

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

September 4, 2013

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday September 4, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by School Board Chairperson Ms. Jan Bennett, in room 137 at Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, NH. The following were recorded as present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Janice Bennett, Chairperson
 Rebecca Hallisey, Vice Chairperson
 Renee King
 Jon LeBlanc
 Wendy Miller
 Dustin Ramey
 Nancy Ross

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Brian J. Blake, Superintendent of Schools
 Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services
 Carol Coppola, Business Manager

Excused: Nathan Mailloux, Student Council Representative

The meeting began with a salute to the flag. Ms. Bennett informed the SB that Nathan Mailloux, Student Council Representative would be tardy to the meeting. Nathan was attending practice for the District Wide production of the Wizard of Oz. Nathan will portray the Lion.

Dr. Blake announced a new microphone was being used tonight for the recording of the meeting. He asked everyone to please remember to put their microphones on when they were speaking.

REVIEW AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the August 21, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Mr. LeBlanc made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. Six in favor to accept the August 21, 2013, meeting minutes, and one abstained – Ms. Ross.

MANIFEST

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #7- \$835,573.62
Payroll #5 - \$729,157.80.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Blake announced that the leadership team was present at tonight's meeting to report on the first day of school.

Mr. VanderEls, Memorial School Principal, reported that Memorial School had a "tremendous" start of the school year. "The smoothest I have been a part of". The teachers were all prepared, it helped that there was a low teacher turn-over. He stated that three first grade teachers presented at a summer meeting. He reported that an extensive amount of facilities work was completed. The subcontractors were extremely respectful. He thanked the SB for their support and Ms. Coppola for her support. "Great start to the school year. We're in a great place."

Ms. Bamforth, Bakie School Principal, reported a very smooth opening. She stated that the custodians were extremely efficient in getting the school ready. She said the kids were excited about the new basketball court. Ms. Bamforth reported that new benches were purchased for the outdoor classroom, thanks to a \$1,000.00 donation from Bob's Furniture, and \$1,000.00 raised by the Student Council. She reported an additional kindergarten class was added to Bakie. A new Professional Development drop-in program is being offered. "It's all good."

Mr. Rutherford, Middle School Principal, reported that the custodians did a remarkable job getting the school ready. The band room was moved next to the gym. A new rug will be in place Monday. Nine new interior cameras were installed. A reading specialist, math teacher and language arts teacher were hired. Opening day went smoothly. It is a "joy" to have the sixth grade students have the school to themselves. This is the second year that the sixth graders attended first day on their own.

A few upcoming dates at the MS: September 12 from 6:00 – 7:30 PM will be the Open House. September 27th is the first MS dance. October 29-31 the sixth graders go to Ferry Beach.

Ms. Bennett asked about the security cameras – how many days was the data available? The data is kept on file for a set number of days.

Mr. Stack, High School Principal, reported that the HS welcomed 746 students. He said that Fremont was the second largest population at the HS of the three towns. He reported that not a lot of work was done on the facilities. New Signs were added to the larger gathering spots: the Auditorium, Gym, and Library. He stated they were in the process of installing a sign on Route 125 to show the direction to the HS. He stated the HS welcomed four new teachers, who will bring a lot of great things to Sanborn. "Very good vibe with our staff. Very positive." Mr. Stack reported the freshman having the building to themselves the first day of school was a great way to start. Mr. Stack invited everyone to the upcoming production of the Wizard of Oz – September 6th through September 8th. He stated that an Academic Awards night was being

held September 16th for students in grades 10, 11 and 12. The HS Open House is scheduled for September 23rd. Homecoming is September 21st. On September 11th the HS PTO is holding a once a year volunteer networking event.

Ms. Parady-Guay, District Athletic Director reported that the fall sports program was off to a strong start. The facilities are in “top notch condition”. “The grounds crew worked very hard getting the fields ready.” The Press Box is “beautiful” and waiting on an occupancy certificate. Sports at the MS is off and running. The HS football team has their first game this weekend. All coaching positions are filled. There is a new track record board at the HS. A new Athletic Trainer was hired and doing very well. The Concussion Impact Testing has been extended to the 7th grade. The computer based test gives a baseline for athletes, which doctors can then access. All athletes, except golf, participate.

Ms. Bennett asked about the hockey program. Ms. Parady- Guay reported that the hockey team would like to continue this year. They have started fundraising. They would still be competing at the JV level. The program had some growing pains and cleaned up quickly. She stated that the hockey program raised all the money they needed and paid all their bills. Ms. Parady-Guay thanked the SB for all their support.

Ms. Pomykato and Ms. Donna Johnson reported on the summer program. There were over 200 participants. “Great program; amazing group of teachers”. It was reported that a majority of the kids are not Special Education, kids that just needed extra help. Ms. Pomykato stated that the HS was very generous in the space given to the summer school program and made them feel welcome. The parent involvement was tremendous. “Kudos to the parents!” Ms. Pomykato expressed it was quite an experience. “Best part of the year in some ways.” Ms. Pomykato thanked everyone for their support.

