

School Board Meeting Minutes – 12/7/2015

School Administrative Office, 16 School Street, Greenville, NH 03048

1. Organization

Attendees: Earl Somero, Chairman, Jim Kingston, Jeff Salmonson, Tara Sousa, Ruthann Goguen, Superintendent, Glen Waring, Business Administrator, Tom Kelly, Director, Student Services, Tom Marshall, Principal, MRHS, John MacArthur, Principal, BMS, Marion Saari, Principal, HHES, Cheryl Newsham, Special Education Coordinator, Matt Ballou, Information Technology Director, Melissa Vinal, Curriculum Coordinator, Jeanne Cunningham, District School Clerk, Various Community Members.

Oath of Office

Call to order 6:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome to attendees and invited attendees. *School Board Meeting Norms: Start/end of time, follow the agenda and avoid tangents, refrain from side conversations, respect and hear from all voices and assume best intentions, follow the chain of command.*

Agenda Adjustments

Jim Kingston asked to strike item 1 under unfinished business. It was agreed by all to do so.

Jeff Salmonson made a motion to approve the agenda adjustment. It was seconded by Tara Sousa. Vote by all in the affirmative.

Date/Time of Next Meeting: December 16, 2015 - 6 p.m.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence

Review/Approval of November 16, 2015 Minutes

Business manual, page 11 said Mr. Somero disagreed with the way it was written. Earl Somero stated that Jeff Salmonson didn't agree. Minutes should indicate that Mr. Salmonson said that.

Mr. Somero said that under policies for School Board Clerk., change she to he.

Tara Sousa commented that she had another paragraph to add to the minutes. She stated that she would send them to the School Board Clerk

No approval at this time.

1. Reports to the Board

2. School Board Chair Report – Earl Somero

No report

3. Superintendent - Ruthann Goguen

Report on Eduportal. She was pleased to say that she attended the 100th Holiday Fair event at the elementary school and had a great day.

Jeff Salmonson asked about significant billings for false alarms. What is happening? Superintendent Goguen said that there are a variety of reasons. The Principals will be speaking to their Athletic Directors and staff.

4. Student Services - Tom Kelly

Report on Eduportal. Principal Kelly wanted to thank the volunteers who worked on the bowling for Special Olympics. Tom would like to thank all those involved in setting this up and doing such a good job at it. These people should be commended for doing such a good job. Those involved were Superintendent Goguen, Nick Moranda, Cheryl Newsham, Pat Ziak, Matt Underwood, Diane Griffin, Joanna Lajoie, and Pam Worcester. They all did a wonderful job.

5. High School Principal - Tom Marshall

Public Recognition to Brian Ferman who donated a popcorn machine for the High School for use during sporting events.

6. Middle School Principal - John MacArthur

Principal MacArthur said that it will be a little scary around our school next week. We are going to have monsters running around for our Monster book sale. Everyone will be dressing up as monsters including himself. Money is going to go to buy books for those that cannot afford them.

7. Elementary School Principal - Marion Saari

Both Christmas concerts were held last week. Great job and everything went very smoothly.

2. Unfinished Business

1. Pipeline Letter

2. Business Manual - School Board Decision

Some changes were hammered out. Mr. Waring said that they have been updated.

Tara Sousa asked about emergency purchases. Jeff said that they put a cap on it. Jim Kingston said emergency is defined in the statement. TS said that anything that exceeded the amount (\$25,000) would constitute an emergency meeting of the school board.

Jeff Salmonson asked is there anything in here that discusses an emergency meeting. Glenn said there wasn't. A discussion took place concerning what would happen should an emergency take place and they were to exceed the \$25,000.

Jim Kingston made a motion to approve the manual of policy and procedures. Seconded by Tara Sousa. Motion approved.

3. School Care Contract - School Board Decision

Tara Sousa said that the contract time is July 1, 2016 thru June 30 2017. 2nd JS

Tara Sousa made a motion to continue with School Care Contract thru June 30, 2017. It was seconded by Jeff Salmonson.

Jim Kingston said that action should be delayed until we have more information.

Jim Kingston made a motion to table the item until indefinite time, when there is a resolution. Seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Mr. Somero asked if all were in favor of tabling this decision. Vote in the affirmative.

Tara Sousa made a motion to withdraw her original motion. Seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Vote in the affirmative.

4.FY17 Proposed Budget - School Board Recommendation

Superintendent Goguen said that the budget has been updated. There is a new budget number of \$! 8,403,000, down by 3.8% we are asking the school board to give us any recommendations tonight.

Earl Somero said he would like to discuss the Firefighter classes.

Tara Sousa said she was trying to remember when the firefighter program got started. If another school district took over this program, would we let our program go, but would our students be able to attend this class somewhere else? Principal Marshall said we only have 3 this year and 1 from another district. We have always opened our doors to other school districts. We would hope that other districts would open their doors to us. Superintendent Goguen said that we have nothing in writing, but that has been the rule of thumb and I expect it would remain the same. Jeff Salmonson agreed.

