

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 50

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The SAU 50 School Board met on Wednesday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m. at Rye Junior High School, Rye, New Hampshire.

School Board Members Present: John Balboni, Alyson Baryiamas Deb Crapo, Maria Emory, Margaret Honda, Mark Joyce, Randy Lynch, Scott Marion, Jeanne Moynahan (Chair), Jack O'Reilly, Chris Russo, Daphne Schwab, Paula Tsetsilas

School Board Members Not Present: Randy Bunnell, Richard Spaulding, Patrick Walsh

Administrators: Salvatore Petralia – Superintendent
Kelli Killen – Assistant Superintendent
Amy R. Ransom–Business Administrator
Sarah Reinhardt – Special Education Director

Visitors: Joe Cummins, Alyssa Bailey

Call to Order

Jeanne Moynahan called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

Ms. Moynahan opened the public hearing in compliance with RSA 194-C:10 for the purpose of approving the FY 2020 proposed School Administrative Unit 50 budget. She asked if anyone from the public wished to speak in regard to the proposed budget.

Joe Cummins of Rye, thanked the Board for their efforts. Mr. Cummins commented on his support of the \$74,000 allotment to the Lister Academy Agreement. He reiterated his feeling that the Lister Academy was a valuable option and resource for students in the community. He asked for clarification as to his opinion that board members did not support/fight for the program enough. He stated his belief that tax payers and the whole community benefit from a child's education. He stated his disappointment in regard to the availability of trades' education and that as a tax payer in Rye he felt his voice was not expressed in previous Portsmouth School Board meetings regarding the Lister Program. He stated that he was unable to locate any public written communication from principals or the superintendent about what he felt was the "destruction of the construction trade program." He noted that there were Maker's programs established but those were scaled down. He stated his belief that a program needs to be launched that focuses on trade instruction.

Mr. Cummins further stated his belief that there needs to be a consultant hired to look in to how the SAU 50 delegates board member duties. He noted his feeling that a consultant should be hired to look into why Rye School Board members had no feedback when SAU 52 decided to terminate the construction trade.

Dr. Marion stated that SAU 50 Board members do not have a vote at the SAU 52 meetings. He reiterated that at those meetings SAU 50 Board members are only given the ability to express their will. It was on the record for SAU 52 meetings regarding Lister Academy that Rye was not happy with the decision to end the construction trade program.

Ms. Crapo noted that a 2018 Rye PHS graduate was sent to Dover in order to fulfill their desire to attend a trades program. Said student even received a scholarship at the 2018 graduation ceremony in correlation to her success in the Dover trade program.

Mr. Cummins asked if it was possible to have an agreement with Winnicunnet.

Ms. Ransom indicated that the current agreement is with Portsmouth only.

Ms. Moynahan stated that the SAU 50 is currently discussing the agreement they have for Lister Academy and researching to see if that agreement is still in the best interest for SAU 50 students.

Dr. Marion reiterated that the focus on the evenings meeting was to vote on the FY2019-2020 budget. He asked if there were question relating directly to the budget.

Alyssa Bailey of Greenland had a question in regard to teacher salary. She inquired as to why some teachers were paid different salaries within the SAU 50. Ms. Ransom indicated that teacher salaries were determined by district.

Mr. Petralia noted that the collective agreements in each district are discussed between teachers and board members. He continued on to say that even though teachers are under the umbrella of the SAU 50, each school district negotiates separately.

Ms. Bailey asked if it would then be more effective to voice any questions/concerns regarding teacher salary to the specific Greenland School Board meeting. Mr. Petralia indicated yes.

On a motion by Dr. Marion, seconded by Dr. Joyce the Board voted to close to public comment at 7:02 p.m. Roll Call: 13:0

SAU 50 FY2020 BUDGET

Ms. Moynahan asked Ms. Ransom to present the highlights of the proposed FY2020 budget.

Ms. Ransom indicated the operating budget for FY2020 was set at \$1,651,811 approximately \$127,959 more than the current budget. She noted that increases were in part due to salary and benefits for the new Technology Administrator position, raises and health insurance increases. She indicated that there was a reduction in the position of Database Administrator and in contracted services for technology.

Ms. Ransom stated that each district will be paying in to the budget; Greenland \$444,829, New Castle \$147,401, Newington \$198,420 and Rye \$649,462

The Board thanked Ms. Ransom for the great effort she made creating the proposed budget.

On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Dr. Marion, the Board voted to approve the FY2020 proposed School Administrative Unit 50 budget. Vote: 13:0

SECRETARY'S REPORT

APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Ms. Honda, the Board approved the public minutes from the November 14, 2018 SAU 50 Joint Board meeting. Vote: 12:0:1; Dr. Marion abstained.

On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Ms. Honda, the Board approved the non-public minutes from the November 14, 2018 SAU 50 Joint Board meeting. Vote: 12:0:1; Dr. Marion abstained.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Petralia had no communications to share with the Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Director of Technology Job Description – 2nd Reading

Dr. Joyce noted that as a second reading for the Board that the job description could be adopted.

Ms. Moynahan noted a couple of grammatical errors that needed editing.

On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Ms. Crapo, the Board voted to approve the job descriptions for both the Director of Technology and Database Specialist, open to any grammatical corrections. Vote: 13:0

Transportation Contract

Mr. Petralia updated the Board on a conversation he had with Area Manager David Fairweather of First Student regarding the extension of a two year bussing contract.

