

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

June 19, 2013

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday June 19, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 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
 Dustin Ramey
 Nancy Ross
 Nathan Mailloux, Student Council Representative

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

Excused: Wendy Miller

The meeting began with a salute to the flag.

REVIEW AGENDA

Add **c. Facilities** under Administrative Reports. Add **e. Finance** under School Committee Reports. Add **f. The Policy Committee will meet periodically over the summer under** Announcements.

MINUTES

Minutes of the June 5, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Ms. Ross made a motion to accept the minutes and Ms. Hallisey seconded the motion. All in favor to accept the June 5, 2013, meeting minutes.

MANIFEST

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #30 - \$413,054.97
Payroll #26 - \$2,525,310.87

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

NECAP/NWEA: Ms. Hume-Howard distributed a hand-out, **Fall 2012 NECAP, Spring 2013 NWEA**. The hand-out included District-Wide NECAP 2012 goals, District Curriculum, District Instruction, District Assessment, and 2013 District Goals. Ms. Hume-Howard reviewed the hand-out document. One of the goals was to increase to 90% all students scoring at level 3 (proficient) and 4 (proficient with distinction) district-wide. That goal was not met. The district curriculum was reviewed. Impact Math is now in its second year at the MS. There continues to be a growing number of students that are “algebra ready” in grade 8. In the 2013-14 school year a second algebra class will be added at the 8th grade level to accommodate the number of students ready for algebra. Twice the number of students will be taking algebra in the 8th grade.

After the adoption of a standards/competency based assessment program, more students are being identified during the course and at mid-year who need additional instruction to meet the competencies of a discipline and course. The elementary level continues to address student needs through the re-teach and enrich instructional periods for both literacy and math. The MS addresses student needs in a learning lab period once a week for each course. 9th and 10th grade student’s needs are met in a learning lab period within the FLEX block time.

The NWEA section of the hand-out included Spring 2013 NWEA Measure of Academic Progress Assessment. This is the 9th year that SRSD has participated in this test. The NWEA Measures of Academic Progress are now aligned with the Common Core Standards. Students took an assessment that included questions that are similar to what will appear on the spring 2015 Smarter Balance Assessment. Some of the key points: Teacher observation regarding the assessment noted good feedback on how students adjusted to more complicated questions online. Forty students in the MS took part in a pilot online NWEA writing portion of the test. Currently NWEA does not test writing. All grade levels scored above the norm average in mathematics and reading with the exception of grade 7, who scored at the norm in both. Grade 8 scored below the norm in mathematics. 8th grade algebra students scored 20 points above the national norm and above the grade 11 norm average.

Part of the district curriculum at the elementary level targets specific areas of the Every Day Math program that needs more emphasis, has resulted in strong grade level performance in geometry on NWEA especially in Kg, and grades 4 and 5.

FACILITIES: A presentation was made by SHIFT Energy concerning the use of Air Source Heat Pump and Energy Recovery Ventilation technology at the Memorial School. Hand-outs were distributed. The new technology would improve the air quality at Memorial School. It is also more efficient in that each classroom would control their heat. Ms. Ross made a motion to go forward with the proposals outlined in the June 13, 2013 memo from Shift Energy. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor. Ms. Bennett stated, "Good move, Memorial needs good, fresh air."

MATH: Dr. Blake introduced Ms. Ellen Hume-Howard to address the concerns of the Math program at SRSD. Dr. Blake stated, "This has been an area of concern for a number of years – particularly at the HS level." Ms. Hume-Howard reported that the district implemented the Everyday Math at the elementary level in March 2011. Since that time, the district has seen significant increases in math progress. Ms. Hume-Howard would like to see a math coach at the secondary level. There was some discussion concerning the pros and cons of adding a math coach. She reported that the math program at the higher levels has changed. Impact math is now being taught. "We are starting to see results. We anticipate seeing continuing progress in the math program." There will be "double" the students in 8th grade algebra at the MS next school-year. At the HS level, the bar is being raised for everyone. Students are moving from semester long math classes to year-long classes. The majority of classes are now year-long. Dr. Blake stated they are seeing a shift in the types of math programs students are taking. More students are coming to HS algebra ready. More students are taking higher level math classes more frequently.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Nathan reported that the Student Council has started discussions concerning next year's Homecoming theme – movies. They have discussed goals for next year and fundraising. Mr. Stack reported that the PTO will start offering seed money to incoming freshmen for homecoming beginning next year.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Ross reported that the Budget Committee had met. They reviewed the 2012-2013 budget. There was also a hand-out regarding SB Policy – Code of Ethics. The Budget Committee will take into consideration whether they will adopt this policy. The next meeting will be held in early September.

