

**SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

June 21, 2017

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m. by Sanborn Regional School Board Chairperson, Peter Broderick. The following were recorded as present;

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Peter Broderick, Chair
Dr. Pamela Brown, Vice Chair
Corey Masson
Taryn Lytle
Sheila Pierce
James Baker
Tammy Mahoney

ABSENT: Lauren Lanseigne, Student Representative

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Brian Blake, Superintendent of Schools
Michele Croteau, Business Administrator

The meeting began with the Salute to the Flag.

REVIEW THE AGENDA – No changes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion made by Dr. Brown to table the approval of the 6-7-17 Minutes until changes can be noted and delivered to the secretary. Motioned seconded by Taryn Lytle. **Vote:** All in Favor.

EXPENDITURES REGISTER & MANIFEST - REVIEW AND SIGN

The Board reviewed and signed the Manifest Check Register #25-\$226,602.03 dated 6/21/17 and the Payroll Register #25 in the amount of \$891,778.43 dated 6/15/17

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- A. **Total District Resignations** - Dr. Brian Blake reported on the total number of employees leaving the District as follows: 43 resignations (27 Professional Staff, 4 Administrators and 12 Paraprofessionals as of 6/20/17)

- B. **Zimbra to Gmail/New Website in mid-July**- Dr. Blake reported that a letter will be sent to board members detailing the changes happening in mid-July regarding the move from the

current email provider (Zimbra) to Gmail. There will also be a new SAU website going live at that time.

C. Right-To-Know Laws re: Early Retirement- Dr. Blake reported that as outlined in Article 28 of the *Collective Bargaining Unit*, teachers requesting early retirement must submit a letter to the SAU which is shared with the Board in non-public session (due to compensation issues) by October 1st. The Board must act upon the request by December 30th (best if done by the time the budget is finalized as to include the information). In the spring, when contracts are handed out, the retirees receive a separate contract outlining their early retirement provisions. At that time, it is up to the employee to make their retirement public.

D. Additional Revenue of 100K- Dr. Blake reported that this request is being sourced through the Interim Business Administrator and the current Administrator; Michele Croteau, will look at the analysis and bring that information to the Finance Committee. Mr. Broderick asked if there is money, can it be spent. Ms. Croteau replied that the appropriations (on the expense side of the budget), dictate what can be spent. She added that if indeed there is money, the shortfalls would be addressed first.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Policy- Dr. Brown reviewed the additions/amendments and presented a second read for the following 4 mandated policies.

- ACE: Non-Discrimination on the basis of Handicap/ Disability
- EBBC: Emergency Care and First Aid
- EEAA: Video and Surveillance on School Property
- JLCD: Administering Medication

Dr. Brown made a Motion to approve the policies as amended, moved by Taryn Lytle and seconded by Jim Baker. Vote: All in Favor

B. Seminary Task Force- Mr. Masson reported that on Monday, June 14th at 8AM, the task force met and discussed the various stakeholders (School District, Town of Kingston, Athletic groups) as well as the RFP for an appraisal. Some priorities were set such as setting a Seminary Trustees meeting, Kingston Days, and newspaper publications. They are terming the meetings as a negotiation due to the confidential nature of the discussion.

Dr. Brown shared Article 18 from the 1965 Agreement between Kingston and Newton which states that "*When the main building of the Sanborn Seminary is found no longer required for school purposes, there shall be consultation between the School Board and the Trustees of the Sanborn Seminary Trust Fund regarding consideration of making the building into a museum or historical site*". Thus, Dr. Brown recommends involving the Trustees in the discussion. The next meeting is June 28th at 8AM.

