

## Wakefield School Board

Public Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

Approved

**School Board members present:** Chair Bob Ouellette, Vice Chair Tracey Kolb, Members Sandy Johnson, Jen McCawley and Relf Fogg

**Administration, staff:** Superintendent Jerry Gregoire, Business Administrator Marie D'Agostino, Principal James Lampron, Vice Principal Jenn Kuehl, Administrative Asst. Larissa Mulkern

**Other:** Gabe Smith of Clearview TV, Library Media Specialist Nicole Anderson, Steve Brown, Beth Seldin, Frank Zappala, Treasurer Carlene Stewart

The regular board meeting resumed at approximately 6:35 p.m. following the Right-to-Know Law Workshop with Attorneys Barrett Christina, Executive Director and Will Phillips, Staff Attorney/Director of Policy Services, of the NH School Boards Association.

**Presentation:** The School District check presentation to Report Cover Art winner Liana Stuart was postponed; the award will be given during the Paul School 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation ceremony.

### **Discussion on Policy BEDH, "Public Participation at Board Meetings."**

Mr. Ouellette handed out the most current policy, revised by the Board 21 August 2013. The policy was approved in 2013 but not inserted into the policy book. Mr. Fogg asked for clarification, whether this policy allows for two public comment periods. Is the 15-minute comment time split in two sessions or one. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Kolb read the (2013) policy, BEDH. [Highlights: 15 minutes set aside, may be extended by a majority vote of the Board. Speakers allotted three minutes per person; Comments on agenda items only. Requests to address board on non-agenda items must be presented to the Superintendent and must set forth the specifics of the subject to be addressed. The board may place such requests on the agenda. Speakers are to conduct themselves in civil manner, etc.] Mrs. Johnson suggested the Policy Committee review the 2013 update and compare it with the revision from 2012. Mrs. McCawley noted the purpose of the policy is to prevent the public comment period from becoming a show of emotion or name calling. Mrs. Kolb added the 2013 policy was adopted by the previous board, Steve Brown, Bonnie Cyr, Relf Fogg, Bob Ouellette and Norma Joy.

**Motion:** Mr. Fogg made a motion to reaffirm policy BEDH as it was revised 21 August 2013. All in favor, aye. 5-0

Mr. Gregoire added, for clarification, that the Board, may, when appropriate, place a topic on the next agenda by request.

### **Public Comment**

Query from Beth Seldin requesting clarification of the policy, with response from Mr. Ouellette to clarify that the public comment periods were for agenda items only.

Mr. Zappala commented about Mr. Lampron's previous presentation regarding active shooter scenarios. He thanked the board for passing along those lessons learned to the public at large.

**Consent Agenda:** Mrs. Johnson made a motion to accept the consent agenda [AP & Payroll manifests], seconded by Mrs. Kolb. Members voted 4-1, Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson, aye, McCawley, aye, Fogg, nay.

**Meeting Minutes:** Mr. Fogg made a motion to accept the public minutes of May 20 with any amendments offered, Mrs. Johnson seconded. Members voted 5-0. Mrs. Kolb made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McCawley, to approve the Goals Workshop meeting minutes. Members voted 4-0-1, with Mr. Fogg abstaining. Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, Johnson, aye, McCawley, aye.

### **Reports:**

**Superintendent Report:** Mr. Gregoire reviewed the highlights of his report, which included news that a field trip to Cape Elizabeth to E-Rate Solutions yielded results – the district recovered \$32,730.26, which was deposited into the district's account last week. Other highlights: SAU & Paul School administrative staff are working to address concerns and streamline the process of data entry and certification within the NH DOE database, which includes EIS. A follow up meeting is scheduled. He visited Spaulding High School as discussed at the Joint AREA School Board meeting in April, and he participated in interviews with the two candidates for the Carl Siemon Scholarship, with Cinny Wyatt. WSB Subcommittees have been meeting, and the minutes are attached.

