

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:A 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
School Board Minutes
 For
 Monday February 15, 2021
 Public Hearing: 6:30 p.m.
 Location: Café - Newfound Regional High School

- I. Call to Order by the School Board Chair Jeff Levesque at 6:31 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Record Roll:

Sue Cheney, Alexandria	present
Michael O'Malley, Bridgewater	present
Heidi Milbrand, Bristol	present
Melissa Suckling, Danbury	present
Jeff Levesque, Groton	present
Jason Robert, Hebron	excused absent
Fran Wendelboe, New Hampton	present

- IV. **Public hearing on petitioned warrant articles:**

ARTICLE 5: BY PETITION: Shall we modify the tax cap adopted under the provisions of RSA 32:5-b at the 2012 Annual Meeting to change the 2% tax cap to 3%? If this Article is adopted the governing body (or budget committee) shall not recommend a budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes based on the prior year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 3%. (Passage requires a 3/5 majority ballot vote)

ARTICLE 6: BY PETITION: TAX CAP RESCISSION: Shall we rescind the provision of RSA 32:5-b, known as the tax cap, as adopted by the Newfound Area School District on March 13, 2012, so that there will no longer be a limit on increases to the recommended budget in the amount to be raised by local taxes? (3/5 Majority required)

Jeff Levesque opened the public hearing by reading the articles and noted that if both articles are approved then Article 6: By Petition: Tax Cap Rescission will be approved. No Comment so Jeff closed public hearing on petitioned warrant articles at 6:35 p.m.

Public Hearing: To accept \$50,600 from the Promising Futures for New Hampshire to promote social and emotional learning at Newfound Memorial Middle School.

Anne Landry spoke to the grant. Deborah Richardson, Alexandria also spoke.

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Jeff Levesque made a motion to accept \$50,600 from the Promising Futures for NH to promote social and emotional learning at the middle school. Mike O'Malley seconded. Vote 6-0-0-1 (Hebron excused absent) *Motion Passed*
Public hearing closed at 6:37 p.m.

- V. Approval or Modification of Agenda
None
- VI. Approval of Minutes
- a. January 28, 2021 Minutes
 - b. January 30, 2021 Minutes
 - c. February 1, 2021 Minutes
No corrections
- VII. Public Comment
None
- VIII. Correspondence
A thank you note from Heidi was passed around as well as a Newfound Landing copy of an article, "Newfound students shine during ELO Month."
- IX. Announcements and Recognition
- a. Student Liaison Report
Elsa McConologue noted several students are out in the community performing extracurricular activities. One student wrote the ELO article for the newspaper. The high school One Acts concluded tonight with the Juniors and Seniors. Over the weekend, the Freshmen and Sophomores held their One Acts.
 - b. Teacher Report
Kathleen Connor, Guidance Counselor noted the flexibility and collaborative team efforts at both Danbury and Bridgewater schools. The resiliency of the students is outstanding. Staffing is challenging. Facemasks are amenable and students want to be in school. All positive. Friday afternoons are cherished. Para Educators are busy and appreciated. The students miss larger group activities and lunch bunches. Kathleen emphasized the importance of the IT department and tech teachers. She noted Bridgewater has a history of growth mindset to draw from. Danbury has transitioned well to new spaces. Remote has helped us to all come together as a team.
 - c. Superintendent Report
Pierre Couture provided a summary for tracking House Bills that concern School Funding Bills. A list of Newfound Legislative Representatives was also included.

Following a Fire Drill Jeff Levesque thanked the Fire Department for their rapid response and resumed the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

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Pierre Couture noted athletics are going very well. We are playing regional teams only and the finals will be held in a neutral site with limited attendance at games. Alex Sobolov has done a great job keeping the athletes safe with no issues.

The middle school is a success with improved lighting and air quality. The elementary schools are focused on remote learners who struggle and how we can support them. Parents are encouraged to send their students back to school. The Danbury Elementary School Principal position was posted after looking at the budget and the position being high priority. Jeff Levesque requested the Superintendent notify the board before posting a position. Looking ahead to post co-vid and how to work on remediation, Jeannette Shedd is the remote learning coordinator and noted that assessments are made and there are gaps across the nation. Pierre is looking at post co-vid remediation for gaps and noted that remote learners will have to come to school for assessments. Mike O'Malley suggested Fall assessments to identify the gaps. Jeannette noted there are gap assessment tools and Pierre spoke of a needs assessment and maybe hire a new guidance counselor at the elementary school.

The high school administration has a flex block for remediation and competency based learning makes it easier to focus on deficient areas for recovery.

Jeff Levesque noted the topic of remediation can be brought up in March. Last year there was remote summer school.

X. New Business

a. Resignation

Sally Lyford, NRHS Math Teacher effective June 30, 2021

NRHS Graduation June 12, 2021

Accommodations may be similar to last year with social distancing.

b. School Board Evaluation

The evaluation is historically held at this time of year but not very effective since there is a new board coming on with the election and members leaving. The evaluation was suspended until later when we can look at it and make questions more meaningful.

c. Superintendent Evaluation

The evaluation is to be placed on the agenda for the next school board meeting nonpublic.

