

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 50**  
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The SAU 50 Joint School Board met on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at the Rye Junior High, Rye New Hampshire.

School Board Members Present: Alyson Baryiames, Kevin Brandon, Randy Bunnell, Maria Emory, Margaret Honda, Sara Huestis, Mark Joyce, Randy Lynch, Scott Marion, Jeanne Moynahan, Dick Spaulding, Paula Tsetsilas, Pat Walsh

School Board Members Not Present: Dave Mueller, Jack O'Reilly, Ann Pinciario

Administrators: Salvatore Petralia, Superintendent  
Kelli Killen, Assistant Superintendent  
Amy R. Ransom, Assistant Business Administrator

### **CALL TO ORDER**

SAU Joint Board Chairperson, Jeanne Moynahan, called the meeting to order at 5:36pm.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

*On a motion by Scott Marion, seconded by Mark Joyce, the Board approved the public minutes from the Sept. 27, 2017 SAU 50 Joint Board meeting. 10 in favor, 3 abstentions.*

### **ASSISTANT BUSINESS ADMINSTRATOR REPORT**

Ms. Ransom's presented the FY2019 proposed budget, and noted the following changes:

- Proposed 2.75% raises at staff at SAU office are included
- There is a reduction for data processing line since website development is complete
- Change to auditing is reflected
- Changes to professional growth line item have been made
- Retirement of current Business Administrator is noted
- 1.6 % maximum rate from health trust and dental insurance is noted

Overall, the budget shows a savings of \$37,938 versus initial budget presented.

*On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Spaulding, the board voted to approve the budget as presented. Vote: Unanimous*

### **DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED BUDGET**

Mr. Bunnell does not approve of technology position. He stated he understands the needs at the SAU level, but noting that Greenland is under pressure from its budget committee, commented that he would rather direct funding towards more building teachers. Because each district has its own integrators, he questioned the need for a technology person at the SAU level.

Mr. Lynch asked for clarification of the technology role. Mr. Petralia responded that he spoke with the Technology Committee to better define it. He continued to explain that this position was formed in 2012 and that the person hired was only in place for one year. Since then, the position has gone unfilled. When

Mr. Petralia began his career with the SAU in 2014, it became apparent the SAU was lacking in technology. The SAU has contracted out its technology needs and no one has been regularly on-site to oversee needs. He stated that the SAU has been hacked twice in three years under his leadership, leaving SAU without a website. This Director of Technology position is an effort to synthesize recommendations made by all staff and ensure that individual districts are not working in silos. The initial proposal was for .8 FTE, but Joint Board moved to 1.0 FTE.

Dr. Marion asked Mr. Bunnell if his main objection was the position in general, or if it was that the position is not well-defined. Mr. Bunnell responded that he still doesn't have a full understanding of technology support in his own district of Greenland and he needs to understand that first.

Mr. Petralia stated that with Mr. Katkin retiring there is an opportunity to add the position to this year's budget rather than asking for increase in FY20 budget.

Dr. Joyce supported notion of adding the technology position this year and expressed concern about compromises in our websites. He is also concerned about potential tax hike next year if position is not funded this year.

Ms. Honda asked what the affect to Greenland's budget would be if the position was not funded this year. It was explained it would be an approximate \$30,000 savings. Ms. Huestis stated concern about denying the SAU this position because of Greenland's budget concerns.

Mr. Lynch had hoped for a shorter description with five key job responsibilities of this position.

Ms. Ransom expressed concern that the SAU is not following filters for student privacy because people in buildings are too busy troubleshooting.

Mr. Walsh showed concern about security and hardware, and felt this problem is not something current personnel can fix. He is also concerned that there is no back-up. Ms. Ransom responded that a network engineer is needed.

Ms. Killen spoke about the need for this position at the central office and the need for a technological vision.

Dr. Marion suggested breaking the role into two: 1) a consultant to set aside the vision and 2) a contractor for day-to-day troubleshooting.

Mr. Walsh said they went through a similar exercise about five years ago, and said a visionary professional doesn't want to execute.

Ms. Honda asked if this person would identify economies of scale by looking at technology.

Mr. Brandon said there are many different areas of technical expertise: manage and execute; storage; security; tech in education and more.

Mr. Spaulding agreed with Mr. Brandon that it is difficult to find someone with experience in all areas of expertise.

Dr. Joyce asked if the Board is asking for an amendment.

Dr. Marion made a motion to modify this line to \$60,000 to be allocated between 1) upgrade break-fix support to have the highest level of service and 2) a consultant to evaluate current technology within SAU building and set vision. This eliminates \$111,000 in original proposed position.

*On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Spaulding, the board voted to amend and approve the bottom line of the SAU 50 budget to \$1,312,152.86. Vote: Unanimous*

Ms. Moynahan opened the Public Hearing on the SAU 50 Proposed Budget for 2018-2019 at 6:29 PM. There was no public present, so the Public Hearing was closed at 6:30PM.

#### **DISCUSSION OF AREA AGREEMENT**

Mr. Petralia suggested that AREA agreement be discussed at the SAU joint board level, rather than at individual district board meetings. He suggested that each district select a board member to sit on a sub-committee.

#### **DISCUSSION OF SAU50 BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT SAU 52 (PORTSMOUTH) BOARD MEETINGS**

Mr. Petralia reminded board members that there is a need to have an SAU 50 board representative attend the Portsmouth School Board meetings. There is a sign-up sheet in the shared Google Docs folder.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Ms. Moynahan called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 PM. On a motion by Ms. Huestis, seconded by Mr. Bunnell the board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. Vote: Unanimous.*

Respectfully submitted,



Paula Tsetsilas

Rye School Board Secretary