Dr. Blake announced that the District Newsletter would be going out electronically in the future.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Nathan arrived at the meeting just after adjournment. He will report next meeting.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Ross reported that the Personnel Committee had met. They further explored the evaluation tool for the Superintendent’s position. They “got a lot ironed out”.

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENT

Ms. Bennett reported that one of the SB goals was communication with the community. “The evaluation tool is a big step.” This is another way of communicating with the public. “Every

year seems to get better. Thank you all very much. You're all to be commended." "I think we have a great place. Thank you again for all your hard work."

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Gannon stated it was very nice to hear opening day went well. She had two things she wanted to bring before the SB. She asked if it would be possible to get signage for the MS on the main roads. She stated a lot of people traveling to games at the MS did not realize the school was behind the Memorial School.

Ms. Gannon also wanted to thank SRSD for all their support over the years of the Sanborn Youth Soccer Association. She said she "can't thank you enough for allowing the SYSA the use of the facilities". Your support allows the program to exist.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT Ms. Ross stated she was pleased to hear the positive feedback on the opening of school. She commended the administrators. "Thank you for all you do." "You are greatly appreciated."

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Budget Timeline. Ms. Ross made a motion to approve the 2013-2014 Budget Timeline. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor to approve the 2013-2014 Budget Timeline.

NEW BUSINESS

a. A document was distributed with regards to Opening Day Enrollments. Dr. Blake stated that he found it interesting that both Bakie and Memorial Schools had a significant number of new enrollees two weeks prior to the beginning of school. Bakie School had one less student overall. Memorial had an increase of five students overall. There were four less students at the Middle School and thirteen more students at the High School. These numbers are compared to last year's opening enrollment.

b. Nominations: Ms. Ross made a motion to accept the nomination of Ms. Jennifer Sicard as presented in the September 4 document. Mr. LeBlanc seconded the motion. All in favor to accept the nomination of Ms. Jennifer Sicard.

c. MS-25: The MS-25, School Financial Report, was distributed.

d. Organization of Board Meetings: Dr. Blake stated it was his desire to help the SB focus on policy making, SB goals and trying to find a balance in requesting the Administrators to attend the SB meetings. The administrators are attending events in their schools a lot of nights. He would like to better organize SB topics so that the administrators aren't expected to be at every SB meeting. The SB members agreed, they appreciate the administrators coming to the

meetings, but do not feel it necessary they attend each one.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT

Dr. Blake reported he received a request for an exchange student from Finland attend SRHS . The student would complete his senior year at SRHS and graduate with a Sanborn diploma.

Ms. Coppola reported that the District received a request from an abutting homeowner to the HS to purchase a small parcel of property – 75’ x 125’ from the District. The homeowners want to construct a carport or garage. Ms. Coppola consulted with legal counsel and was told that in order to sell the property, it would have to go to the public as a warrant article in March. Discussion followed. Mr. LeBlanc suggested the homeowner go to the town zoning board for a variance.

WRITTEN INFORMATION

Dr. Blake reported that he and some SB members received an email in June from a concerned community member about an article that appeared in the US News ranking NH Schools. At the June meeting it was decided the email would be discussed at a later meeting because not all SB members had received the email. The writer was concerned that SRSD does not meet the criteria. The data was based on AP classes. At Sanborn, the students “contract up to” honors, giving the student the opportunity to excel. Sanborn is currently working toward the Smarter Balanced Assessment Test. Dr. Blake stated, “We’ve raised the bar for everybody.” Sanborn’s curriculum is based on research and best practices. Dr. Blake reported that there is quite a bit of information available on the SRSD website under curriculum. “There are pages and pages of information.”

Ms. Bennett asked, “In a nutshell, what’s the difference between the Common Core and what we’ve always done?” Dr. Blake reported that at one time the states were “all over the place”. Standards were “all over the board”. Common Core was put together by the states working together, working collaboratively on curriculum. Common Core is not a curriculum. Common Core is not a government mandate. Not all states are on board with the Common Core philosophy. A discussion was held on the Common Core.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. King said she was approached by a member of the community asking about the use of the concession stand at the HS. MS has been holding some sporting events at the HS and were told they could not use the concession stand. Ms. King said she looked at the Policy concerning

Facilities Use and did not see anything there barring the use of the concession stand. She asked that the SB look into this Policy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board Policy Committee** will be held on Wednesday, **September 11, 2013, at 6:00 PM, at the SAU Office, 178 Main Street, Kingston, NH.**

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board Public Relations Committee** will be held on Tuesday, **September 17, 2013, at 2:15 PM, at the SAU Office, 178 Main Street, Kingston, NH.**

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board Facilities Committee** will be held on Wednesday, **September 18, 2013, at 6:00 PM, in room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.**

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on Wednesday, **September 18, 2013, at 7:00 PM, in room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.**

ADJOURNMENT: At 9:09 PM Ms. Hallisey made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Ross seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail M. LeBlanc
School Board Secretary

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