

**SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

March 8, 2017

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 8:35 p.m. by Sanborn Regional School Board Chairperson, Corey Masson. The following were recorded as present;

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Corey Masson, Chairperson
Jan Bennett
Dr. Pamela Brown
Peter Broderick
Sheila Pierce
Nancy Ross
Tammy Gluck
Michael Giordano-Student Council Representative

ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Brian Blake, Superintendent of Schools
Carol Coppola, Business Administrator

The meeting began with a Salute to the Flag.

REVIEW AGENDA

The following changes were made:

- Add Finance under "School Board Committee Reports" as letter "a" and
- Remove EISA
- Move Personnel/Principal Search to letter "b"

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Masson asked for a Motion to approve the Minutes of February 15, 2017. Motion moved by Ms. Ross and seconded by Ms. Bennett. Dr. Brown asked that on page 7, the sentence be amended (see bold) to read, "Dr. Brown read from a statement saying that these comments fail to acknowledge that a plan is not an action and that once a plan is decided, only a warrant signals to voters that **an expenditure decision** is needed.

Vote: All in Favor.

Mr. Masson asked for a Motion to approve the Non-Public Minutes of February 15, 2017. Ms. Bennett moved the Motion, seconded by Ms. Ross. No comment/discussion. Vote: All in Favor.

Mr. Masson asked for a Motion to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of February 22, 2017. Ms. Gluck moved the Motion, seconded by Ms. Ross. Ms. Gluck pointed out the need to amend the spelling of Ian McGregor, a member of the public. Vote: All in Favor.

EXPENDITURES REGISTER & MANIFEST – REVIEW AND SIGN

The Board reviewed and signed the Manifest Check Register #16 -\$419, 91 dated 2/24/17, Manifest Check Register #17-\$1, 320, 373. 94 dated 3/8/17 and the Payroll Check Register #17- \$768, 491.79 dated 2/23/17.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS- None

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENTS

Mr. Masson expressed his gratitude to the community for participating in the Principal Search and to the Town of Newton for hosting the Candidates Night. He thanked Tammy Gluck for her service to the Board and Ms. Ross for her leadership and tenure as a Board Member.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cheryl Gannon (Kingston) thanked the outgoing Board Members, Tammy Gluck and Nancy Ross for their service as well as Student Representative, Michel Giordano. She also commended Chairperson Masson for putting his “heart and soul” into the job and Business Administrator, Carol Coppola for her expertise and “vast Knowledge” she has shared during her time with the District.

Barry Cluck (Newton) thanked Nancy Ross for being a “tireless advocate for the kids and for the District”. He expressed his hope that Ms. Bennett is re-elected saying that her reputation and accomplishments speak for themselves. Mr. Gluck closed by saying that he is sorry to see Ms. Coppola leaving, that her professionalism and expertise has made for great strides in the District.

Cheryl Giordano (Newton) agreed with the last few comments and also thanked the entire Board for their service and time saying that she has attended every meeting since last May and has learned so much about the work they do and about the District as a whole. She thanked Ms. Coppola for her service and Ms. Gluck for her time on the Board as well the time she has devoted to the various student clubs.

Tammy Gluck (Newton) expressed her concern about the actions and comments made by School Board members and Budget Committee Members. With the upcoming election, she would like the public to know that there is a definite “roster” of candidates supported by a special interest group in the community adding that one school board member continues to comment, at mostly every meeting, that “Sanborn class sizes are above State Average” however, when you review the data on the NH Department of Education website, and compare Sanborn to other districts in the state using their data, you find this just is not true. Fake Facts or data manipulation to serve the motive of this special interest group is blasted all over social media and much of that information is put out there by a newton candidate for School Board, who happens to be the chairperson and on the board of directors of the NKTA. This is what is so disconcerting. (To see more, please view the School Board Video available online at www.sau17.org).

Taryn Lytle (Kingston) commented about how “awesome” the music concert was saying that many times you cannot quantify these types of happenings into standardized tests, adding that there are many such happenings at Sanborn on a regular basis. Watching the students who ran the Meet the Candidates Night was very impressive and there are many students invested in their education that we don’t always hear about.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Broderick expressed his thanks to Ms. Ross citing her professionalism (and pleasant demeanor) in all their encounters, despite having different points of view. He added that she will be missed.

Michael Giordano commented about the huge impact that Ms. Ross, Ms. Bennett and Ms. Gluck have had on him and his education. Their reliable guidance regarding what it means to be on the School Board, to be part of public education and to be an adult, as part of a political process means a lot to him. He closed by saying that he appreciates their continued pursuit of the values he shares.

Sheila Pierce thanked Ms. Gluck for her service in all areas, Ms. Bennett for the future service saying that she hopes to see her back and for Ms. Ross’s guidance, and outstanding intelligence which will be greatly missed.

Dr. Brown thanked Ms. Gluck, Ms. Ross and Ms. Bennett for their service and time commitment, recognizing the attention Ms. Ross gave in helping her on the Policy Committee and also Ms. Bennett for her assistance on the Negotiations Committee. Regarding corrections to the February 15th meeting, despite being told that we are not using Smarter Balance for testing, it is on the assessment schedule for 2016-17 year. Perhaps we are phasing it out? Also, Dr. Brown was not aware that the SRSB *Essential News* was being sent out to homes detailing District warrant information and did not have a hand in it, nor was she asked. Dr. Brown added that it was crafted to influence the reader and mailed at tax-payer’s expense for

\$420. She believes that is against School Board policy which says we are not allowed to use resources to support campaigns or candidates and says it states that the School Board supports this but only because it was a majority vote that passed it.

Ms. Bennett praised Ms. Coppola for her ability to educate her in all areas of business administration, commented on Ms. Gluck's dedication and devotion to Kindergarten, the High School and the Arts and spoke to Ms. Ross's high standard of ethics, and trustworthiness.

