

NOTICE OF MEETINGS
EPPING SCHOOL BOARD
May 2, 2019 - Town Hall
Nonpublic Meeting - 6:00 pm
School Board Meeting - 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Deborah Brooks called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance were: Chairperson Deborah Brooks, Vice Chair David Mylott, Member Heather Clark, Member Ben Leavitt, Member Nicole Carleton, Superintendent Valerie McKenney, Business Administrator Bonnie Sandstrom, Student Member Faith Williamson. Student Rachel Martin absent.

SCHEDULED GUESTS:

a. Jennifer Jacoby- Krav Maga Global - Use of Building

Ms. Jacoby shared she has been renting the cafeteria since February 2017 for the Kray Maga classes she teaches. She has seven students and eight adults. Classes are Wednesday, with student class being right after school for one hour and the adult class right after for one hour and fifteen minutes. She requests she continue to pay the \$50 they agreed upon and not the \$100 as required by policy KF. Jennifer informed the Board, that she does not make profit from the classes. Ms. Jacoby has clients who travel to her classes since she is the only one teaching Kray Maga nearby. Her clients vary from Epping residents to some non Epping residents.

The Board discusses Ms. Jacoby request. Vice Chair Dave states, since Ms. Jacoby is in a profit making business, he does not agree with reducing the price. Member Nicole requests the policy regarding fees be reviewed as it was neglected prior to this situation.

Member Heather Clark made a motion to allow Jennifer the use the cafeteria for Kray Maga classes with the same agreement (only paying \$50) she has had for the past year. Seconded by Member Nicole Carleton. Vote 4-1-0. Motion carries.

b. Krista Gulick and Valerie McKenney: Student Achievement Data (2017-2018) and PACE proposal

Superintendent McKenney and Curriculum Coordinator Krista Gulick informs the Board of the:

- Different assessments used which include: SAT, NH SAS (required testing), PACE, and STAR.
- Proficiency score and Cohort Comparison results were discussed using PACE and NH-SAS by grade level. Data demonstrated low scores in several areas.
- Center for assessment (for PACE) made a mistake when scoring. Due to this mistake, Epping's scores are inconclusive for the 17-18 year.

The Board questioned the low scores derived from the PACE and NH SAS.

The presenters continue to discuss:

- Possible factors regarding low scores on the PACE and NH SAS could be contributed to the double amount of work teachers and students are doing with PACE and NH SAS. They stated all grade levels have to be prepared for NH SAS and PACE, so double the amount of preparation is a lot of work.

- It was recommended that Epping School District only give the NH-SAS. If choosing to discontinue utilizing the PACE assessment, Epping School District would drop to a Tier II district. Teachers would still have the ability to attend task development workshops provided by PACE.
- If PACE is eliminated it would allow the opportunity to prep students for just the NH SAS.
- Implementation plans have been placed to improve the schools, such as: Reading Fundations, MTSS, new reading teacher, literacy evaluation, and scheduling changes in elementary.
- High school students are exhibiting testing fatigue. It was recommended that at the high school level, students with 40% success rate and above not take the STAR after 10th grade. SAT prep is being looked into for the high school students.

The Board inquired regarding the replacement for the PACE (since it is best practice to have more than 1 data point), student's current progress, curriculum alignment and administering NH SAS in May for additional data collection.

The presenters reported they do not intend on replacing PACE. They stated teachers have developed skills in creating their own assessments to assist with data collection. STAR will also continue to be used to assess students' performance. The presenters agreed to bring forth data to the Board at the end of June, regarding student's progress.

Member Heather Clark made a motion to drop down to a Tier II school, next school year 2019-2020. Seconded by Member Nicole Carleton. Vote 5-0. Motion carries.

Following the motion there was a discussion regarding the merits of giving additional SAS testing in May for all students.

