

Notice: These minutes are in D R A F T format, and shall remain as such as the legal record in compliance with RSA 91:Are in their written archival form. They are likely to contain errors and may be in need of correction which can only be done in public in a properly-posted, subsequent meeting of the School Board. Accordingly, you are referred to the minutes of a subsequent (i.e. future -- but not necessarily the next sequential) meeting of the Board to identify what may have been changed as an approved and properly modified record in compliance with law.

NEWFOUND AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes

For

Tuesday, October 14, 2014

6:00 pm (non-public)

6:30 pm or immediately following non-public (public)

Newfound Regional High School, 150 Newfound Road, Bristol, NH 03222

Library Media Center

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Record Roll:

Sue Cheney, Alexandria – (Arrived 6:13)
Vincent Paul Migliore, Bridgewater - Present
Benjamin LaRoche, Bristol - Present
Ruby Hill, Danbury - Present
Jeffrey Levesque, Groton - Present
Don Franklin, Hebron - Present
Christine Davol, New Hampton - Present

Motion: to enter Non-Public Session at 6:05 made Jeffrey Levesque, Seconded by Christine Davol

Vote 6-0-1-0 Motion Passed

(Minority; Alexandria- Not Present)

- IV. Non-Public Session (RSA 91-A:3, II(a): The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has the right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request should be granted.
 - i. Discussion of Final Negotiations for public ratification
- V. Approval or Modification of Agenda – Add Fund Balance and Communication Upgrade as Items 8 and 9. Ruby Hill
- VI. Progress toward School Board Goals
 - 1. Successfully negotiate and support a collective bargaining agreement with the Newfound Area Teachers Association (NATA).
 - 2. Evaluate the use and purpose of district assets in order to develop a long-range plan that meets the needs of our population.
 - 3. Improve communication between the Board and its Stakeholders. Ruby Hill said she is looking for a Board member to write an update article every three months. Christine Davol said she will think about it.

VII. Approval of Minutes

i. Monday, September 8, 2014

Corrections: Page 3, vii; insert the word 'this,' after the word 'implementing'.
 Viii, Change the word 'make' to 'determine'.

Page 4, xv, To read: The Board welcomed Alison Smith, Junior.

Page 5, Under Don Franklin's comments, change 'effect' to 'affect'.

Page 6, First paragraph change 'architecture' to "architectural".

Page 6, Throughout document, correct name spelling of Stephanie Bednaz.

Page 7, Comment by Julie Hayward – Get it over with; make a decision.

Page 8, Bottom of first paragraph – change 'effect' to 'affect'

Add Comment from Chantelle Fornier, said 'no' to mixed bussing.

Comment by Jan VanDusen, last comment, add 'are' /there are a few.

Jennifer McKay, comment should read, it is 'on' education.

Susan Colby's comment – add 's' to Jeffrey Levesque.

Page 9, Delete the word 'to have'. Redundant.

Same page – there were two votes taken, not one.

Page 10, Half way down; Should read – 'should pay our professional staff'.

Page 10, Comment by Ruby Hill, Correct spelling to read – Superintendent.

Page 10, Comment by Vincent Paul Migliore – Correct spelling to read – moral to morale.

Page 11, last paragraph – correct spelling 'dialogue'.

Add Peter Cofran as Staff Members.

Placed on Consent Agenda

ii. Monday, September 22, 2014

Corrections: Page 1, Should read: Jeffrey Levesque 'led'.

Page 2, Christine Davol comments regarding Interlakes need to be inserted.

Page 3, correct spelling to succeeding; same sentence change to 'give us a reason'.

Page 5, bottom, sentence, says she said if the test scores were to drop / review the tape for full comment.

Page 6, Stacy Buckley comment; change spelling of overwhelmingly to overwhelming.

Page 7, After Jeffrey Levesque's comment, add; Ruby Hill had asked for an amendment to protect the building for closure and we discussed how that would be worded.

Page 8, staff listed as non-residents, list as staff.

Steven Guyer said more than what was written. Review tape for content.

Placed on Consent Agenda

Vincent Paul Migliore said it is pertinent that the vote that was taken on September 22 was clearly a vote to the superintendent to come up with a plan to move to a k-6 configuration. He wanted to eliminate any confusion and stated it was not to do a study.

VIII. Old Business

i. 2nd read policies

1. BDDH: Public Participation at Board Meetings

- 2. GE: Exit Interviews
- 3. KBA: Public's Right to Know – All three policies
Placed on the Consent Agenda

- ii. New Hampshire School Board Association's Request for Resolutions –Reminder only.

IX. New Business

- i. Review of Auditor's Report – Mike Limanni reported there was one adverse opinion, the same as in prior years referencing GASB 45; post employee benefits. He plans on doing some research on it. He said we currently do not offer any post employee benefits. He said it is a very insignificant finding from the auditors. We could do an actuarial study, but that would cost more than what the cost would be.