Ms. Gluck thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve. She added that she has been involved in the District for 15 years and praised Ms. Bennett for her service and for being an advocate for the arts. She thanked Ms. Ross for her service on the Board, and for her years of volunteering and overall commitment. Ms. Gluck spoke to Ms. Coppola's fastidiousness in everything she does, saying she hopes she enjoys the next stage of her career.

Ms. Ross thanked everyone for their kind words. She has been involved for 27 years with the District and has loved the experience. Serving on the Board for the last 9 years has been a privilege and she will treasure the friendships she has developed. Having witnessed so much change, she is proud to have been a part of the process. She will still be involved from the other side of the table. There are so many people have affected her through the years and she personally thanked each of the Board Members as well as Ms. Coppola for her expertise. (To see more, please view the School Board Video available online at www.sau17.org).

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Mr. Giordano reported that the sophomore class won Winter Carnival by three points. The Senior Community Lunch and Sneak Peek of the Play Buddy Holly Story will be held on Monday March 20, 2017 at the High School. Members of the senior community from Newton, Kingston and Fremont are invited at Noon to the free lunch followed by a sneak peak of the play. They will receive vouchers to come to the full play being held on March 24th, 25th, and 26th. Please RSVP by March 17th by calling the High School. The Sanborn Athletic Boosters are the sponsors of the lunch. The Drama Club is preparing for the first level of the NH Theater Festival, a critique of drama clubs from across the state to be held this coming Saturday (March 11th) at Bow High School at 2PM. The event is open to the public. The Student Council is planning to put posters around about where polls are for 18 year olds. Mr. Giordano asked if he could distribute sample ballots as well. Mr. Broderick recommended someone (other than Mr. Giordano) distribute them. He also that if elected, could he still continue doing Student Council Reports. The Board decided to address that after the vote.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Finance Committee-** Ms. Ross informed the group that there were 3 items on the agenda which required funds being moved. The first was snow removal from school roofs; the second was the Access Control Systems for the various schools and finally the document scanning contract required a payment. In addition a Request for Proposal has gone out for Transportation Services for Special Education as the current contract has expired. The next meeting is 3/13 at 4:30.

Mr. Masson commented about the legal requirements and efficiency of keeping documents.

Ms. Bennett commented that we had assistance from the Newton Road agent during the recent storm and thanked them as well as the Facilities Department for a job well done.

- b. Personnel Committee-** Ms. Ross detailed the Principal Search progress saying that Dr. Blake led the Bakie School event which yielded valuable information and that the Memorial School event, was headed up by Mr. Masson and he was also able to glean great information.

Mr. Giordano attended both events and appreciated the opportunity to learn and hear the feedback. He hopes that forums like this continue.

Ms. Gluck echoed his sentiment and added that past forums have had varied representation which is important.

Dr. Blake commented that the evaluation teams consist of 2 Leadership Team members, 2 teachers, 1 school board member and 2 parents for each set of interviews. The finalist round would have a different set of people involved. There will be site visits to the schools of the final candidates once they are narrowed down.

Mr. Masson shared the attributes desired in a Principal expressed by those at the forums.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS-None

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT-Dr. Blake informed the group of the resignation of the School District Clerk, Melissa Beal effective after the Deliberative Session. Historically it has been a person from the office but it must be a person who lives in the District.

Mr. Masson made a Motion to accept the resignation of School District Clerk, Melissa Beal as stated in her resignation letter dated January 10th. Motion moved by Ms. Ross and seconded by Ms. Bennett. Vote: All in Favor.

Dr. Blake shared the resignation of the nurse from Memorial, Sharon Koutelis who has accepted another position which offers full time. Dr. Blake explained that there are candidates interested in the position, so Ms. Koutelis may leave (per School Board Policy) once a replacement is found, most likely by April. **A Motion was made by Ms. Bennett to accept the resignation of Ms. Koutelis dated March 6th, pending a replacement is found. Motion seconded by Ms. Ross. Vote: All in favor.**

Dr. Blake shared the resignation of Spanish teacher, Jen Washko who has accepted a position at UNH. There is a replacement candidate in mind for the position so he recommends a Motion to approve. **Ms. Bennett mad a Motion to approve the resignation of Jen Washko dated February 15, 2017. Motion seconded by Ms. Ross. Vote: All in Favor.**

Mr. Masson mentioned the importance of the exit interview process for these candidates.

Ms. Ross interjected that she was remiss in not mentioning Dr. Blake in her previous comments, saying that most of the positive changes have happened while he has been superintendent. She recently saw the article in US News & World Report about New Hampshire being #2 in the nation in their ranking of schools and they cited the districts responsible. Seeing Sanborn because of the PACE program listed made her feel so proud to be a part of the process. She closed by saying that Dr. Blake, his vision and his team are unparalleled.

Dr. Blake added that K-12 in the US News & World Report is actually ranked #1.

WRITTEN INFORMATION-- None

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING 3/22/17

- a. Election of the Board Chair
- b. Voting Results
- c. Timelines

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Sanborn Regional School Board meeting will be held on March 22, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Board Conference Room at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.

The **Second (Voting) Session of the Annual School District Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, March 14, 2017** from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the **Swasey Gymnasium** (Sanborn Seminary Campus) for Kingston voters and in the **Newton Town Hall** for Newton voters.

ADJOURNMENT- Mr. Masson asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 PM, moved by Ms. Bennett and seconded by Ms. Ross. Vote: All in favor.

NON-PUBLIC Meeting--RSA 91-A No meeting held.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Phyllis Kennedy
Recording Secretary

Minutes of the School Board meetings are unofficial until approved at a subsequent meeting of the School Board.