JOINT MEETING SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD FREMONT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 2, 2019

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A Joint meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board and Fremont School Board was held on Wednesday, October 2, 2019. Chairperson Peter Broderick and Chairperson Greg Fraize (Fremont) called their respective meetings to order at 6:04 PM. The following were recorded as present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Peter Broderick, Chairperson

Dr. Pamela Brown, Vice Chair

Electra Alessio

Jim Baker

Jameson Fitzpatrick

Larry Heath

Tammy Mahoney

Erin Gillespie-Student Council Representative

FREMONT BOARD MEMBERS: Greg Fraize, Chairperson

Angela O'Connell, Vice Chair

Amy Leslie

Gordon Muench Emily Phillips

ADMINISTRATORS: Thomas Ambrose, Superintendent of Schools

Allyn Hutton, Superintendent-Fremont

Susan Penny, Business Administrator- Fremont

1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

Chair Broderick called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by High School students Courtney Gelina, Rachel Kelly, Jarrod St. Jean and Siera Carey. They are members of the Key Club and have reinvigorated "Club Fair", an event to publicize activity clubs and have helped Assistant Principal, Steve Krzyzanowski with this endeavor. Principal Stack commended their efforts, saying that in 14 years, it was by far the most well-organized event that we've had, completely 100% driven by students.

3. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Chair Broderick welcomed the SAU 83, Fremont School Board members and administrators to the meeting and asked for a Roll Call attendance.

4. OCTOBER 1, 2019 ENROLLMENTS

Superintendent Ambrose shared the 10-1-19 enrollments which total 1, 578 students. For details, <u>please click here.</u>

5. HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTATION

To view the slide presentation, <u>please click here.</u>

Principal Brian Stack informed the group of the following key points, along with Assistant Principal Robert Dawson and Counseling Director, Heidi Leavitt:

A. Status update on the plan to move the 7th and 8th grade to SRHS

Mr. Stack reviewed the lay-out of the building. There will be a separate entrance, bus drop, hallways and 15 classrooms. In addition, some teachers will be mobile and move to the classrooms as needed.

Ms. O'Connell asked for clarification on the classroom use and hallways used. Mr. Fraize asked about the library use, which would be a shared situation. Ms. Leslie asked for the hours and bell schedule which will be the same as the high school.

Mr. Baker asked about the number of teachers using carts. (Answer- 5-7, predominantly Special Education teachers) and the student capacity at the high school, (Answer 1200) and with 7th and 8th graders (Ans. 800 students).

Chair Broderick explained the process for teachers using carts, which in many cases does not actually involve the use of one. A teacher may choose to see a child with just a notebook in hand.

Student Representative, Erin Gillespie asked locker availability for Middle Schoolers. (Answer-Yes, plenty of lockers).

Ms. O'Connell commented that the biggest concern and questions center around making sure that the same level of education is going to be available for high school students.

Discipline

Tracking discipline data shows that the single biggest issue is the vaping and the e-cigarette issue which is rampant. Almost everything comes in the form of a Juul pod. It is up to the administration to decide whether it's something that has nicotine in it or some other kind of chemical. The emphasis has changed from it being a drug situation to a nicotine situation and the policy has changed from it being considered an illicit drug. Our students are hearing how bad vaping is for you so hopefully that will change things.

The culture of discipline has changed with a shift towards more students being assigned in-school suspension versus out-of-school suspension. This change keeps students connected and although physically separate from other students, they are engaged and supported by their guidance counselors, teachers and administration. Similarly, more verbal warnings are given versus written. This less reactive approach lends itself to being more proactive in looking for ways to reduce negative behavior issues.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked whether giving verbal versus written warnings have resulted in lower rates of incidence. Mr. Stack responded that it is hard to say

specifically because of consistency and new administrators, but administrators being less reactive overall has drastically lowered the numbers.

Ms. O'Connell asked about the consequences and enforcement of vaping that are nicotine related. Mr. Baker asked for details of in-school suspension which when answered, addressed Ms. O'Connell's question as well.

Mr. Ambrose commented that Ross Greene's work at Sanborn in coming to speak to staff about student behavior and finding a balance is making a difference.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if students get better by grade. Mr. Stack answered -Not for some kids, but absolutely for the majority.

Mr. Baker asked how kids show that they need help and how do they avail themselves of the opportunity to get help. Mr. Dawson shared a story giving evidence of this and added that building relationships is key. Ms. Leavitt added that creating an environment that is a safe place for students to share is critical.

Mr. Stack reviewed the cell phone usage (Policy JICJ) which allows teacher discretion and is working well.

He also discussed the Restorative Justice program and the benefits of students making decisions regarding the consequences of other students' behaviors.

Ms. Phillips asked how a student joins the program. Mr. Stack answered that it is student-interest based and they do not restrict anyone from joining. Mr. Baker asked about the training students receive. Mr. Stack responded that they review case studies and the menu of consequences.

The ALICE Training protocol was reviewed by Mr. Stack and the other safety features that are in place such as the Superintendent's Safety Advisory team meetings, scheduled drills with the schools, a police car presence at the high school, the new School Resource officer, Dan Doyle and the Alert System Lockdown units being placed at the Kingston schools. Mr. Ambrose explained that last year we had a full drill and another is coming up this month. He added that the Alert system, used to signal emergencies in noisy areas, was purchased using a grant that Mr. Turmelle had written for us. Over time, Mr. Turmelle wrote and received \$100,000 in grants for the district. The Newton schools had already received radio grant money, so they were not included for this but will be added to the next grant request.