Ms. Hallisey reported that the PR Committee had met June 18th. Topics included the HS graduation, all agreed it went well. SRSD perception within the community was discussed. It was agreed that a survey would be sent out to the community. Ms. Hallisey and Ms. King are concerned that the perception in the community is that parents are not informed. Topics of the

survey would include: competency learning, core curriculum, and grading in Pinnacle. One of the questions would be, “How do you perceive our district?” It was suggested that the district do a live presentation on core curriculum. Pinnacle and teacher web pages were discussed and the importance of keeping Pinnacle and the web pages up to date.

Ms. Ross reported that the Personnel Committee had met, and the sole purpose of the meeting was to discuss/look at the tool that is used in the evaluation of the Superintendent. The Personnel Committee likes the idea of sending a survey out to the community. The Community section would include a section “How do you perceive our district?”

Ms. Bennett reported that the Facilities Committee had met and that she is “very well versed in heat pumps”. Ms. Ross reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the night. They recapped the past year’s budget and know where they stand financially.

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENT

Ms. Bennett commended the HS graduation – everybody involved. The “whole aura was so positive”. Kids were great. Thank you!

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bart Noyes asked if the data research concerning tonight’s presentation by Shift Energy would be available to students. This would be a “wonderful opportunity” for the data to be made available to the students. In respect to the “wooden building”, Mr. Noyes stated, “. . . poison apple in the barrel. Walk away; get out as quickly as you can”.

Ms. Cheryl Gannon commended Ms. Coppola on her research on the solar energy project. She stated that the district is lucky to have her. “Sounds like a fascinating plan.” Ms. Gannon stated she thought it would be a good article in the Essential News. It is good for the public to see the SB working to save tax dollars. Ms. Gannon stated her concerns with the math program. She’s concerned that the amount of math teachers at the HS has increased from 6 to 9 math teachers, but still the students aren’t doing well. She asked how the hiring of a math coach would be better than a “crash course”. “Make teachers competent. Make sure students are learning.”

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Ross expressed kudos to all the activities that went on in the district last week: Community Day of Caring was wonderful. Ms. Ross attended the HS baccalaureate last Thursday. “It is sad to see the low attendance”. This is a tremendous night. The speakers were so inspirational. She said she highly recommends everyone attend next year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The SB voted on the following goals for next year: Seminary Project/Old HS campus; SAU Office Project (fiscally responsible); and Communicating accomplishments and the areas of systems the district is working on.

NEW BUSINESS

Resignations/Nominations: Ms. Ross made a motion to accept the resignation of Jolene Johnson (Memorial School first grade teacher) and Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor to accept the resignation of Jolene Johnson. Ms. Ross made a motion to accept the nomination of Ms. Sheila O'Sullivan to the position of School Nurse at the Memorial School. Mr. LeBlanc seconded the nomination. All in favor to accept the nomination of Ms. Sheila O'Sullivan Memorial School Nurse. Ms. Ross made a motion to accept/approve the transfer of Trisha Black Grade 1 teacher (one year position) to PK Sped Teacher (.5) (new position). Ms. Hallisey seconded the motion. All in favor to accept/approve the transfer of Ms. Trisha Black.

Summer Schedule: The next regular meeting of the SRSD School Board will be held Wednesday, August 21, 2013.

Permission to Employ: Ms. Ross made a motion to approve the request of the Superintendent to offer contracts to new employees during the summer. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor. Dr. Blake will bring a list of new hires to the August 21st SB meeting.