Chris Sousa informs the Board that the State gives windows for grades, so if the SAS were to be done in May, it would be done for grades sixth through eighth only. He states, "To rush this testing would not be recommended and could lead to data being invalid. This would also not allow preparation for teachers and student".

Although Krista agreed to do as the Board pleases, she agrees rushing testing in May is difficult for scheduling and would likely cause teacher frustration. Superintendent McKenney recommends testing not be done as well. The Board retracts their suggestion on administering the SAS in May.

c. Don Nichols: Facilities and CIP Update

Don Nichols and Bonnie Sandstrom discuss:

- The middle school is on track to pay off bond in August of 2025.
- Elementary roof was inspected 2016 and replacing the roof will happen in 2021 and Capital Reserve will be used for that purpose. The hope is at the end of this year, have roof re-inspected to make sure it is on track for replacement.
- SAU roof- right side of building has some slate missing and broken. Exterminator has come to remove rodents and would like to budget that in 2019-2020. With the Board's approval, they would like to get 2 more quotes and encumber funds in this school year (as long it stays within budget to do so this summer).

- The High School HVAC, lack of middle school heat in the gym, thermostats in each classroom not working, boilers (only six out of eight work), control box for heat does not work- was discussed. The Board requests the presenters reach out to engineers and obtain quotes on the cost to hiring an engineer to assist with the HVAC situation.

d. Ben Leavitt and Chris Sousa presenting on behalf of Culture and Climate Committee:

Member Ben Leavitt and resident Chris Sousa presented two local companies to the Board that could assist with the culture and climate survey. The companies are: Center for School Climate and Learning and Demonstrative Success. Each company offers packages to assist with the implementation of the survey, data collection, analyze data and school site visits. The cost of each package varies depending on the amount of services chosen.

The Board questions the confidentiality of the surveys, and requests verification that in no way can people be identified for their survey. It was also questioned if there were enough funds in the budget to create and distribute a survey in June. The Board requests each company present at the May 16, 2019 Board meeting, allowing 20 minutes for each company to present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Daniel Johnson 8th grade student- wants to discuss the point Superintendent McKenny made about STAR testing. During the STAR testing, Daniel recognizes the questions and answers. He and other students know which questions will bring you to hard questions. Therefore it doesn't seem as good at pinpointing where their reading ability is.

Chris Sousa- discusses the idea about data collection. Informs the Board there should be triangulation of data, three data points. NH SAS is a good data point but they should want 2 more data points so there is a trend analysis. He suggests the use of STAR, NWEA or benchmark. He discusses what is used at his school, which is: SAS, NWEA and curriculum based measure created by teachers (criteria to do it).

Also, when looking at HVAC systems he recommends the Board look at other schools in the area. Some state of the art schools including Dover, did not put air conditioning in, rather they put dehumidifiers in. Dehumidifiers cost less and can make a difference.

POLICY:

a. Policy BEDH Public Participation at Board Meetings/First Read

In light of the April 18th, 2019 meeting, it was brought to the attention of Chairperson Deborah Brooks, that there were no criteria of speaking at Board meetings for residents or non-residents.

Since there was nothing previously written about speaking at Board meetings, it was now written in a policy that, Epping community members will have first preference and the Chair can choose to not allow other members not to speak. If it is written in the policy, it allows the Chair the choice. The Board requests the policy states "non-residents" not other members.

PERSONNEL

None

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

a. Student Reports

Faith Williamson reports:

- The AP test for the juniors and seniors are next week, and the following week. Students are taking AP US history and literature, and AP statistics and calculus the following week.
- Yesterday the band took a trip to UNH WIN. They are preparing two pieces and received pointers from the UNH band. The UNH band played for the students as well.
- Color run is still open online and there will also be a booth at the event for registration. Registration opens at 9am and sign up is available that day as well. This is not a mandated run; people can run or walk at their own pace.
- Mental health awareness week is May 13-17th. Unified club and Leadership are suggesting students take five minutes out of every block to shut everything off and take a second. Students may do a Kuhut during lunch for mental health week.
- Prom is two weeks from tomorrow. Prom 6pm-10pm at blue ocean event center May 17, 2019. The grand march is at 4:30-5:30 and you will need your own transportation to get to prom from the grand march.

b. Superintendent's Reports

Superintendent McKenney reports:

- She visited the elementary school with the goal to see every teacher, but teachers were busy engaging with the students and busy with their jobs.
- At the middle school they were having a wheel chair basketball game.
- She reports, "A lot of wonderful things are happening in our schools that the community should be focused on."
- There is a link to iportal where scores are accessible.

