us closer to our alignment to  
396 the National Standards. That alignment will be a major focus of our professional development  
397 work this year. The entire staff met on August 28, followed by another successful Open House  
398 that evening. Students arrived on Wednesday, August 29. Our enrollment has fluctuated quite a  
399 bit over the summer, but the final numbers are currently at 412. In July our total enrollment was  
400 407. Our largest class is the kindergarten with 58 students, followed by first grade at 55 and fifth  
401 grade at 52.

402 Frank Weeks asked what the school's capacity is. Superintendent Fauci said we are actually  
403 over the capacity of 400. Previously, when we were at 420, we looked at expansion projects. The  
404 Board gave permission to conduct a preliminary study. A footprint was completed, which  
405 included options of what a project would look like. We still have this. Board Chair Renee Kordas  
406 asked if we have a price tag. Superintendent Fauci stated there would be several other steps  
407 involved before determining a price tag. Frank Weeks noted that we are down a classroom.  
408 Principal Locke stated the kids have adapted well to the combined Spanish/Art (SPART) room.  
409 Frank Weeks was concerned that room sharing has not worked well in other schools, but  
410 Principal Locke said Terry Burlingame has been very flexible and sharing is working well right  
411 now.

412 **Hidden Valley:** The eighth grade went for an overnight camping trip at Hidden Valley on  
413 Thursday, August 30. Their two days were occupied with canoeing, kayaking, ropes elements,  
414 and mountain biking. The evening was spent working on team-building activities and enjoying  
415 camp fires. The class did a great job with all activities!

416 Principal Locke stated she was impressed with the kids. They were well behaved. Frank Weeks  
417 asked how many years the Hidden Valley trip has occurred. Karen Stockwell said it has been  
418 about 20 years with different variations. It has been this same trip for the past 10 years. Board  
419 Chair Renee Kordas asked if there is a difference in the effect of team building at the beginning  
420 vs. at the end of the year. Principal Locke said all new students feel a part of the group and they  
421 are welcomed in. Ella Jo Regan stated that a voter parent approached her recently to say that  
422 their child felt so welcomed at the school. Principal Locke added that Gilford High School sports  
423 also started before school, so Gilmanton students met friends there as well as at Jump Start day.

424 This day was raved about by students. Frank Weeks stated that was the best thing he has seen,  
425 especially with having it conducted on one day. Superintendent Fauci stated Jump Start Day is  
426 better than the previous orientation day, and Frank Weeks added that Jump Start is even better  
427 than the social at Crystal Lake. Superintendent Fauci stated Gilford tries to make the kids feel a  
428 part of the community. Liz Brulotte stated that her son, as a freshman, had great anxiety.  
429 However, during Jump Start Day, students practiced opening their lockers and finding their way  
430 around the building. Frank Weeks added that everybody starts at the same time now, rather than,  
431 in the past, when upperclassmen would arrive later than the Freshmen.

432 **Jordan's Ice Cream Night:** The PTA sponsored Jordan's Night again on Thursday, September  
433 6. Students completed reading lots over the summer, and they were rewarded with free ice cream  
434 cones at Jordan's. The crowd of students was large and happy!

435 Ella Jo Regan asked how many books students need to read to earn a coupon. Principal Locke  
436 explained there is not a specified amount. Michelle Heyman stated that in the middle school  
437 there was some confusion about the numbers and lengths of books. Principal Locke asked for a  
438 final count. Michelle Heyman said the number of students who participated and attended  
439 Jordan's Night was close to 200. The rate the PTA was charged by Jordan's has not changed in  
440 the last four years.

441 **Upcoming Sixth Grade Project:** Grade 6 students will be working in three subject areas as they  
442 learn more about the Town of Gilmanton. Next week they will be traveling to a local  
443 schoolhouse, and they will be viewing some land in relation to the town's watershed. They will  
444 also be writing poetry about their town, and they will be encouraged to take photos of their local  
445 environment.

