

MEETING MINUTES
EPPING SCHOOL BOARD
October 5, 2017 – Town Hall
7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson David Mylott called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance were: Member Deborah Brooks, Member David Mylott, Member Nicole Carleton, Member Heather Clark, Member Dan Haugh, Superintendent Valerie McKenney, Bonnie Sandstrom, Student Member Katie Pelletier, Student Member Rebecca Milbury

SCHEDULED GUESTS

a. EES & EHS Media Center Update/Thelma Thompson & Kerstin Rossel

Ms. Thompson introduced four students who volunteered their time over the summer to help create the new environment in the library. The students described the work they did at Epping Elementary School. They volunteered 14 days this summer. They created a 360 degree street view picture of before and after views of the library and shared it with the School Board. The students described the changes that were made which included a digital presentation, Makerspace with 3D printers, a café area with high top counters, and web board tables. This Media Center has been turned into a student friendly area and has been used a lot by students. Ms. Thompson described future plans of making an innovation center and they have upcoming events they want to invite the School Board to.

Member Heather Clark thanked them. She said she has seen the area and thought they did an amazing job. She asked how student use of the Media area has changed and what have they seen that is different. She asked the students what they are hearing from the other students.

The students said that because the library has been moved from the Middle School into the High School Library, it is exciting to see the younger kids get excited about reading and using the Makerspace. It is a more work efficient area. More students are interested in what is going on. Students are doing math work on the white tables.

Chairperson David Mylott thanked them for coming in and thanked them for the great work they did. He is impressed with the modern look.

Member Deborah Brooks said she tried the white board table and it works great.

Ms. Kerstin Rossel , Library Media Specialist at Epping Elementary School, did a presentation on the upgrades to the Media Center. She presented before and after pictures.

She said the library should be a vibrant, interactive, and fun place for students. She indicated that coming soon will be Makerspace which will provide opportunities for STEAM based activities.

Member Deborah Brooks was excited about the Ten Minute Tuesdays.

Member Heather Clark has been in the new library and was excited to see the kids and parents walking in there and seeing the excitement from them.

Member Dan Hough said the transformation is great, inviting, and his kids love going to the library.

b. EHS Goals 2017-2018/Principal Brian Ernest /EHS

Mr. Ernst provided a presentation on the school goals for this year. He explained there is a lot of relationship building this year.

He reviewed EHS goals for this year and what they are currently doing to meet those goals. The first goal is to provide supports and leadership opportunities to improve the overall mental and physical well-being of students and staff. The second goal is to revise and refine current units of instruction to reflect national, DOE, and SAU 14 District Competencies. The third goal is to implement one Quality Performance Assessment per quarter as well as develop one new QPA by June 1, 2018. Mr. Ernest explained the fourth goal is to improve knowledge and skills in the area of MTSS in order to provide more systemic, specific supports for students. The fifth goal is to increase knowledge and skills in the area of technology integration.

Mr. Ernest described the next steps which include strengthening MTSS Supports for students, competency implementation, increase assessment literacy, development of common rubrics, new grading and reporting system, and an emphasis on mental and physical wellness.

Member Dan Haugh said he hasn't been up to the high school but is looking forward to getting in there.

Member Heather Clark referred to the six different district development teams working on the different initiatives. She asked how many staff members they have on those teams.

Superintendent McKenney explained last year we had 19. They are called the Competency Implementation Team and there are teams within the larger group. She explained they train behind the scenes. They now have 20 to 24 teacher-leaders.

Member Heather Clark referred to the goal of developing one QPA (Quality Performance Assessment) per quarter and asked how many currently exist. Mr. Ernest said everybody has at least three now and will have one more new one this year.

Mr. Ernest described the Quality Performance Assessments.

Superintendent McKenney explained we are trying to have students be able to think deeply and apply what they know. This is what employers say they want students to be prepared for in the work environment. She stated we are doing the right work for sure.

POLICY

a. Policy BAAA-School Board Policies and Administrative Procedures/First Read

Member Deborah Brooks explained she was wrong when she had said she didn't want to spend \$1,200 of taxpayer money on the NHSBA reviewing our policies, but now believes the expenditure of \$1,200 to have the NHSBA go through our policies will save us money in the long run because we won't be vulnerable to lawsuits, etc. when our policies are correct at the State level. There is only one recommended change to this policy. This policy will move to a Second and Third read.

b. Policy GBAA – Sexual Harassment & Sexual Violence/First Read

Member Deborah Brooks gave huge kudos to the Superintendent. The State sent us four pages of things we needed to add to Policy GBAA. Superintendent McKenney crosswalked theirs to ours. She did a fantastic job making sure we have everything. All recommendations from the State are in red. This policy will move to a Second and Third read.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

a. Superintendent Report

Superintendent McKenney said there is a nice feel in the whole district.

The Infosnap Survey was reviewed. She said there was a good response. The first question was regarding switching start and end times at each school. She indicated we had 84% total parent response. There were 427 who said "yes" and 417 said "no".

Becky informed them the students were also surveyed and the majority of students don't want to change school times.

Member Heather Clark said this isn't something our community is interested in at this point. Maybe we can see what happens in a few years.

Member Nicole Carleton wasn't in favor of it and thought maybe we can see where we are in a few years.

Member Deborah Brooks was shocked about the Labor Day results, but pleased so many parents responded.

Member Nicole Carleton stated the Governor recently proposed the start and end times for schools to not be an option for school districts.

Member Dan Haugh explained the Labor Day question should be up to the community. He suggests we stay where we are. The start and end times need to be a State shift and everyone needs to be on board. He believes tabling it makes more sense.

Chairperson David Mylott talked about the individual school results. He doesn't see anything compelling here to change anything and we are best off continuing the way we are.

Superintendent McKenney will make this information available on our website.

Superintendent McKenney said we are developing a lot of leaders in our District and she provided a list of 15 teacher leaders to develop a cohort for leadership at SNHU.

Superintendent McKenney announced the last Professional Development Day was September 29, 2017 and announced upcoming events. Superintendent McKenney gave a Powerschool update.

c. School Board Committee Assignments

Chairperson David Mylott reviewed committee assignments and the vacancies due to a school board member leaving. Chairperson David Mylott will be the Selectmen's representative. Chairperson David Mylott explained being on the Manifest Committee is challenging to him because of the time commitment. Since there were no other board members who could be on this Committee, Chairperson David Mylott will continue and will let Member Heather Clark know if, every now and then, he runs into an issue. