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NEWFOUND AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Board Minutes

Monday, September 10, 2018

Public Session: 6:30 p.m.

Location: LMC- Newfound Regional High School

I. Call to Order by Jeff Levesque at 6:35 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Record Roll:

Sue Cheney, Alexandria	present
Vincent Paul Migliore, Bridgewater	present
Heidi Milbrand, Bristol	present
Jeff Levesque, Groton	present
Jason Robert, Hebron	present
Christine Davol, New Hampton	present
Sharon Klapyk, Danbury	present

IV. Approval or Modification of Agenda
None

V. Approval of Minutes

a. August 7, 2018 placed on Consent Agenda

b. August 13, 2018 under review

Corrections:

Correction Page 5 fifth bullet. Sharon Klapyk explained that she spends a lot of time out in the community doing many things. Time makes it difficult to get to seven towns and spend time in every town. "I talk to people everywhere I go. I'm out there and people can reach me. I literally can't do anymore and if people aren't there to see me they weren't at the event I was at and don't know I was there."

Correction Page 3 i. Jeff Levesque, chair requested a word for word version of the approval of the assurances.

From June 11, 2018 minutes

i. FY 2019 Federal Funds General Assurances

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Stacy Buckley said, “So in the past I have always just signed off on these. These are our assurances for all of our grant allocations just telling us what we need to make sure we are doing. Our Commissioner of Education has decided that school boards have to approve them now before I can sign them and the school board needs to sign them. It is my understanding that there is no legal requirement for school boards that you authorize me to sign off on all grants and therefore I can

sign off on this. However, he has requested that school board sign off on them so I am bringing it to you because I also don’t want to hold up any of our federal funds so there has been some conversation with the School Board’s Association and the School Administrators Association of the legality of the requiring school boards to approve in sign off on them and some folks have recommended we not do that. However, I would prefer not to put our millions of dollars in federal funds at risk and so I’m following ...I’m a rule follower so we’re doing it.”

Vincent Migliore asked, “What was the Commissioner’s reasoning?”

Stacy Buckley said, “I think it says it in the beginning. I’m not really sure other than he believes that you should have some say over these. I have read them all. We do them all. There’s nothing in here that concerns me. They’ve also gone from like four pages to 14 pages as well.”

Sue Cheney said, “So if we approve this it just puts it where it was before. It puts it alright?”

Stacy Buckley said, “So what you are doing, yes, so what my request would be is to authorize superintendent, for the school board to authorize the superintendent indefinitely to sign off on the assurances as I have been always doing and that way it’s not something we have to bring back every year.”

Sue Cheney asked, “Can we do that?”

Jeff Levesque said, “I don’t think we can do it indefinitely.”

Stacy Buckley said, “Until we have a new Commissioner.”

Jeff Levesque asked, “Does anyone want to make a motion on i? Take a swing at it.”

Sue Cheney said, “I would move to allow the superintendent, yeah...”

Stacy Buckley said, “So yeah to approve the 2019 federal fund general assurances and allow the superintendent in the future to approve them.”

Jeff Levesque said, “Why don’t we just stop with (yeah) think that is an easier change.”

Stacy Buckley said, “I just need the chair okay.”

Jeff Levesque said, “Alright, moving it to a motion you want to read it?”

Ruth Whittier (clerk) said, “Sue Cheney moved to allow the superintendent to approve 2019 general assurances and allow superintendent in future to approve. Sue Cheney moved to allow superintendent to approve 2019 general assurances fiscal year 2019 for federal grants general assurances.”

Jeff Levesque said, “That’s it. Thank you. Now I’ll second that. Any further discussion? All those in favor?”

“Aye”

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“Any opposed? Any abstentions?”

Vincent Migliore said, “I would like to abstain from this one.”

Jeff Levesque said, “Okay.”

Correction Page 5 Sue Cheney wants to add that communication has always been a huge challenge with discussions about how to get more information out there especially to people who don’t have children in school and you can’t put a flyer in a backpack. So what is the best way to reach people? Sue Cheney likes Stacy’s idea the Citizen’s Academy and that may be online as well to get to more people. It’s always been a challenge and the goal is to come up with ideas on how to reach people so it’s an ongoing process.

VI. Public Comment

None

VII. Correspondence

Jeff Levesque said there is a piece of correspondence from the NH School Board Association relative to the board handout.