Earl Somero said that if we did eliminate this program here, would we be tuitioning students out? Jeff Salmonson said that we should have some money that is identified for this tuitioning of students for classes undefined. Jim Kingston said this should not be seen as a valueless program, because it was an important class.

Jeff Salmonson asked if woodshop would be eliminated also. What is the argument for that?

Superintendent Goguen stated that the same teacher has been teaching the firefighter class and the woodshop class. The position would go to part time and not sure we will have a teacher for that.

Principal Marshall said that he thinks we will lose a valuable program if we were to let the woodshop class go.

Superintendent Goguen's recommendation is to keep the woodshop class and see if we can find someone to do that class part time.

Superintendent Goguen said that to go backwards, we already have a line item for tuitioning students out. We will just add to that line.

3. New Business

1. Pool Contract for MRHS Swim Team - School Board Decision

Superintendent Goguen said this is a big decision for the School Board. Primex is refusing to insure Fitchburg State because Fitchburg State is asking Primax to be the sole insurer in case of any liability for spectators.

Jim Kingston asked if this is for practice. Superintendent Goguen replied yes. Jim Kingston is wondering why spectators would be going to practices.

Earl Somero asked if there are any other schools that we can look at. The swim coach has looked at several other places. Jeff Salmonson asked, so we are responsible for that space not matter who walks into the building? Superintendent Goguen said that yes that is the case. Jeff Salmonson asked if there is transportation for the swim team. No.

The swim coach said that there are 15 students on the team.

Superintendent Goguen asked if the coach wanted to look at Crotchet Mountain again and see if they might have some available time. The swim coach said she would. The School Board took no action on that item.

Jim Kingston asked if the first swim meet is Dec 14th, why are we in this position. Superintendent Goguen said that it was a planning issue and falls with the Athletic Director. The contract came back to the SAU just a few weeks ago. Jim Kingston asked if this would fall under the responsibility of the Athletic Director.

Superintendent Gogue said that yes it would. Principal Marshall said he would talk with the Athletic Director.

Jim Kingston said he would like to make a motion to authorize Earl Somero to be able to sign a contract should it become available before the next meeting. Seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Approved by all.

2. BMS Washington DC Overnight Field Trip - School Board Decision

Judy Marcou talked about what would be happening for the Washington DC trip. I think that the educational and social aspect of this trip is wonderful. Accounts have been set up so parents can start paying early for this trip. Jim Kingston asked what the participation is. Ms. Marcou said 64 out of 91. It is about 2/3. Jeff Salmonson asked about the number of chaperones. 1 per 10 students.

Jim Kingston made a motion to approve the Washington DC trip. Seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Approved by all.

3. Smarter Balanced Assessment Results

Superintendent Goguen said she has given the Board had a packet for the smarter balanced assessment results. The results are also on Eduportal. Superintendent Goguen said that our overall math results show that 37.6% of our students are proficient. The State shows a 36.4% proficiency. The middle school data is concerning. The Principals are also using the data reports with their staff. Jim Kingston was looking at the number of lower scores, I would say we have a lot of work to do. Superintendent Goguen said that the Principals and teachers are only zoning in on the results and working on helping those students that need help. Principal MacArthur said that the middle school is definitely a work in progress. Jeff Salmonson asked when would the district come up with a plan and put it in place. Superintendent Goguen said that it is already in place and the Principal and teachers are working at looking at curriculum and instruction materials and designing action plans for the low performing students. Teachers sharing best process. There is an action plan.

Results:

Grade 11:

Overall Math – 37.6% Proficient or above in Overall Math/State Average is 36.4%.

Overall ELA-73.9% Proficient or above in Overall ELA/State Average 59.2%.

Grade 8:

Overall Math – 34% Proficient or above/44.2% State Average.

Overall ELA – 40% Proficient or above in Overall ELA/58.3% State Average.

Grade 7:

Overall Math – 37% Proficient or above/State Average 50.7%.

Overall ELA – 47.1% Proficient or above in Overall ELA/State Average 62.6%.

Grade 6:

Overall Math – 11.2% Proficient or above /State Average 45.5%.

Overall ELA – 33.3% Proficient or above in Overall ELA/State Average 57.4%.

Grade 5:

Overall Math – 20.7% Proficient or above/State Average 44.3%.

Overall ELA – 45.6% Proficient or above in Overall ELA/State Average 63.2%.

Grade 4:

Overall Math – 40% Proficient or above/State Average 48.8%.

Overall ELA – 65.7% Proficient or above in Overall ELA/State Average 56.1%.

Grade 3:

Overall Math – 48.7% Proficient or above/State Average 53%.

Overall ELA – 61.8% Proficient or above in Overall ELA/State Average 55.2%.