446 The museum will not be open on this date, so arrangements are being made for a fourth grade  
447 trip to incorporate the museum component at this grade instead.

448 **NECAP Testing:** State testing begins on October 1 and is completed by October 16. Teachers  
449 and tutors are currently working with students in small groups for test preparation, and Ms.  
450 McEntee and Mrs. Parda attended a workshop today to ensure that we have all current  
451 information from the State. We will use all available personnel to work with our students during  
452 NECAP testing.

### 453 **Superintendent Report**

454 Superintendent Fauci stated that he has been part of 42 first days of school. However, this one  
455 stood out as one of the smoothest here. He gave kudos to the staff and administration for the  
456 planning and preparation. He explained that the staff was involved in curriculum days, during  
457 which teachers conversed about student needs and he thinks they help with the transition.  
458 Superintendent Fauci wanted to publicly express his thanks for great first day.

459 Last Wednesday, he went to the Lakes Region Superintendent Meeting. A Presentation was  
460 conducted by an attorney on social networking. We currently have policies in place to address  
461 associated concerns, but we are reviewing and comparing our policies with suggestions made at  
462 the meeting. Superintendent Fauci stated he may be bringing these suggestions forward in future.

463 Superintendent Fauci noted a presentation conducted by Dr. Virginia Barry. She explained that  
464 the Current No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law is very punitive and the vocabulary is derogatory  
465 and negative. She stated that by 2014, 100% of schools will fail to meet Adequate Yearly  
466 Progress, given the current requirements. Our school, as a whole, is making progress. The State  
467 is applying for a waiver to exempt NH from participating in NCLB. If approved, it will allow our  
468 school to break away from the requirements of No Child Left behind (NCLB). Through the  
469 waiver system, when identifying schools, they are looking at the lowest 15 % of schools and  
470 School In Need of Improvement/District In Need of Improvement (SINI/DINI) monies will focus  
471 in those areas. The State is looking at a growth model rather than setting a bar and expecting all  
472 kids to meet arbitrary, often unattainable goals. Superintendent Fauci stated he feels the State is  
473 moving in the right direction. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked who has to approve the waiver  
474 application. Superintendent Fauci explained that the Feds need to approve it. Each state can  
475 request its own waiver and develop their own growth models, but the growth model work NH  
476 has completed is being used by other states. Superintendent Fauci feels we kill creativity when  
477 we focus on high stakes testing. However, the benefit of high stakes testing is that it has forced  
478 us to examine our curriculum and practices, but we also have to focus on children. He applauds  
479 the Commissioner's initiative. Frank Weeks noted that private and charter schools are not subject  
480 to these Federal and State guidelines and mandates. Superintendent Fauci said NH is looking to  
481 tie in test scores with teacher evaluations, which can be problematic. He expressed concern with  
482 how to evaluate a music teacher using the results of academic tests. Overall, however, he feels  
483 the waivers and growth models are a good thing.

484 Smarter Balance testing is the direction in which we are headed for student testing, replacing the  
485 current paper and pencil NECAP tests. The school is going to have to do some work with the  
486 intangibles, such as our broadband width. Superintendent Fauci stated he is not worried about the  
487 academic testing because we are doing well with education, which is evident through our test  
488 scores. The Smarter Balance testing allows tablets, such as iPads, to be a usable device.  
489 However, the tablets need to have an external keyboard. With the multi-dimensional aspect of  
490 the desktops and laptops, we will be fine with equipment. We need to be aware of what is  
491 coming so we can plan accordingly.

#### 492 **Fund Balance-re:HVAC System**

493 Business Administrator Donna Clairmont was not at this Board meeting. Therefore, discussion  
494 about the Fund Balance and the HVAC system will be tabled. It was mentioned we are unable to  
495 use the funds proposed by Ella Jo Regan at the last meeting and the entire amount will be  
496 returned to the town.