VIII. Announcements and Recognition

a. Student Liaison Report

Tuan Nguyen said Fall sports are in full swing and the Newfound Bears high school football team won Saturday’s game 64-13. In academics the high school has redesigned fourth block. High school honor passes allow more freedom to access the Library, VLACS Lab, front lobby and cafeteria, which has an outdoor seating arrangement. Feedback has been positive from teachers and students. Freshmen are getting used to the high school.

b. Staff Liaison Report

Chelsea Vittner said many improvements to the facilities were completed over the summer like the high school roof and NMMS painting floors. Mr. Hoiriis wanted to share that Homecoming is starting the week of September 24 and there’s going to be a dedication for the new outdoor seating area that was grant funded by Circle K. All games are home games that week and a Bonfire Dance on Friday September 28. Saturday, September 29 there will be a football game under the lights that night. The Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place Saturday, September 29, 2018 at the high school. Reception from 2-3 p.m. and the induction will be at 3 p.m.

NMMS has Open House Thursday and over 500 people are planning to attend.

Mid Step this summer was very successful and sixth graders adjusted well. One thing we are starting this year is Core Plus Connections and we already took a group out to play soccer and to develop a relationship with those students.

Allyson at Danbury Elementary School wanted me to say she is excited about the school year and teachers work diligently to provide individualized teaching and learning for students and she is thankful all her teachers have returned.

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District wide, faculty and staff wore pink today in support of a teacher who also has a birthday today. Students brought in cards and posters to send her way and many pictures were taken to share with her.

c. Superintendent Report

- Stacy Buckley said the students are back to school, engaged, and there's more rigor.
- CLIFF events planned are the result of grants that Kim Sarfde worked on. Kickoff is at Bristol Elementary School September 12.
- We started the budgeting process and we're already thinking about next year.
- Athletics are underway and Stacy attended Saturday's football game. The field looks great, they have a new scoreboard with electricity and the announcer is Brian Richardson. Stacy thanked Vincent Migliore for also attending the game.
- The 5-year strategic plan is coming to fruition with a working vision and mission statement, goals and strategies aligned with them so that will go to administration on Thursday and get it out to all teachers, faculty and staff. The board will probably see the plan in November if not the second meeting in October. We had over 200 people involved in the process not including students, over 4000 data points to review so the core committee met several times to study trends to see where we need to be and where we need to go in five years.
- We will have our state level results from the student assessment system and the SAT so this is where we are designated as a priority school or focus school. Data will be available for us soon. The board will be informed if any of our schools fall into that category. Stacy hopes not but we never know.
- September 27 High School Open House which starts with a barbeque at 5:30 p.m. followed by building tours and program from 6-7:30 p.m.
- Third Annual Athletic Hall of Fame will commence with a reception from 2-3 p.m. and Induction at 3 p.m. Saturday, September 29. Inductees include this year: Dan Harvey, Mo Day, Tom Ford, Dani (Roy) MacDonald, Tim Mahurin and Nancy Mills.

d. Other

Sharon Klapyk shared an item to be celebrated that Danbury students have been gardening and they entered in the agricultural exhibit in the Grange Fair. Judges do not know that their children competed against adults and they won on everyone they submitted. One ribbon was for second place on the annual garden (started from seeds). Two first place ribbons were awarded to the afterschool program for herb garden and vegetables (this year it was for their peach tomatoes, which they had many baskets of and donated to the Grange Fair for the dinners to the community center for the food pantry).

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IX. Old Business

None

X. New Business

a. Confirmation of NRHS Guidance Counselor Nomination

Chelsey Abare is the new guidance counselor at NRHS.

b. Approval to transfer “up to 2 ½ %” into the retained fund balance

Mike Limanni explained a handout of the 2017-2018 year end close-estimated and unaudited.

The board discussed figures, the retained fund balance, encumbrances, revenues, enrollment and what could be potentially returned to reduce taxes. Other items discussed: the roof cost \$619,000 and we budgeted for \$800,000.

The Budget Committee meets September 25.

Jeff Levesque asked the board what they thought was a reasonable decision. Sue Cheney and Sharon Klapyk think the recommended \$438,593 is good to retain.

c. Approval to transfer “up to \$1.00” into the Expendable Trust Fund: Building Maintenance

The board agreed that the transfer of \$1.00 into the Expendable Trust Fund created a lot of paperwork for just one dollar so they decided zero dollar is better.

d. Date for Deliberative Session

Stacy Buckley recommended the first Saturday in February that is February 2, 2019 starting at 10 a.m.

e. Bus contract RFP- plan for process moving forward

Stacy Buckley said this item is for the board’s information. The bus contract expires at the end of the year. The challenge is that there is one bus company in the state and other bus companies don’t want to service one district only. So we may bring in multi districts to increase competition.

f. Policy- 1st read

At the Policy Committee meeting on August 21 the superintendent, introduced the policies below for consideration by the committee. The amendments included equity of time for enrollment and completion of competency recovery after each semester in order to determine co-curricular and athletic eligibility.