The unreserved fund balance was discussed. Mike Limanni explained that is the amount to be carried forward to the next year to cover encumbrances, and commitments. He gave an explanation for the amount of \$1,330,898.00 fund balance. We had a starting fund balance of \$350,000.00. Mike Limanni explained that unexpected revenues and contingencies made up \$600,000.00 of the fund balance. Stacy Buckley said we did not create this budget, not sure what was really in the budget, and what was the spending pattern of the district. We have taken a very conservative approach to spending.
No action required.

- ii. Policy BEA/BEA-R for board signature – **Motion** made by Jeffrey Levesque to table this policy and return to the Policy Committee; Seconded by Benjamin LaRoche.
Vote 7-0-0-0 Motion Passed.
- iii. Field Trip(s) requests – Overnight trips from the High School. Vincent Paul Migliore questioned the possibility to get two more chaperones for the Bristol overnight trip.
Placed on the Consent Agenda
- iv. Updated Enrollment Report – Stacy Buckley presented the enrollment report; currently at 1,158.
- v. Ratification of NATA agreement – **Motion** to ratify the teachers' contract for the next two years made by Ruby Hill; Seconded by Vincent Paul Migliore. A roll call vote was taken: Vote: 7-0-0-0
Sue Cheney, Alexandria -Yes
Vincent Paul Migliore, Bridgewater - Yes
Benjamin LaRoche, Bristol - Yes
Ruby Hill, Danbury - Yes
Jeffrey Levesque, Groton - Yes
Don Franklin, Hebron - Yes
Christine Davol, New Hampton – Yes

Vote: 7-0-0-0 Motion Passed.

The Board will be meeting with the NATA on Monday to put together a public release.

- vi. Review of Danbury Elementary School resolution to K/1 enrollment – Stacy Buckley reported that Danbury has had quite a unique situation this year, in the fact that they have grown in size. Their K/1 class was predicted at 18 students. At the start of the school year that class size grew to 26; Which is a significant concern. She has been looking at alternatives. One option was to offer parents to go Bristol Elementary School. Another option was to combine grades 2 and 3. They have also added additional resources. It is a unique situation. Stacy Buckley's recommendation is to separate out the first grade and the kindergarten for a class size of 17 and 9 respectfully. One way to do this is to take the teacher from New Hampton, who is teaching a half day segment and move her to Danbury; then hire a part time kindergarten teacher for New Hampton. This position would be for the remainder of the year. Ruby Hill did not want to disrupt two classrooms. Ruby Hill suggested we have a full day first grade teacher in Danbury for the remainder of the year. Christine Davol said she feels that the decision is based on convenience not on the concern for the students. She said now is the time to discuss full day kindergarten. Currently, Kindergarten is offered, but not required.

Motion was made by Ruby Hill we hire a first grade teacher for Danbury Elementary School for the remainder of the year; seconded by Sue Cheney. No vote taken at this time.

There was discussion regarding the benefit of having a centralized full day kindergarten. Jeffrey Levesque and Benjamin LaRoche, suggested we keep to agenda items. Ruby Hill suggested she move her motion to an individual agenda item and discuss full day kindergarten at the next meeting.

- vii. Budget presentation of proposed 2015-2016 Budget – Stacy Buckley distributed a detailed proposed budget report for the Board. She described how it was broken down by each building with comparisons of actual costs from FY 2013-2014, to the current year, adopted budget with the FY 2016 proposed budget. A rationale for any changes in positions was also included. She noted the budget is within the tax cap. The goals were discussed, outlined into three specific areas; *Staffing, Facilities and Technology*. Consideration for full day Kindergarten at elementary schools was reviewed. This is not included in the budget she noted. *Staffing* changes; requested additions due to increased student enrollment also for Special Education were discussed. Teacher salary increases will be in a separate warrant article. Proposed increase for support staff is included as are approximate increase of 2% increase for administrators and specialists. *Facilities* philosophical change to 'how do we budget effectively to meet the needs of our aging schools'. *Technology*; there is a tech plan that outlines specific items. Upgrades include a new phone system, which she pointed out is a safety concern throughout the district and a projector for NRHS. After she outlined the highlights of the proposed budget the proposed amount is \$20,734,377.00. This amount does not fall within the tax cap. She they need to really think of where

they need to start going. She said she will come to the Board with reductions in the amount of \$185,512 to get to where they need to be. All warrant articles have to be below the tax cap, but someone at the deliberative session can make a motion to override the tax cap within 10%. She said she will get legal advice on this.

Fund Balance - Mike Limanni discussed the 1,458,000 fund balance from the auditor's report. He said by law we can only retain \$407,741. Mike Limanni's recommended retaining the \$407,741 to use in the current year. He recommended the \$1,033,898 unexpended fund balance could be returned to the towns to reduce taxes.

Communication Upgrade – Mike Limanni explained we do have all the devices. We are working with the high school and are looking to make the library a media room. He reported it may take up to a month for completion. It includes microphones for the board members and the public along with recording devices.

X. Public Comment (on agenda items only per policy BDDH, 5 minute limit)(with the exception of item XVII which will be discussed separately)

Sharon Nelson, Groton; Questioned the definition of ELO – Extended Learning Opportunity. Stacy Buckley explained it involves learning outside the regular classroom.

