

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

April 19, 2021

Non-Public Session: 6 p.m.

Public Session: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Café - Newfound Regional High School

- I. Call to Order by the School Board Chair Melissa Suckling at 6:03 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
Britta Matthews, Groton	present
Thomas Edwards, Hebron	present
Fran Wendelboe, New Hampton	present
- IV. Melissa Suckling recommended the board enter Nonpublic Session: 91-A:3(a): The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employer or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.
Roll call vote: Alexandria-yes, Bridgewater-yes, Bristol-yes, Danbury-yes, Groton-yes, Hebron-yes, New Hampton-yes. Board returned at 6:24 p.m.
- V. Approval or Modification of Agenda
Melissa Suckling moved to change X.b.ii "Science Teacher" to **Teacher Nominations**
Heidi Milbrand moved to add **j. New Member Comment** under New Business.
- VI. Approval of Minutes
 - a. April 5, 2021 Minutes
Sue Cheney moved to approve April 5, 2021 minutes. Heidi Milbrand seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
- VII. Public Comment
Ken Braley, Alexandria was not in favor of the changes to the district travel policy that does not require a travel quarantine especially since the CDC recommends it.
Autumn Braley, Alexandria agreed that the risk is great when students who abide by strict rules should potentially miss important events because some students travelled.

Notice is hereby made that public comment shall be made without expectation of a response by any School Board member to matters raised by such commentary. The Board respects the right of the public to communicate its stance of matters of interest, but meetings are scheduled in advance to conduct business put forth on its publicly posted agenda only.

VIII. Correspondence

Pierre Couture received a thank you from Brian and Val at the State University System for helping to prepare future educators with the application process and resume writing.

IX. Announcements and Recognition

a. Remote Learning Curriculum Coordinator Update

Jeannette Shedd reported the 2021 summer school program extends July 5 through August 5 with two options: remote and in person. Attendance is open to preschool to 12th grade to students at risk of not meeting competency, falling behind, or needing enrichment as well as the special education students. Anne Landry is sending a survey to parents and is looking to recruit staff for summer school.

b. Superintendent Report

Pierre Couture noted the first day in compliance with the Governor's order went well. The busses carried one person per seat and two if siblings. The high school attendance was at 76%. Families have given us their intentions whether the student chooses remote, hybrid or full time learning. Buildings are in good shape with added lunch spaces. This Friday about 200 people will receive their second vaccine at the clinic. Pierre touched on the legislative HB 20 voucher bill that would if passed allow \$3,800 in adequacy aid to go to families who want to send a child to a private school, but that would penalize the public school system to lose the \$3,800. June 17, 2021 is currently the last day of school for students. Fran Wendleboe noted that public input will be allowed on the proposed bill and people can reach out for more information.

c. Student Liaison Report

Elsa McConologue noted 11th graders took the SAT test electronically last week on laptops. Softball team beat Franklin 12-0. Track team meet next week. Student Council is working hard to put together a different Winter Carnival but with the same school spirit.

d. Other

None

X. New Business

a. Resignation(s)

Jonathan Young, high school math

Mara Capsalis, high school English

Melissa Suckling made a motion to accept the resignations as presented. Mike O'Malley seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**

b. Nominations for 2021-2022 school year

i. Principal – Danbury Elementary School

Mike O'Malley made a motion to approve the selection of Norma Ross for

Principal-Danbury Elementary School 2021-2022 school year starting July 1. Tom

Edwards seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**

ii. Teacher Nominations – Newfound Regional High School

Anna Tyrina-science

Emily Gatehouse-Spanish

Sydney Warman-math

Melissa Suckling moved to approve teacher nominations as presented. Heidi

Milbrand seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**

c. Bridgewater requesting use of ESSER Funds for ventilation

Notice is hereby made that public comment shall be made without expectation of a response by any School Board member to matters raised by such commentary. The Board respects the right of the public to communicate its stance of matters of interest, but meetings are scheduled in advance to conduct business put forth on its publicly posted agenda only.