The policies align better with competencies and allow competency recovery more accessible as long as the student is making progress. Both of the policies have the same changes and wording. The high school recommended these changes and brought it to the Policy Committee.

i. Policy IGD: Co-curricular programs

ii. Policy IGDJ: Interscholastic Athletics

g. NHSBA Call for Resolutions

NHSBA Executive Director Barrett M. Christina sent an invitation to Stacy Buckley announcing the NHSBA is now accepting submissions for the annual 2019 NHSBA Delegate Assembly on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at The Center Triangle Park office building, Concord. The deadline for submitting proposals is Friday, November 2, 2018. The board will complete paperwork if members bring

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a suggestion forward. Mike Limanni and Vincent Migliore will attend a Default Budget seminar on Thursday.

- h. DOE 25/ MS 25- signatures needed
The documents will be presented at the September 24 meeting.
- XI. Public Comment (on agenda items only per policy BDDH, 5 minute limit)
None
- XII. Motion on Consent Agenda
August 7, 2018 minutes
Sharon Klapyk made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jason Robert seconded.
Vote 6-0-1-0 (New Hampton abstained) ***Motion Passed***
- XIII. Motion on Individual Agenda Items
Jeff Levesque made a motion to confirm Chelsea Abare as High School Guidance Counselor. Sharon Klapyk seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

Sue Cheney moved we go with the recommendation of \$438,593 into the Retained Fund. Sharon Klapyk seconded.

Discussion: Vincent Migliore asked Sue Cheney a question if she believes it is prudent to put aside essentially more than \$700,000 on the off chance we have some sort of \$100,000 special education crisis or \$100,000 oil boiler crisis. Is this correct?

Sue Cheney responded, “Well not just about that. It’s about trying to keep the budget sort of level. Next year may be a little rough if we give back one million five and I think that this is just kind of an insurance that we can keep that more level.”

Vincent Migliore suggested this makes many assumptions including the fact that capital improvements will stay as is. “I cannot see doing this to the taxpayers. I plan on voting no.”

Vote 5-2-0-0 (Bridgewater and New Hampton voted no) ***Motion Passed***

No motion was made for putting one dollar into the Expendable Trust Fund so the amount is zero.

Jeff Levesque made a motion to authorize Lakes Region Planning Commission to issue an RFP on our behalf to take part in a regional school transportation joint purchasing initiative. We understand this means jointly issuing an RFP to purchase school transportation at a group rate. We agree not to shop around during the joint bidding process so that our group will have a stable purchasing volume for bidders to base their bid price on. We further understand that we are under no obligation to accept the joint bid price and terms if it is not competitive for our school district to do so. Jason Robert seconded the motion. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

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Sue Cheney moved to approve policies for first read. Policy IGD: Co-curricular programs and Policy IGDJ: Interscholastic Athletics. Heidi Milbrand seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

Vincent Migliore moved to approve the recommendation for February 2, 2019 as the date for the Deliberative Session. Sue Cheney seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

XIV. Financial

- a. Approval of Manifest(s)
None

XV. Adjournment

Vincent Migliore made the motion to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. and Jeff Levesque seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Whittier, School Board Clerk

District Staff present: Stacy Buckley, Superintendent; Michael Limanni, Business Administrator; Anne Holton, Student Services; Kim Sarfde, Curriculum Coordinator; Paul Ciotti, Technology Director

Public present: Dana Andrews, Bridgewater- Hebron Village School Principal

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2017-2018 Year End Close - Estimated & Unaudited

	General Fund - 10	Food Services - 21	Federal Projects - 22
Unassigned FB: Beginning Balance (Voted):	\$275,000	\$0	\$0
Total Expended/Encumbered	(\$21,165,352)	(\$534,649)	(\$1,190,058)
Total Revenue Received/Encumbered	\$21,964,213	\$557,689	\$1,196,259
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$798,862	\$23,040	\$6,201
Unassigned Fund Balance after Operations:	\$1,073,862	\$23,040	\$6,201
FB Committed to PY Encumbrances in FY17:	868,731.58	\$324	\$8,756
PY Expended in FY17:	(772,090.63)	(\$324)	(\$11,646)
Budgetary UFB after Encumbrance Adj:	\$1,170,503	\$23,040	\$3,311
Voted from PY to Reduce Taxes (Reduces Rev):	\$337,646		
Budgetary UFB after Voted:	\$1,508,149	\$23,040	\$3,311
Additional Transfer in/out to cover deficits:	\$0	\$0	
Budgetary UFB available after deficit transfers:	\$1,508,149	\$23,040	\$3,311
Voted from surplus to Maint Trust (TBD):	\$0		
Budgetary UFB available to reduce Taxes:	\$1,508,149		
Voted to Retain (TBD):	(\$438,593)		
of FY18 Net Assessment (Local + State): 2.5% X \$17,543,716 = \$438,593			
Total Amount Estimated to Reduce Taxes (TBD):	\$1,069,556		