- C. **Seacoast School of Technology-** Mr. Masson reported that on Monday, June 19th he and Dr. Blake attended the SST meeting whereby the passing of Superintendent, Michael Morgan was sadly acknowledged. In other issues, Sanborn enrollment is still the allotted 100 students but overall the SST enrollment is down which could have ramifications on per student tuition rates in the future. The student attendance policy was ratified to hold students more accountable. The next meeting will be 8/28.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brittany Thompson (Fremont School Board) speaking on behalf of the Fremont School Board, thanked the SRSD Board for putting forth the candidate nominated by Dr. Blake at the June 7th meeting and were surprised to watch the video and read the Minutes that followed showing the vote of 4-3. Many of the Fremont Board had been in attendance this spring when there had been discussion about positions for the 2017-18 school year, saying it was clear at that meeting that there are definite needs at Sanborn for 2 Assistant Principals and a Guidance Director. They feel that if the SRSD Board had cut the Assistant Principal position, the rest of the administrative team would be forced to be reactionary and not the visionary leaders they strive for them to be, therefore negatively affecting the students. Ms. Thompson added that the Fremont Board supports the Strategic Plan and specifically recruiting, developing and retaining effective school leaders and based on the number of 43 resignations, this appears to be a priority. In this time of rampant turnover, the Fremont Board hopes that this is a focus and that the Board will listen to the staffing needs and recommendations put forth by the Superintendent and the administrative team. She closed by saying that they are looking forward to continuing a productive and collaborative relationship.

Angela O'Connell (Fremont School Board) Submitted via email, Ms. O'Connell wrote the following: I am sending this email to request that it be placed in public input at today's School Board meeting. Unfortunately, I am not able to attend in person, but wanted to give input on your most recent board meeting and future of Sanborn High School Administration. I review the Sanborn Minutes on a regular basis and wanted to speak to the June 7th meeting minutes and the topic of Nominations that is on today's agenda. I am writing this message as a parent of future Sanborn students. I have two children who are entering 8th grade and 5th grade at Ellis in August. That means they will be at Sanborn in 1 and 4 short years! I am aware that one of the current Assistant Principals resigned her position and there is an opening. It appears from the notes from the last board meeting, that a candidate was brought forward, but not approved. I understand the comments about following policy when hiring administration, but what concerned me were the comments about possibly not replacing this position. This position has been integral in the 8th grade students transitioning into a successful start of High School. This is especially important as Fremont kids are integrated into the Sanborn District. They come from a small school into a larger school with kids who have known each other for the past eight+ years. As a resident of Fremont for the past 17 years, and involved community members, I've heard what a difference this role has made in supporting the transition from high school and ensuring Ellis students feel integrated into Sanborn High School. This position helps the kids build a

strong foundation for their entire high school experience. I also understand this Assistant Principal handles the school's discipline. I am unaware if the disciplinary status at Sanborn High School (this is something I would like to become more knowledgeable about), but I know that kids are kids and it wouldn't take much for them to go off track. In this time, with the pervasiveness of the internet, cyber-bullying, substance abuse, etc. we need to do everything possible to help enable our kids to stay on track. And this means discipline and holding them accountable for their actions so they make better decisions the next time. During the Joint Fremont-Sanborn meeting on May 30th, 2017, the topic of filling the vacant Assistant Principal was discussed. It is my understanding from that meeting was that the position was budgeted for the 17/18 school year, it is important and was supported and it was going to be filled. Hence, I'm sure you can understand my concern when I read the Minutes from a meeting just 8 days later when a few board members appeared to raise the question of if the Assistant Principal position was even needed! I know firsthand the challenges of balancing the needs of delivering the best education possible to our future leaders (the kids) and doing so as economically as possible. I respectfully request that the Sanborn School Board moves forward with filling the vacant Sanborn High School Assistant Principal position as was budgeted and approved by the School Board and Community with the passing of the Sanborn School District Budget.