The school board received a letter from the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District Commissioners asking for reimbursement for work done on ventilation at the school with funds coming from the ESSER Fund. Mike O'Malley spoke in favor of the request since safety of the students is a priority and he recommends we approve the presentation. Fran Wendelboe and Sue Cheney are in favor as long as the work done is in a category allowable to receive funds. Heidi Milbrand noted the request for \$24,458 is for labor only. Melissa Suckling would like more information and asked Pierre if Terry Murphy could be invited to answer questions. Melissa moved to continue the discussion at the next meeting under Old Business.

d. Increase Summer work pay for Teachers

Pierre noted the current teacher pay is \$25 an hour and would raise it to \$35, which is the average pay in the lakes region. Para educators currently earn \$15 an hour during summer school and Pierre would raise that to \$18 an hour. The funds for the increased salary would come from ESSER Funds. Britta Matthews questioned if the increases would be temporary since the ESSER Funds will run out. Pierre noted we will find money to maintain the pay and it is only for four hours a day for five weeks. Mike O'Malley noted the certified staff deserves the raise. Anne Landry is collecting the number of summer school students now and will report back to the board.

Melissa Suckling made a motion to increase summer work pay for teachers. Tom Edwards seconded. Vote 5-2-0-0 (New Hampton and Bristol voted no) ***Motion Passed***

e. Policies for First Reading

i. AFA Evaluation of the School Board Operation Procedures

Heidi and Sue tried to align the evaluation tool with what the board does. At the next meeting, we can discuss the evaluation itself after people have read it.

ii. AC Non-Discrimination Equal Opportunity Employment and District Anti Discrimination Plan

iii. JICD - Student Discipline and Due Process

Discussion: Fran Wendelboe would like to change the word "shall" to "may" and Pierre will research the question and report back.

iv. ACAAA Harassment Sexual Harassment of Students

v. ACAAA-R Student Discrimination Harassment Complaint Procedure

vi. ACAB Harassment Sexual Harassment of School Employees

vii. ACAB-R Employee Discrimination Harassment Complaint Procedure

Melissa Suckling moved to accept the above policies for first reading. Mike O'Malley seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

f. Job Descriptions:

i. Technology Support Specialist

The job description language was updated to reflect what the person does. Sue Cheney moved to approve the job description for technology support specialist. Heidi Milbrand seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

g. Handbooks

i. Support Staff Handbook

Pierre noted there are a couple of changes in overtime, more paid holidays are recommended like Veterans Day, and salaries are updated.

ii. Program Specialist Handbook

Sue Cheney moved to approve the support staff and program specialist handbooks. Mike O'Malley seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

Notice is hereby made that public comment shall be made without expectation of a response by any School Board member to matters raised by such commentary. The Board respects the right of the public to communicate its stance of matters of interest, but meetings are scheduled in advance to conduct business put forth on its publicly posted agenda only.

- h. Years of service and end of year BBQ
The board decided to invite staff to the end of year BBQ and years of service event on the last day of school.
 - i. Washington DC Field Trip – Newfound Memorial Middle School
Donna Ritchie requested a field trip for May 31, 2022 through June 3, 2022 for up to 82 students. A Washington, D. C. Sample Itinerary was provided.
Fran Wendelboe moved to approve the Washington, D. C. field trip as requested. Tom Edwards seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 - j. New Member Comment
Heidi Milbrand would like to add this item to the agenda to give members an opportunity to talk. Heidi thanked Robin for giving her the chance to ask questions. In reference to the manifests, Amazon orders may need additional oversight and consolidate purchases.
- XI. Public Comment (on agenda items only per policy BDDH, 5-minute limit)
None
- XII. Financial
- a. Approval of Manifest(s)
Sue Cheney made a motion to approve manifest for March 2021. Melissa Suckling seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
- XIII. Adjournment
Melissa Suckling adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Whittier, School Board Clerk

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

Public present: Ken Braley, Alexandria; Autumn Braley, Alexandria

Notice is hereby made that public comment shall be made without expectation of a response by any School Board member to matters raised by such commentary. The Board respects the right of the public to communicate its stance of matters of interest, but meetings are scheduled in advance to conduct business put forth on its publicly posted agenda only.