#### 497 **ACTION ITEMS:**

##### 498 **Nominations:**

499 Approval of nomination of Liz Brulotte for Wee Deliver Coordinator.

500 Principal Locke noted the Wee Deliver mailbox that was painted by Emily Reese. She stated that  
501 it previously resembled a USPS mailbox, and many people were placing actual mail in it. She  
502 said the mailbox looks great and it is definitely distinguishable.

503 Approval of nomination of Kasey Tucker as the Assistant Girls Soccer Coach. Thus far she has  
504 been working as a volunteer.

505 Approval of nomination of Rachel Divers and Christine Johnson as coaches of Math Olympiads.  
506 Rachel Divers served as a coach last year.

507 Approval of nomination of Paul Cammorata as the 7/8 Boys Basketball Coach.

508 Approval of nomination of Richard Bushnell as the 7/8 Girls Basketball Coach.

509 **New Mandatory Policy JLCJ-**

510 Concussions and Head injuries. Principal Locke asked Karen Stockwell to speak to the policy,  
511 which places the responsibility on the coach, athletic director, and/or school personnel to  
512 determine if a child may have a concussion following impact to the head. Ella Jo Regan stated  
513 she was stunned when reviewing the policy. Karen Stockwell stated her biggest concern is that  
514 the policy comes from NHIAA, which governs high school sports. Middle school is not included  
515 in NHIAA and, in fact, NHIAA does not address middle schools. Karen Stockwell further stated  
516 she does not receive any updates or mailings from NHIAA. Therefore, if and when policies  
517 change, she will never know. She stated Superintendent Fauci is the only superintendent who has  
518 ever gotten information to her from the state level. Board Chair Renee Kordas asked if we can  
519 ask Barrett Christina about our responsibilities to the policy. Ella Jo Regan asked if we have to  
520 adhere to the wording as written in the policy. Superintendent Fauci said this is the  
521 recommended wording by the State and everything that is spelled out should be incorporated in  
522 our policy, according to the State. Superintendent Fauci said it is problematic for districts such as  
523 ours, that don't have its own high school. The policy has come about from the amount of head  
524 injuries that result from high school sports. There is a cry to make sure the kids and coaches are  
525 knowledgeable about concussions and other head injuries and NHIAA wants to ensure coaches  
526 know how to deal with head injuries. Ella Jo Regan was struck with the last paragraph that  
527 addressed the teachers needing to make a decision about whether a student has a head injury or if  
528 he/she did not get enough sleep. Karen Stockwell also pointed out a concern about the nurse's  
529 responsibility. Principal Locke stated that if a concern arises, we usually get notes from  
530 pediatricians to the nurse. Frank Weeks said this is a big concern throughout the state. Larger  
531 schools have a medical person making decisions on the site of athletic events. Principal Locke  
532 said we tend to err on the side of caution. Children who are injured are turned over to their  
533 parents. Board Chair Renee Kordas said this is a bigger issue than what we can deal with tonight  
534 but she doesn't think the responsibility should fall on Karen Stockwell. Superintendent Fauci  
535 believes there are pieces we should adopt, but he will speak with Barrett Christina to determine  
536 which components are necessary to include. Karen Stockwell said she has been researching best  
537 ways to adapt this for our school. She also tried watching the required video, but was unable to  
538 do so due to technology glitches. She is going to investigate what components of this policy must  
539 be put on the sports permission slips. Frank Weeks confirmed that we do require health  
540 screenings. Liz Brulotte stated they did baseline concussion screenings. At Gilford, they only  
541 need one physical every four years. Karen Stockwell stated many individuals previously  
542 involved in deciding the frequency of physicals felt they could be reduced. Superintendent Fauci  
543 asked if Karen Stockwell could ask Gilford what they require for middle school training. Some  
544 schools are asking coaches to sign a form verifying they have seen the required video.  
545 Superintendent Fauci confirms it is a lot of responsibility to put on a coach to make a decision.