C. <u>Professional Learning Community Recognition</u>

Mr. Stack informed them of the PLC recognition. Please click here for details.

He referenced the School Board's work in putting forth a definition of student success at Sanborn last spring which set a framework and is helping to increase the student success rates.

D. Curriculum Updates

Ms. Leavitt explained Dual Enrollment and the success of Sanborn's connection with Northern Essex Community College (NECC) and the 14 students who are taking classes. (More will be presented on this to include Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) at the May Joint Board meeting).

Ms. Phillips commented on her positive experience as a high school student taking dual enrollment courses.

Mr. Stack discussed a new breakfast opportunity after 1st period for students, instructional minutes requirements (354 per day, maximum 360 by State law), the aviation program,

E. <u>College Acceptance Rates/Schools</u>

Mr. Stack detailed that students pursue many paths after they leave Sanborn. 100% of students have a plan:

154 Graduates:

- 47% plan to attend a 4-year school
- 19% plan to attend a 2-year school
- 1% plan to attend a college preparatory school
- 10% plan to be employed
- 1% plan to enter a national service program
- 8% plan to attend a career/technical school
- 7% plan to work in an apprenticeship program
- 3% plan to enter the military or armed forces
- 4% plan to take a GAP year.

6. <u>Public Comment</u>

<u>Kristen Stogryn</u>-(Kingston)-asked why the plan has changed to have 7th and 8th graders on the bus with the high school students when previously their being separate had been one of the selling points of the idea.

Chair Broderick pointed out that seniors don't take the bus and if a student has a car, they drive.

Superintendent Ambrose commented that they did initially look at that but after diving into the planning issues, it didn't make sense and it is also very unusual that the middle and high school students don't ride the bus together as it is done almost everywhere. Also, it is cost prohibitive to run a separate bus for them.

<u>Kristen Stogryn</u>-Will there be enough parking spaces for all the students that want to drive next year?

Mr. Stack- We may have to look at some student restrictions to fit everyone.

<u>Ursula Giannusa (Kingston)</u>-Is thankful that everyone went through the ALICE training as these situations happening at schools are horrible. Is the police presence only at the high school? (Answer-Mr. Ambrose, yes,) Is there any future talk of having a presence at the other schools? (Answer-Mr. Ambrose, I believe there may be a Citizens Petition (Petition Warrant Article) related to this in the near future). Was there any extra equipment purchased for the drills? (Answer-Mr. Ambrose reviewed drill protocols). Can anyone walk by the Alertus system and hit that and create a lockdown notification to parents? (Answer, Mr. Dawson-Yes, but we are working on those notifications so that they go to the right places).

Mary Cyr (Kingston)-Just wants to say thank you very much to Mr. Stack, Ms. Leavitt, Mr. Dawson and the entire administrative team, the EISA Committee, everybody who's working to be innovative and give our students great opportunities. It's very encouraging, from my perspective, when Brian put up the data about 2007, and prior, that's the stuff that scares the devil out of me, when my kids were looking at coming to the high school here. So, to see those trends in the right direction is very comforting. I belong to an online community of mothers of multiples. I've got a set of twins that are sophomores in college and we go way back...20 years. A Lot of moms that I know, we've watched each other's kids grow up, and we see how they've benefited from these dual enrollment classes all over the country. And these kids in Alaska, you know, getting their associates degree by the time they graduate. And I just want to add that here, I know it's available. So, it's very heartwarming to hear the innovations and these changes are taking place. So, I wanted to thank you very much for your hard work and your dedication and bringing about change for the good of this community. And I know that this agenda was set for the benefit of the Fremont partners here tonight. But I think it's great information for everybody who's here tonight and everybody watching from home. And I hope everybody takes to heart the fact that they really are making great strides here for the betterment of our students.

7. Announcements

The next Sanborn Regional School Board meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 16th from 6-9 PM** in the library at Sanborn Regional High School.

8. <u>Adjournment</u>-Chair Broderick adjourned the meeting at 8:17 PM

Minutes respectively Submitted by:

Phyllis Kennedy Secretary

9. Non Public commenced (after the break)- Recorder Matt Angell

Joint Nonpublic Meeting of Fremont and Sanborn Regional School Boards:

Larry Heath – Move to go into nonpublic 91a-A:3 II, Ellie Alessio second.

Sanborn Regional School Board - Roll Call – yes (Tammy Mahoney absent)

Angela O'Connell – Motion to go into nonpublic 91a-A:3 II, Amy Lesly second.

Fremont School Board - Roll Call – all yes.

Sanborn Regional School District Fremont school District
Peter Broderick, Chair Greg Fraize, Chair

Dr. Pam Brown, Vice Chair Angela O'Connell, Vice Chair

Electra Alessio Gordon Muench
Jim Baker Amy Lesie
Jamie Fitzpatrick Emily Phillips

Larry Heath Ally Hutton, Superintendent

Tammy Mahoney Sue Penny,. Business Administrator

Thomas Ambrose, Superintendent Matt Angell, Business Administrator

Discussion

Fremont closes their meeting by roll call vote

Larry Heath – motion to move out of nonpublic – RSA 91-a:3 II. Ellie seconds. Roll call vote is unanimous.

Continuing Public Meeting

Ellie Alessio – move to accept early retirement. Jim second. All in favor.

Larry Heath – Motion to adjourn. Jim second. Unanimous.