Upcoming events:

- PTO May 6th.
- Next week teacher and staff appreciation week.
- Early release MAY 8th, 2019.
- Middle school astronomy night May 7th, 2019.
- Series of AP exams coming up.
- Friday and Saturday May 10th , 11th spring play at middle school gym.

The Board requests a notice with all the events likely to happen. Superintendent McKenney is thankful for the reminder and will distribute notice next Board meeting.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS & DISTRICT SERVICES:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. Public Minutes for April 18, 2019

Vice Chair Dave Mylott made a motion to accept public minutes for April 18, 2019. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. Vote 5-0. Motion carries.

- b. Nonpublic minutes for April 18, 23 and 28, 2019

Member Heather Clarks made a motion to accept April 18, 23, 28 nonpublic minutes, with correction of Ben's last name. Seconded by Vice Chair Dave. Vote 5-0. Motion carries.

MANIFEST:

- a. Payroll

Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve Payroll Manifest #22 (5/3/2019) the amount of \$322,477.24. Seconded by Vice Chair Dave Mylott . Vote 5-0. Motion carries.

- b. Accounts Payable

Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve Accounts Payable Manifest #22 (4/11/2019) in the amount of \$114,776.82. Seconded by Vice Chair Dave Mylott. Vote 5-0. Motion carries.

COMMENTS/OTHER:

Member Nicole Carleton- SAU fields- they can be used and everyone went down there fairly quickly and took care of it.

Vice Chair Dave Mylott- None.

Member Heather Clark:

- Wants to remind parents at all three schools that it is Teacher Appreciation week next week and the PTO is providing daily gifts and a luncheon at elementary school with daily gifts. For middle school strawberry shortcake buffet on Thursday and they want to include the High School. At the Middle School they are offering teacher shops, where teachers are asked what they need and donations are then requested and accepted. This information should be on the facebook page and parents can contact schools if they are donating. The donations are for specific items.
- Shout out to girl's softball team who is rolling over competition. Encouraged community to go out and see sports team.

Member Ben Leavitt- thanks everyone who has come out to work on Culture and Climate committee so far. Everyone's input has been very helpful. (Document has been emailed from culture committee as previously stated he would).

Chairperson Deborah- Although not on the agenda, Chairperson Brooks discussed the approval of members for CBE committee. Chairperson Brooks did not want to dismiss such an important task.

Superintendent McKenney advises the Board, that although there has been an attempt at communication with teachers, no teachers have reached out to be on the advisory committee. The Board chose to accept the twelve parents that have reached out to be on the CBE committee. It was recommended that those twelve parents be contacted immediately to inform them of their approval to join the committee. Member Heather Clark suggests having a meeting set for May 14, 2019 at 6pm. Having a set date may make it easier for teachers to commit.

It was suggested to have Krista the Curriculum Coordinator join the CBE committee. Superintendent McKenney volunteers to be on the CBE committee, but because of the large number of committee members, it is not needed.

NEXT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED:

- a. May 16, 2019

NONPUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3, II*

Under A personal and C adverse reputation

Vice Chair Dave made a motion to move to nonpublic under A personal and C adverse reputation. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. Vote 5-0. Motion Carries.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Dave Mylott made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. Vote 5-0. Motion carries. The public meeting adjourned at 10:20pm.

Minutes submitted by,

Erika Brazee
School Board Secretary