546 Karen Stockwell said NHIAA has mandatory courses which are filled by high school coaches  
547 first. Therefore, if there is a change in policy, we may not be able to attend.

548 To summarize the discussion about this policy, Karen Stockwell will have a conversation with  
549 the Gilford's Athletic Director to find out what is happening with Gilford's middle school.  
550 Superintendent Fauci will speak with Barret, and both Superintendent Fauci and Karen  
551 Stockwell will discuss what is appropriate to include in Gilmanton's policy. Once it is adopted,  
552 Superintendent Fauci will review it by Barrett again to make sure it follows the letter of the law.

553 Review of August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes: Changes were noted by Ella Jo Regan.

554 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

555 Frank Gianni said it is fascinating to listen to all the different programs in place to help students  
556 transition back to school. When he went to school, there was no Kindergarten, nor was there  
557 preparation for the students. He said the school deserves a lot of credit. However, on a different  
558 note, regarding the voting on September 11, he was amazed at how many people had no idea  
559 there was anything to vote on pertaining to the school. He stated that nothing was posted on the  
560 school website or at town hall. He blames the Board for not posting enough information and for  
561 not informing the public. He stated that luckily the contract was passed, but people did not have  
562 a clue. Mr. Gianni noted communication with the public is one of the District goals discussed  
563 during the work session earlier, but some things on the school website were dated from August.  
564 Superintendent Fauci stated that he went to the school website to post election results and the  
565 ballots were there on the website. In fact, he printed one to put the numbers on the ballot itself,  
566 which was to be used to update the website. He clarified that he had looked for the ballots on the  
567 school website, and he found them under District Goals. Superintendent Fauci said that because  
568 of the legitimate criticism of the website, he previously spent time to see if the dates for the  
569 deliberative session were there and they hadn't been. It had been deleted because someone  
570 thought the dates has passed already. To avoid this, some protocols were put in place. Recent  
571 updates were highlighted in yellow. Today, when he got the election results, he drove back to the  
572 school, and asked Karen Boutwell to post the results with the ballot. Superintendent Fauci  
573 checked the website again, and all information is available for viewing. He added that the  
574 website was just reconfigured three years ago. However, it may be time to re-evaluate it. A  
575 member of the public suggested putting the SB2 topics and issues under in its own heading.  
576 Superintendent Fauci confirmed the SB2 topics were posted on the website today (9/12/2012).  
577 Principal Locke mentioned that we do have a technology committee, and the school website may  
578 be a good starting point for them. Frank Weeks thanked Superintendent Fauci for the  
579 explanation, and agreed that there is room for improvement. Frank Weeks noted that the ballot  
580 counts were 376 Primary Ballots cast and 325 ballots cast for the teacher contract. When asked  
581 why some people were offered ballots for the teacher contract while others were not, Frank  
582 Gianni stated that he could not explain why. Board Chair Renee Kordas stated it was confusing  
583 when they were given two ballots. Ella Jo Regan stated that, when working the polls, they were  
584 instructed to ask if people wanted both ballots. When asked why by Liz Brulotte, Ella Jo Regan  
585 stated they were told by the State that it was a requirement to ask. Principal Locke stated that, as  
586 a resident of an SB2 community which has the same types of votes, she has never been asked,  
587 but was simply given all ballots. Board Chair Renee Kordas agreed that Loudon does not ask its  
588 residents either. Liz Brulotte confirmed that some residents were asked if they wanted a ballot  
589 for the teacher contract, while others were not.

