

The Board of Directors met on Wednesday, March 6, 2013, at the Molly Ockett Middle School in Fryeburg, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

Pat White, Chair

Lisa Thompson

Steven Dupuis

Dean Schasel

Linda Card

Kathleen Dunn Lyman

Norma R. Snow

Anne Trumbull

Sharon LeBlanc

John S. H. Carter

Marie Struven

Ed Spooner

Laurie B. Weston

Jane Williams

Kathiann Shorey

James A. Stacy

Laura Lucy

The following members were absent:

Sara Neddenriep

Michelle Mattie

Kevan Smethurst

Bob Steller

Also present were:

Gary MacDonald, Superintendent; Principals, Jay Robinson, Rhonda Poliquin, Emily Kirkpatrick, and Mark Schrader; Special Education Director, Pat Menzel; Facilities and Transportation Director, David Powers; and Business Manager, Madeline Bassett.

Pat White, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., declared a quorum, and welcomed the visitors.

The 15-minute discussion

Carol Brooks, Brownfield Selectman, spoke to the board regarding revenues that will be lost if the Governor's proposal to stop revenue sharing with towns passes. Brownfield could lose \$92,000 plus other funds that have reduced real estate taxes. Homeowners will have to pay more in taxes. Programs may have to be cut. Carol advised the board to cut some programs and don't purchase buses next year.

Approval of the minutes of the January 9, 2013 regular meeting

Norma Snow moved, Jim Stacy seconded, to approve the minutes of January 9, 2013.

The motion passed.

Communications

Gary MacDonald:

Lauren Potter, Classroom Teacher at the New Suncook School, has submitted a letter of resignation due to retirement. Lauren has been teaching for 33 years and has been an outstanding teacher.

Lisa Thompson moved, seconded by Laurie Weston, to accept, with regret, Lauren Potter's resignation.

The motion passed.

Committee reports

Finance – Laurie Weston

There was a meeting on February 12th. There was discussion about the budget for Fiscal Year 2014 and subsidy from the State for next year.

Facilities – Jim Stacie

None

Transportation – Marie Struven

None

Personnel – Lisa Thompson

The committee met and discussed personnel issues

Curriculum – Rhonda Poliquin

None

Student Affairs

None

Policy Review – Laura Lucy

None

Administrative Reports

- A proposed budget schedule was handed out to board members. Corrections to dates of meetings need to be made and revised schedule will developed. There will be a regular board meeting on March 27th. At that meeting we will be starting the budget process with the board : there will be an overview of the budget, and the board will be reviewing the Transportation and Facility cost centers.
- The Education Committee has adopted a compromise regarding the restraint restrictions. This bill will go before the legislature.
- Discussions for the new elementary school construction have been ramped up. Stephen Blatt, Architect, has become very involved meeting with staff, and reviewing our facilities. We will be meeting with the DOE very soon to determine next steps and a timeline for our project.
- The FY 2014 budget will be difficult due to State cuts, and the burden that will be placed on the towns due to changes in state revenue formulas. In 2005 the State's share of allocation was over 50%, this year the state's allocation for this district is less than 25%. We have not been able to determine yet the % for FY 14's budget, but we know it will be less than this year.
- School systems may have to pay a portion of MePERS/Teachers Retirement. That could potentially have a major impact. We are awaiting work from the DOE. There was a push to increase Insured Value Factor (IVF) paid to private academis to 10%. This was voted down in the Augusta by the Appropriations Committee – it would have impacted GPA for all school districts. We are waiting for updated subsidy figures from the DOE.
- The bond for the New Suncook Roof will be paid completely this spring. This will save the district \$277,000. This amount of money will help offset the decrease in subsidy for next year.
- Money was put aside last year to help offset taxes for next year.

New business

a) Discussion FY 14 budget issues

Student enrollment as of 2/28/13 and enrollment trends and projections for the district. We have only 40 children signed up for kindergarten next year, which is the smallest enrollment we have had at this time of year in 30 years.

We are looking at class placements, and the impact that such a small kindergarten class will have on each school.

Denmark School: There are 12 to 14 students in kindergarten: there will be no change in the other grades and there will be one classroom per grade.

New Suncook School: Currently there are 11 classes. We are looking at reducing classes and having 10. There could be multiage classrooms. The impact would be the reduction of one classroom teaching position and possibly one aide position.

Snow School: Currently there are 12 classroom teachers. We are projecting 15 kindergarten students coming to school next fall. We are looking at two options for next year. Option 1 would be to maintain the number of teachers we currently have. The classes would be smaller with the same number of teachers and Ed. Tech. Option 2 would be to maintain 2 classes for each grade. There would be 11 teachers and the class sizes would be a little bigger. There would be one less teacher and one less Ed. Tech.

MOMS: Jay reviewed the Unified Arts programming and discussed how declining student numbers is impacting those programs.

b. Presentation: Technology review

Jay LaPlante, Director of Technology gave a presentation on the proposed technology budget for 2013-2014.

c. Policy: first reading

Code IHBAH: Individualized Education Program

Code IHBAJ: Extended School Year Services for Students with Disabilities

There was no action on the first reading of Code IHBAH and Code IHBAJ. These policies be on a future agenda.

Unfinished business

Policy: second reading

Code JHB Truancy

Code JK Student Discipline

Code: JKE Expulsion of Students

Code: JKE-R Expulsion Guidelines

These policies will be reviewed and voted on at a future meeting.

Personnel action:

None

Agenda planning / Adjournment

Ed Spooner moved, seconded by Steven Dupuis, to adjourn.

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Madeline Bassett