4. Bus Transportation RFP's - School Board Decision

- Regular Transportation

Mr. Waring stated that all 3 busing contracts expire at the end of this school year. 5 companies requested to bid on all 3 busing groups. The bidding closed on the 24th of November and at that time, there were no bids. The existing provider notified us the day before the bid closing that they weren't going to bid. There was a 10 day posting and a 2nd bid. Mr. Waring said that he would recommend Community Transportation at \$425,600.

Jim Kingston made a motion to approve Community Transportation for the busing at \$425,600. Second by Jeff Salmonson. Motion approved by all.

Special Education Transportation

Jeff Salmonson made a motion to approve Community Transportation for the Special Education busing for a 3 year contract. Earl Somero seconded the motion. Motion approved by all.

- Athletic Transportation

Jim Kingston made a motion to approve Community Transportation for a 4 year contract. Seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Motion approved by all.

Community Transportation thanked the Board for their trust in their company.

4. Public Comments

Public comment will be restricted to precise topics announced in advance. This means public comment will only be allowed on items in this weekly agenda.

A member of the community said she wanted to address smarter balance. She said that a lot of children didn't take the smarter balance testing. She felt that a lot of the kids that didn't take the testing were all smart children who might have changed the outcome.

1. Personnel

Long-Term Substitute MRHS Art Teacher

Superintendent Goguen recommended Gene Perkowski for long term substitute.

Jim Kingston made a motion to hire Gene Perkowski for the long term sub position. Motion seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Vote in the affirmative.

2. Slate of Co-Curricular Recommendations

Superintendent Goguen recommended a slate of co-curricular coaches for various winter sports.

Jeff Salmonson made a motion to approve the slate of Co-Curricular recommendations.. Seconded by Jim Kingston. Vote in the affirmative.

3. Recommendation of MRHS Lunch Monitor

Superintendent Goguen recommended Mark Normanden for lunch monitor

Jeff Salmonson made a motion to hire Mark Normanden for lunch monitor. Seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Vote in the affirmative.

4. Resignations

Michael McNellis

Jeff Salmonson made a motion to accept the resignation of Michael McNellis with regret. Seconded by Tara Sousa. Vote in the affirmative.

5. Retirement

Deb Fromer

Wendy Hutchins

Jim Kingston made a motion to accept the resignation of Deb Fromer and Wendy Hutchins with regret. Seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Vote in the affirmative.

6. Part-Time Interim Assistant Principal

Superintendent Goguen recommended Marlese Bryant as Part-Time Interim Assistant Principal.

Jeff Salmonson made a motion to approve Marlese Bryant as Part-Time Interim Assistant Principal. Seconded by Tara Sousa. Vote in the affirmative.

5. Policies

1. Student Records and Access - FERPA - Policy JRA

First reading... change in the law which required 14 days.

Jeff Salmonson made a motion that the board approve the revised policy. Motion Seconded by Tara Sousa. Vote in the affirmative.

2. School Properties Disposal Procedure - Policy DN

Previous policy stated that authorization should go to the Facilities Manager. They would like to change this authorization to be the Superintendent or Business Mgr.

Jeff Salmonson made a motion that the Board move to approve the Superintendent or Business Mgr to authorize disposal of school properties. Seconded by Jim Kingston. Vote in the affirmative.

Superintendent Goguen commented that the building trades is separate from this SB policy. Trustees are in charge of that property, not the School Board. They can set up a scholarship fund if they choose.

3. Change of School or Assignment - Policy JCA

In the past the Superintendent was able to make decisions as to tuitioning agreements. Update to recognize changes in the law. The board has to be involved in the Superintendents recommendations. Jeff Salmonson said that the SAU is an entity that is run by the Superintendent. The Board is part of the Mascenic School System.

Jim Kingston made a motion to approve the first reading with the changes to policy JCA. Seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Vote in the affirmative.

4. Acceptable Internet Use - Students - Policy JICL

Paragraph B investigation, paragraph 3. List of restrictions.

Jeff Salmonson made a motion to approve Policy JICL. Seconded by Tara Sousa. Vote in the affirmative.

Tara Sousa asked what is the distinction of the first reading, versus a second reading. We seem to be approving a lot tonight after just a first reading. Jim Kingston said that most of what we are doing tonight are mandated by changes in the law.

6. Agenda Building

Put pipeline letter back on agenda.

Jeff Salmonson will have more policies.

Superintendent Goguen said there would be a second reading of policy JCA.

7. Non-Public Session - RSA 91-A:3, II (a-c)

MOTION made by Tara Sousa to move to non-public session per RSA 91A:3 II (a). The motion was seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Roll call vote: Jim Kingston, yes; Jeff Salmonson, yes; Tara Sousa, yes; Earl Somero, yes. The vote was unanimous.

MOTION made by Tara Sousa to move to non-public session per RSA 91A:3 II (c). The motion was seconded by Jeff Salmonson. Roll call vote: Jim Kingston, yes; Jeff Salmonson, yes; Tara Sousa, yes; Earl Somero, yes. The vote was unanimous.

8. Adjournment 7:50