XI. Old Business

a. Review of Deliberative Session

Sue Cheney was pleased with the student comments. Pierre was pleased that 285 people attended to show their support. Mike thanked Sue Cheney for speaking up about the slight increase in the budget over the years.

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XII. Public Comment (on agenda items only per policy BDDH, 5 minute limit)
None

XIII. Motion on Consent Agenda
None

XIV. Motion on Individual Agenda Items
Mike O'Malley made a motion to accept the resignation of Sally Lyford. Fran Wendelboe seconded. Vote 6-0-0-1 (Hebron excused absent) ***Motion Passed***

Jeff Levesque made a motion to approve January 28, 2021 minutes. Melissa Suckling seconded. Vote 4-0-2-1 (Bristol and Bridgewater abstained. Hebron excused absent) ***Motion Passed***

Jeff Levesque made a motion to accept the February 1 and January 30, 2021 minutes. Heidi Milbrand seconded. Vote 6-0-0-1 (Hebron excused absent) ***Motion Passed***

Fran Wendelboe made a motion to approve NRHS Graduation June 12, 2021 as presented by the Superintendent. Heidi Milbrand seconded. Vote 6-0-0-1 (Hebron excused absent) ***Motion Passed***

Melissa Suckling made a motion to suspend the School Board Evaluation until the Policy Committee can adjust it to be more effective. Sue Cheney seconded. Vote 6-0-0-1 (Hebron excused absent) ***Motion Passed***

XV. Financial
a. Approval of Manifest(s)
None

XVI. Adjournment
Jeff Levesque made a motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Whittier, School Board Clerk

District staff: Pierre Couture, Superintendent; Anne Landry, Student Services Administrator; Jeannette Shedd, Curriculum Coordinator; Erin Edwards, Videographer

Public: Kathleen Connor, Hebron; Deborah Richardson, Alexandria

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Newfound Area School District
02/15/2021

Professional Staff Resignations

Name	School	Position	Effective Date
Sally Lyford	NRHS	Math Teacher	6/30/2021

Newfound students shine during ELO Month

BRISTOL — Gov. Chris Sununu, by official proclamation, announced January as Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) month in New Hampshire. Newfound Regional High School has a long established ELO program to highlight. In celebration of the past month, the following includes some stories of NRHS students and their ELO.

Elsa McConologue, a Junior at Newfound Regional High School, has spent a couple of years working on an ELO that would inspire people to immerse themselves in a culture separate from their own. During the Summer of 2019, she spent a month of her

Area residents named to dean's list at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Conn. — Lauren McInerney of Bristol, Macy Prince of Plymouth, Milton Woolfenden of Thornton, and Christina Furgal and Elizabeth Johansson of Waterville Valley were named to the dean's list for the Fall 2020 semester at Quinnipiac University.

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester.

About Quinnipiac University

Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational, nonsectarian institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 7,000 full-time undergraduate and 3,000 graduate and part-time students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac is recognized by U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review's "The Best 385 Colleges." The Chronicle of Higher Education has named Quinnipiac among the Great Colleges to Work For(r). For more information, please visit qu.edu. Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook at [facebook.com/quinnipiacnews](https://www.facebook.com/quinnipiacnews) and follow Quinnipiac on Twitter @QuinnipiacU.

break indulging in Scandinavian culture, by visiting both the counties of Norway and Sweden. Realizing that this could be more than just a vacation, she did research while abroad and developed a sense of both their customs and languages. Having taken French courses throughout both her middle and high school years, Elsa holds the belief that it is beneficial to know or understand multiple languages.

Along with encouraging others to broaden their linguistic horizons, she also motivates them to recognize the differences between their own culture and that of another. Simple things like societal mentalities and competitive standards can be completely different in another country. To influence people to go out and explore, Elsa created a website called Vita Voxa, which translates to Life and Language, that allows students to take their experiences with travel and language and share it with others.

Maggie Bednaz, a Junior at Newfound Regional High School, has

recently started working on an ELO that could raise a better awareness for mental health and the benefits exercise and movement can have. With the pandemic, Maggie has recognized that people in our community are likely to have struggled more with their mental health than they have in the past. Reducing your social connections to people can cause some to get into a dark place. Bednaz's ELO focuses on how exercise and movement can help relieve feelings of stress and depression during hard times like these.

While researching, she found that movement can help stimulate your brain and release endorphins. A reasonable percentage of people exercise to ward off anxiety and stress. Her goal with her ELO is to shed light on this benefit to people who struggle with mental illnesses. Finalizing her ELO, she hopes to do an event at the school to promote exercise, while also fundraising money to donate to the National Alliance on Mental Illness in New

Hampshire. Jennifer MacDonald, an NRHS Senior, knew she wanted to work in healthcare but has used a virtual internship ELO to help her decide what specific area to pursue.

MacDonald states, "My ELO is about opening the door to opportunity regarding health care through virtual job shadowings and interviews. A multitude of students all over the state connected with Monadnock Community Hospital to learn about different fields and the hardworking staff within their facility. I have always had a passion for helping others and this opportunity opened a door for me to expand my knowledge about the world of healthcare and the remarkable professionals that make up such amazing teams."

Any topic that a student wishes to pursue can be established as an ELO with the potential to earn credit towards graduation. Extended Learning Opportunities make real world applications and community connections for all learners!