590 Michelle Heyman asked what procedures Gilmanton has over auditing our Gilford contract to  
591 ensure that it is financially sound and that the services students receive are in line with the  
592 contract. Is there overlap between what we are providing here and at Gilford? For instance,  
593 should the Gilford Special Ed. Coordinator be taking care of things Student Services Director  
594 Emily Reese is taking care of? Is there something in place with which to evaluate and audit?  
595 Superintendent Fauci stated that when we get a bill in December, we make sure we have the  
596 correct number of students listed. Superintendent Fauci explained that we look at the final bill to  
597 monitor how long students are at Gilford. Our payments should reflect moves in and out of the  
598 district. He stated that just this week he received notification about two students who are  
599 attending Gilford, who do not reside in the district. He went to the house personally and the  
600 house was vacant. Therefore, they took appropriate measures. The final bill does reflect these  
601 types of circumstances. Superintendent Fauci further explained that Business Administrator  
602 Donna Clairmont meets with Gilford's business administrator to review costs. Additionally,  
603 before Student Services Director Emily Reese participated in representing our children at  
604 Gilford, we had no representation, which resulted in higher costs to our district. Michelle  
605 Heyman asked about the metrics in place to make sure the general population is receiving the  
606 services outlined in the contract. The Board noted we have two votes on their Board. Michelle  
607 asked what we are doing to make sure the contract is being met. Superintendent Fauci said we  
608 get feedback from Student Services Director Emily Reese, we have curriculum meetings, and  
609 one leadership meeting per month. Board Chair Renee Kordas stated that there has never been  
610 differentiation between Gilford and Gilmanton children, which speaks to how they view students  
611 as one community. Ella Jo Regan stated that we don't dictate what their practices should be.  
612 Principal Locke stated that when there is an issue that may impact our children, we try to work  
613 with them to address it. For instance, Terry Burlingame went to meet with their Spanish team to  
614 discuss the criteria that needs to be met in order to earn a high school credit, which is now  
615 available to 8<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Spanish students. Superintendent Fauci added that this didn't  
616 happen immediately, but we are heard. Gilford also changed the structure of their math classes as  
617 a result of concerns we had. Therefore, there are no longer gaps in math between trimesters.  
618 Superintendent Fauci stated we still have some work to do, but if there is something that is going  
619 to impact us financially, they will involve us. Frank Weeks said he would like to see more kids  
620 participate in extracurricular activities because we are paying for them. Michelle Heyman asked  
621 how Gilmanton students are affected when there are fees for some sports and none for others.  
622 Karen Clifford asked how open Gilford is to having new players come on to established teams.  
623 Frank Weeks admitted that there may be a bias. Principal Locke stated that Karen Stockwell is in  
624 communication with their athletic directors and coaches. Liz Brulotte stated that Pinkham had  
625 been offering a week long soccer program for Gilmanton students, which allowed him to get to  
626 know the abilities of many students. Superintendent Fauci stated that there are some elements  
627 that we just do not have any control over. He noted that our fund balance is greatly impacted by  
628 things that are out of our control at Gilford. We will scrutinize to make sure the bill they give us  
629 is appropriate, and we create our budget accordingly. Karen Clifford asked if Spanish credit is  
630 offered to all 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Principal Locke stated that it is open just to Advanced Spanish students.  
631 Karen Clifford also asked if Principal Locke wanted to mention our ELL students in our goals.  
632 Principal Locke stated that Terry Burlingame is now a certified ELL Teacher.

### 633 **Action Items**

634 **On a motion made by Frank Weeks, seconded by Ella Jo Regan, the Board unanimously**  
635 **voted to approve nominations for: Liz Brulotte, Kasey Tucker, Rachel Divers, Christine**  
636 **Johnson, Paul Cammorota, and Richard Bushnell.**

637 **On a motion made by Ella Jo Regan, seconded by Frank Weeks, the Board unanimously**  
638 **voted to approve the hiring of Kristine Fishiv as school district Clerk.**

639 **Adjournment**

640 **On a motion made by Frank Weeks, seconded by Ella Jo Regan, the Board unanimously**  
641 **voted to adjourn at 8:30P.M.**

642 **Respectfully submitted,**

643 **Renee Kordas, Chairmperson**