**Student Services Director Report:** No report for this meeting.

### **New Business:**

#### **Policy Readings: BEA, IHAK, KB, JFABD, and JICFA**

- BEA, Regular board Meetings (Procedures); update to meeting time, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Mrs. McCawley noted there are similarities and discrepancies between BEA and BEDH. Mr. Gregoire will bring this policy back to the Policy Subcommittee for review.
- JFABD, Admission of Homeless Students, updates in accordance with state or federal law.  
**Motion:** Mr. Fogg made a motion to reaffirm Policy JFABD, seconded by Mrs. McCawley. Members voted 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, McCawley, aye, Johnson, aye, Fogg aye.
- JICFA, Student Hazing, reflects changes in RSA 631:7; requires first reading, updates to NHSBA standard.
- KB, Title I Family and Community Engagement, title change and updates, first reading.
- IHAK, Character and Citizenship Education, new bulleted items 1 – 5 have been added, first reading.

**Summer Meeting Schedule:** The consensus of the board was to keep the status quo, two meetings per month, unless it was determined at the first meeting of the month that a second meeting was not necessary. Committees will continue to meet.

**Classroom Changes:** Mr. Lampron reviewed classroom changes for next year.

### **Other Business**

Unaffiliated employee contingency funds: Mr. Gregoire passed out information on disbursement of raises in FY 2020 for unaffiliated employees [who are not covered under collective bargaining agreements]. Mrs.

McCawley said the timing was terrible. Mrs. D'Agostino in response to a query from Mr. Fogg that the current teacher's contract which ends June 30 remains in place until a new contract is reached. No teacher will receive step or longevity pay increases; increases due to track changes are allowed per state law; legally the school district must abide by it.

Mr. Lampron distributed a list of Paul School events for the next several weeks and extended invitations to board members to attend graduations.

Board members received updates on fundraising events for students competing in the National History Day event in Washington, D.C. The students and families depart this weekend. About \$3,000 out of a needed \$7,500 was raised. The public may continue to contribute with checks made out to Paul School, and with NHD listed as the purpose. The funds get processed through the Student Activity Account.

Vice Principal Kuehl reported the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington, D.C., went very well, with museum officials noting that they were best behaved groups. The weather was beautiful.

**Public Comment:**

Beth Seldin: A special education teacher was moved to help in another classroom; just want to find out if she was ever able to get back to her other students? If the school ends up in a deficit budget, how do you go about getting the money? Do you go before the Budget Committee? Does there have to be a vote to raise the money? How does that work?

Mr. Gregoire will work on getting answers to those.

Mr. Fogg requested that future meeting dates be included at the end of the agenda.

**Correspondence:**

Mr. Gregoire distributed correspondence regarding a 91-A (Right to Know Law) information request that was addressed to the School Board.

**Nonpublic session.** Mrs. Kolb made a motion at 7:50 p.m. to enter nonpublic session, RSA 91-A:3 II, (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (a) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted, and (1), Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present. Seconded by Mrs. Johnson. Roll call vote 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, McCawley, aye, Johnson, aye, Fogg, aye.

Mr. Ouellette made a motion to come out of nonpublic session at 8:26 p.m., seconded by Mr. Fogg. Roll call vote 5-0, Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, McCawley, aye, Johnson, aye, Fogg, aye.

Motion: Mr. Ouellette reported in public session that the board approved by 4-1 the Superintendent's one-year contract for Jerry Gregoire. He presented the contract to Mr. Gregoire and asked he present the one-year contracts to Principal Jim Lampron and Vice Principal Jenn Kuehl. Mr. Fogg noted that the vote was 4 – 1, with the dissent based on budgetary items. Mrs. McCawley and Mrs. Kolb said they were thrilled that he was at the top and offered congratulations. The board voted 5-0 and 5-0 on both the Vice Principal and the Principal contracts.

The board also acknowledged its vote regarding a contract negotiation. The board had voted 4-1 to support the Superintendent's approach regarding paraprofessional track changes, as per school district attorney advice, with a vote of 4-1 [Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, McCawley, aye, Fogg, aye, Johnson, nay].

The board also accepted, with regret, the resignation of Library Media Specialist Nicole Anderson contingent upon finding a suitable replacement. The vote was 5-0. Ouellette, aye, Kolb, aye, McCawley, aye, Johnson, aye, Fogg, aye.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Fogg made a motion seconded by Mrs. McCawley to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Members voted 5-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted for approval at the June 18 School Board meeting.

Administrative Assistant

Larissa Mulkern