Facilities: Ms. Coppola distributed a list of requests for approval of the 2012-2013 unexpended funds. Ms. Ross made a motion to authorize the reserve of \$225,000.00 for the necessary renovations of the former Industrial Arts building at 178 Main Street, Kingston, NH, to be funded from the following sources: FY2012-13 General Fund Operating Budget (\$125,000.00) and FY2012-13 Facility Use Revolving Fund (\$100,000.00). Ms. Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried: 4 yes, 1 against; 1 abstention. Ms. Ross made a motion to award the Chase Field House heat pump to Shift Energy in the amount of \$13,400.00 and Scarponi Electric in the amount of \$6,250.00 both to be funded from the General Fund Operating Budget. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor. Ms. Hallisey made a motion to award the high school septic pump control station project to Advanced Pump & Filter Co. in the amount not to exceed \$14,886.00 to be funded from the General Fund Operating Budget. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor. Ms. Hallisey made a motion to award the Middle School gym curtain replacement to Robert H Lord Co in the amount of \$8,159.00 to be funded from the General Fund Operating Budget. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Hallisey made a motion to award the purchase of a John Deere 991 Commercial L.C. purchase to James R Rosencrantz & Sons in the amount of \$12,887.56 to be funded from the General Fund Operating Budget. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor. Ms. Hallisey

made a motion to award the purchase and installation of new bleachers at both Swasey gymnasium and the Middle School gymnasium to Robert H Lord Co in the amount of \$52,239.00 to be funded from the following sources: FY12-13 General Fund Operating Budget (\$23,198.00) and FY12-13 Facility Use Revolving Fund (\$29,041.00). Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor. Ms. Hallisey made a motion to award the purchase of the portable sound system to MFI in the amount of \$6,153.84 to be funded from the General Fund Operating Budget. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. All in favor. Mr. Ramey made a motion to award the purchase of the sideline protective turf purchase to Riddell in the amount of \$1,383.18 to be funded from the General Fund Operating budget. Mr. LeBlanc seconded the motion. Motion carried. Five yes; one opposed. Mr. Ramey made a motion to award the purchase of the sideline cart and hitch to Gilman Gear in the amount of \$1,095.00. Mr. LeBlanc seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Ross made a motion to approve \$8,060.00 for the costs associated with wiring and a public announcement system for the HS press booth. Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. Motion carries. Four in favor; two opposed. Ms. Ross made a motion to approve the purchase of additional bleachers at the high school. Mr. LeBlanc seconded the motion. Motion does not carry. Six against. Mr. LeBlanc made a motion to approve the “carry forward” of \$2,505.53 to the 2013-14 school year to be spent on designated line items. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT

Dr. Blake received a complimentary letter from Mr. Rich St. Hillaire thanking each and everyone for the Powwow Pond Project. Mr. St. Hillaire commended all the students.

Dr. Blake reported that he and some SB members received an email from a community member concerning an article in US News ranking top schools in NH. The email expressed some concerns about Sanborn’s proficiency in math. Not all SB members received the email, and it was agreed that it would be discussed at the next SB meeting.

WRITTEN INFORMATION

Dr. Blake reported that the latest edition of Essential News was mailed to the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Noyes inquired whether a survey had gone out to the Sanborn communities inquiring about short-term leases to house the SAU office. He also asked if the Town of Kingston was approached about using the second floor of the Town Hall as a temporary home for the SAU office. Mr. Noyes asked if “portables” had been considered for the office space. Mr. Noyes stated that he did not think the suggestion of a “hybrid curriculum” system in the HS is a good idea.

Ms. Cheryl Gannon read SRSD Policy BA to the School Board concerning operational goals. Ms. Gannon stated that she did not think that policy had been followed. According to the policy, a May work session to address the goals should have been held. She stated the SB members need to take some action, do some research. She stated, " It's a shame that you're in the same position as a year ago."

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT none

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on Wednesday, **August 21, 2013, at 7:00 PM, in room 137 at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.**

Non-Public Session- RSA 91A:3 II Superintendent Contract: Ms. Ross motioned to enter into non-public session at 11:01 PM. Ms. LeBlanc polled the Board. 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.