Mr. Balboni expressed interest in inquiring further into negotiating the optimization of bus routes. Mr. Petralia stated that this was discussed in their meeting and that Mr. Fairweather indicated the company will implement a routing software over the next few months to help with that analysis.

Mr. Petralia noted his belief that due to the current shortage of bus drivers that it is prudent to continue a working relationship with a vendor we do know. That being said, there must also be efficiencies created within the contract going forward.

Mr. Petralia noted that Ms. Emory and others in Greenland had conducted a useful bus survey for parents and staff. He will share the data collected by Greenland with First Student.

Ms. Tsetsilas noted that listed under Action Items is the reference to riding along bus routes and asked if the bus extension would allow for “bus ride alongs” in the future. Mr. Petralia stated yes.

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Mr. O'Reilly, the Board voted to approve the bus contract extension. Vote: 13:0

Area Agreement/Lister Academy

Mr. Petralia stated that a meeting between himself, Attorney Loughmann, SAU 52 Superintendent Steve Zadravec, SAU 52 Business Administrator Steve Barrlett, SAU 50 Business Administrator Amy R. Ransom and Kathleen Dwyer took place on November 28, 2018.

Mr. Petralia noted that it was indicated at the meeting there were issues regarding past agreements and that currently districts within the SAU 50 were not all on a level playing field. He noted that board members have in their packets a summary of said meeting as written by Attorney Loughman. Within the summary three options are listed for addressing the situation.

Mr. Petralia noted that if Lister is not part of the AREA plan, the agreement to pay tuition is a separate long-term agreement requiring approval of the voters of sending districts.

Mr. Petralia noted that most of the SAU 50 students currently enrolled in Lister are from Greenland. Other districts within the SAU 50 still have to pay a fee towards Lister even if they currently have no students attending the program. Some districts feel that is unfair.

Dr. Joyce asked if this agenda item required action tonight. He noted that Mr. Walsh has input on the topic but is not in attendance therefore felt the Board should take it under advisement and react at a future meeting.

Mr. Petralia stated he was not looking for a decision at this time and the topic could be discussed further at the March meeting.

SAU 50 Collaboration Committee

Ms. Moynahan gave an update of the most recent meeting from the newly formed Collaboration Committee. The Committee brainstormed about ideas to utilize resources within the SAU 50 districts. Ms. Moynahan stated the next meeting is scheduled for January 7, 2019 at 9:00am at the SAU office.

Parent University

Ms. Tsetsilas discussed the recent presentation that was given by a doctor from Portsmouth Neuropsychology Center. Topics discussed were stress and anxiety in children. Ms. Reinhardt is organizing a presentation for Spring 2019 to discuss learning disorders and understanding what a child with a learning disorder is experiencing. This presentation will hopefully also include guest speaker Chief Justice John Broderick.

Mr. Petralia noted that Chief Justice Broderick attended the most recent NHSAA meeting to announce a Youth Summit for 2019. The summit will discuss many topics in an effort to increase student knowledge, empowerment and understanding of a variety of important issues. Mr. Petralia will forward the Youth Summit information to board members via email.

NEW BUSINESS

Employment Contract for the Superintendent

Dr. Marion noted that Board Chairs have met regularly and drafted the contract. They then met with Mr. Petralia and presented him the contract for feedback. The Employment Agreement effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 has been agreed upon by all Chairs.

On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Dr. Marion, the Board voted to approve the new Employment Contract for the Superintendent. Vote: 13:0

Mr. Petralia took that time to acknowledge his great appreciation and for the affirmation from the Board members. He thanked them for their continued support.

HB 1612

Mr. O'Reilly asked for further explanation of the purpose of the Governor's "Save Our Summers" initiative. Board members discussed the concept. Dr. Marion noted that he feels that the Governor did not take into account what is best for the students. He reiterated his belief that the right to set academic calendars should be a local decision making process.

Dr. Joyce felt confident the decision will ultimately be left to local boards.

In regard to the Data Governance Plan, Mr. Petralia stated he included in Board packets excerpts from the workshop he recently attended. He noted that the NH State Board of Education has not yet distributed a set of standards to be followed but that the plan must continue to move on within districts recognizing the effective date of June 30, 2019.

Ms. Schwab stated that due to the nature of the ongoing process that it is important for each school district to create an exhaustive audit of the technology and software currently utilized in their buildings.

Ms. Ransom noted that recent technology audits only audit hardware not software.

Dr. Joyce asked if there is currently enough funds available to audit all the inventory of the districts together. Ms. Ransom replied yes.

Dr. Marion asked if the DOE would be establishing a minimum of standards to be followed. Ms. Ransom noted that it is just the Board's plan that has to be submitted the state by the June 2019 deadline.

Mr. Russo asked if there is a state wide contract for student data privacy. He noted that Maine went from self-regulating to developing a state-wide contract. In turn, a state-wide contract puts onus on the vendor in regard to breaches etc.

Ms. Moynahan noted that she will be attending the Delegate Assembly in January. She recommended that Board members also attend if their schedules allowed.

AGENDA PLANNING

- March 27, 2019 SAU 50 Joint Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Greenland Central School
- May 22, 2019 SAU 50 Joint Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Maude H. Trefethen School

NON PUBLIC - None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by, Ms. Crapo, the Board adjourned at 7:38p.m. Roll Call: 13:0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Samantha Fuller
Secretary to the Superintendent
December 21, 2018

Patrick Walsh
Secretary

Date