

Wakefield School Board
Public Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2019
Approved

School Board members present: Bob Ouellette, Sandy Johnson, Jennifer McCawley, Tani Moody
School Board members absent: Tracey Kolb

Administration, Staff: Interim Superintendent Jerry Gregoire, Business Administrator Marie D'Agostino, Student Services Director Anne Kebler, Administrative Assistant Larissa Mulkern

Other: Donna Martin of Clearview TV, Priscilla Colbath

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Ouellette opened the meeting at 5 p.m. and led those present in the pledge. He led a moment of silence for Interim Principal's Jim Lampron's mother, who passed away on Sunday.
2. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Mr. Ouellette opened the public hearing. Mrs. D'Agostino spoke to the request: To expend funds from the Safety & Security Expendable Trust Fund, with the state paying \$39,570, and the District paying the remaining \$9,892 of the \$49,462 cost [for security enhancements.] There being no public comment, Mr. Ouellette closed the public hearing. **Motion: Mrs. McCawley made a motion to expend \$9,892 from the Safety & Security Expendable Trust Fund. Members voted, roll call vote: Ouellette, aye; McCawley, aye; Moody, aye; Johnson, aye.**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Minutes of Feb. 9, AP and Payroll Manifests: Motion: Mrs. Johnson made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Ms. Moody; members voted 4-0.
4. **REPORTS:**
 - a. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Gregoire presented his report. Highlights included: revisiting the School District's Strategic Plan, last completed in October 2010. E-Rate reimbursement is progressing, and he expects notification of disbursement of funds soon. Regarding the Governance Plan (HB1612/RSA 189:66), SAU and Paul School officials met with Mainstay to discuss plans for moving forward. The District is required to have a plan to protect staff and student information in place by July 1, 2019. We will receive a quote from Mainstay soon. Also included in his report was a list of upcoming workshops offered by the NH School Board Association. He has been in touch with Attorney Will Phillips of the NHSBA about conducting a workshop on the Right-to-Know law.
 - b. **Student Service Director's Report:** Mrs. Kebler presented her report. She has coordinated a student assembly and a separate community forum featuring Dr. Malcom Smith, co-author of New Hampshire's bullying law of 2010 and one of the nation's leading experts of using civility and empathy as tools to stop bullying. Dr. Smith will also provide training to the faculty and paraprofessional

staff on teacher workshop day, March 22. He will also review the school's policy and procedures regarding bullying as well as our investigation process.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Second reading: updated Policy BEDD, Rules of Order. Mr. Gregoire presented an overview of the updated policy, noting that Mrs. Kolb suggested adding a sentencing that the policy was not meant to stifle civil discourse. Mr. Ouellette allowed a comment from the public, Mrs. Colbath, who asked if the policy update was vetted by the policy committee, and if not, should have it gone through the committee first? The response was that it had not gone through the policy committee, which has not met, and that not all policies are first reviewed by this committee. **Motion: Mrs. McCawley made a motion to accept the updated BEDD policy, seconded by Mrs. Johnson. Members voted all in favor, 4-0.**

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Harlem Wizards Fundraiser: Mr. Gregoire said the school is hosting a fund raiser featuring the Harlem Wizards entertaining basketball team on Monday, April 15, 2019. Letters requesting donations from vendors are going out. The paid event will be in the evening, with a program earlier in the day for all students.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

- a. Teacher's Collective Bargaining Agreement 2020-2022: In response to questions that have come up regarding teacher salaries, Mr. Gregoire presented slides highlighting NH teacher salary averages vs Wakefield School District teacher salaries from the NH Dept. of Education, whereas the average salary for WSD teachers was 10.56 percent less than the state average (\$36,746 state average salary, vs \$33,235 WSB average salary.) The latest numbers from the state came out in 2018.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Mr. Gregoire responded to queries previously submitted by Mrs. Colbath regarding an emergency meeting held Jan. 14 and minutes. He responded, in summary: the meeting notice was submitted by the administrative assistant to the Paul School and Town Hall for posting. They were not posted on the SAU website, and that was an oversight. As for whether the meeting was an emergency, it should have been posted as a special meeting and not an emergency meeting. There are only one set of minutes. Mr. Gregoire said he will invite Will Phillips of the NH School Board Association to speak to the board regarding right-to-know laws.
- b. This being Ms. Moody's last meeting as a school board member, the Board and administrators thanked her for her service.

9. ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 5:40 p.m. by Sandy, seconded by Tani; members voted all in favor.

Respectfully submitted: Larissa Mulkern, Administrative Assistant