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENT

Mr. Broderick thanked Dr. Blake for his 8 years of service saying he appreciated working with him both as a teacher and as a Chairperson.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Pierce thanked Dr. Blake, saying that she is sad to see him go and that although change can sometimes be good, in this case she is hoping that the Interim Superintendent will serve them well, although she questions whether he will do as well as Dr. Blake has done.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **School Board Goals** - Mr. Broderick suggested that Dr. Brown submit her consolidated board goals to board members so that they can review them before discussing. Mr. Masson asked that the Board reconsider all the goals as times have changed. They agreed to meet in the summer to discuss.
- B. **Sparked Govern Website** – Dr. Brown asked that SRSD employee Phyllis Kennedy's endorsement be removed from the Sparked Govern website. Mr. Masson agreed to remove this and stated that the attorneys had received the letter and he would let them formally respond.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Nominations** - Dr. Blake reviewed the 5 nominations of Benjamin Haynie, Samuel Parsons, Michelle Lebs, Katelyn Rich, and Sue Vadaboncoeur. **Mr. Broderick asked for a Motion to approve the Nominations, moved by Taryn Lytle and seconded by Tammy Mahoney.**
Vote: All in Favor

Resignations: Dr. Blake reviewed the 3 resignations of Marcy Buchakjian-Tweedy, Laura Pouliot, and David Harris. The 4th resignation will be discussed in the non-public session.
Mr. Broderick asked for a Motion to accept the resignations, moved by Taryn Lytle and seconded by Tammy Mahoney. Vote: All in Favor

- B. **Permission to Employ/Summer Calendar**—Dr. Blake stated that in addition to planning a summer calendar, the Board will annually grant permission to the Superintendent to offer contracts during the summer and these are also signed by the Board Chair. **Mr. Broderick asked for a Motion to allow the Superintendent to offer contracts, moved by Taryn Lytle and seconded by Tammy Mahoney.** Mr. Baker asked how many outstanding positions there are to which Dr. Blake responded 1 or 2 professional staff and approximately 10 paraprofessionals. Mr. Baker asked about the hiring process and it was confirmed by Dr. Blake that the Principals interview the candidates and (by law) only the professional staff comes to the Board for approval. Ms. Lytle offered her opinion of the importance of this Permission to Employ as available candidates will not be lost to other districts. Dr. Blake clarified that those candidates hired will still be presented to the Board at their next meeting.
Vote: All in Favor

Mr. Broderick stated that the Board does not usually meet in July and suggested that we keep that in place. He will meet with the Interim Superintendent and if there is anything urgent, he will bring it forward or call a meeting. My Lytle suggested that they send Mr. Broderick their schedules of availability.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED & SENT

- A. **Class of 2017** – Dr. Blake reviewed key statistics for the class as follows:
152 Graduates
40% college bound to 4 year school
31% College bound to 2 year school
20% plan to be employed
4% plan to attend a career/technical school
1% plan to work in an apprenticeship program
1% plan to enter the military or armed forces
3% are taking a gap year

Other recognitions as follows:

Travis Carlisle-U.S. Marine Corp

Nicholas Deyarmond- U.S. Army
Taylor Szot -Valedictorian
Abigail DesRosiers- Salutorian
Koran Sherman- Class Essayist
Anthony Woodhouse-Class President

Mr. Masson brought up an email chain that started to circulate amongst the Board on Friday June 16th regarding the Curriculum Coordinator and Assistant Principal positions and given that Dr. Blake is not coming forth with a nominee tonight, it is obvious that our customer (the student) is being impacted because the leadership channels are being circumvented.

WRITTEN INFORMATION: Comment received from Fremont School Board member, Angela O'Connell via email which was posted in Public Comment.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Board members will email Phyllis Kennedy with items that they would like to appear on the next regularly scheduled meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next **Sanborn Regional School Board Meeting** will be held on a date that is to still to be determined.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION - RSA 91 - A: 3 II A Motion was made by Mr. Broderick to enter into Non-Public session at seconded by Ms. Pierce. A roll call vote was held by the Chair. VOTE All in Favor.

ADJOURNMENT - Mr. Broderick asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM. Moved by Ms. Pierce and seconded by Ms. Lytle.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Phyllis Kennedy
School Board Secretary

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