Rn Magraw, New Hampton; Told the Board there was an online petition, with 66 signatures in an effort to keep Ms. Sidwell with her kindergarten class in New Hampton. Rohan said he would like to see the Board come up with a different solution than to transfer her to Danbury. Ms. Sidwell is an incredible teacher in New Hampton, she has taught there for over 21 years. New Hampton is her community. She has a big family that knows and loves her. Ms. Sidwell loves her kids. We call on the board to find other solutions that does not disturb the current New Hampton Community. We hope you will honor our request. Thank you.

Megan Magraw, New Hampton; spoke for Wendy Cantwell as well; She congratulated the Board on ratifying the teacher contract. She spoke of the petition for Ms. Sidwell and agreed the board should hire a new teacher for Danbury. Wendy Cantwell offered to head up the committee to assist the Superintendent to gather to data for a full day kindergarten; if we were to make a committee. We both know over twenty families that send their children to other school because we do not offer a full day kindergarten. We would love to see a full day kindergarten. She concluded we should get rid of the tax cap.

Sharon Nelson, Groton; asked if kindergarten would be placed on the agenda for next month.

Sharon-Lynn Gilpatric, New Hampton; Said her daughter attends New Hampton, and is doing well. We all support a full day kindergarten at New Hampton.

Fred Robinson, Danbury; Commented on the declining population. Said he would like to make a recommendation. If we implement something so that when parents notify the school they are going to be leaving. There should be some sort of survey to complete, which may be very valuable as to why they are leaving and where they are going. This could be good data the school could use. With the number of kids we are losing we really need to find out is there a sickness somewhere in the district that is causing people to feel they need to have to leave.

XI. **Consent Agenda**

Items placed on the consent Agenda: Minutes as amended from September 8, 2014 and September 22, 2014

2nd read policies - BDDH: Public Participation at Board Meetings

GE: Exit Interviews

KBA: Public's Right to Know

Field Trip to Waterville Valley

Motion to approve items on the Consent Agenda made by Vincent Paul Migliore,
Seconded by Ruby Hill

Vote 7-0-0-0 Motion Passed.

Motion on Individual Agenda Items

Field Trip - Overnight trip

Motion: to approve this request with a major effort to increase the number of chaperones that attend. Permission to go on the trip; made by Vincent Paul Migliore;
Seconded by Don Franklin.

Vote 7-0-0-0 Motion Passed.

Motion: to hire a first grade teacher for the remainder of the year at Danbury elementary school made by Ruby Hill; Seconded by Sue Cheney.

Amended to authorize the Superintendent to hire before the next board meeting.

Vote 7-0-0-0 Motion Passed.

Motion made by Vincent Paul Migliore to authorize the retention of \$200,000 to retain fund balance for the use in the current fiscal year.

No second to the Motion.

Motion made by Jeffrey Levesque to authorize the retention of \$400,000 to retain fund balance for the use in the current fiscal year.

No Second to the Motion.

Motion made by Benjamin LaRoche to authorize, under RSA 198, the retention of \$350,000.00 in the retained fund balance; Seconded by Jeffrey Levesque.

Amended to return \$1,108,863 to the voters.

Jeffrey Levesque removed his Second to the Motion

Motion made by Don Franklin to authorize the retention of \$407,741, and return \$1,033,898 to the tax payers; Seconded by Sue Cheney.

Vote: 4-2-1-0 Motion Passed.

(Minority Vote: No- Bristol, Bridgewater; Abstained – New Hampton)

XI. Financial

a. Approval of Manifest(s) – None Approved.

XII. Announcements and Recognitions – Stacy Buckley and Dana Andrews attended a press conference for the green house at Bridgewater Hebron Village School in recognition for its innovation practices. Stacy Buckley also announced there was a great professional development day held on Friday, October 10 for the Marzano Training. She congratulated Ed Judd, Music Teacher for receiving a Meadowbrook foundation \$5,640 grant to create a smart music room at the middle and high schools. Ruby Hill shared that she had received an email from Josh Adjutant, at Camp Lejeune.

XIII. Other Business – Notice of the RSA 195 - Meeting October 15, 2014.

XIV. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 9:48 made by Jeffrey Levesque, Seconded by Ruby Hill.

Vote: 7-0-0-0 Motion Passed.

Staff Present: Stacy Buckley, Superintendent; Mike Limanni, Business Administrator, Ann Holton, Student Services Administrator, Therese Wetherington, Curriculum Coordinator; Annmarie Holloran, Principal, New Hampton Community School/Danbury Elementary School; Dana Andrews, Principal, Bridgewater Hebron Village School; Mollay Jallah, Principal, Bristol Elementary School; Michael O'Malley, Principal, Newfound Regional High School; Eric Chase, Principal, Newfound Memorial Middle School. Mimi Freeman Staff Liaison; Fred Robinson, Media; Leah McDevitt, Clerk.

Public Present:

Bristol: Tom Caldwell, Paul Simard, Mary Simard, Heather Gosson.

Danbury: Sharon Klapyk

Groton: Sharon Nelson

New Hampton: Megan Magraw, Rohan Magraw, Wendi Cantwell, Sharyn-Lynn Gilpatric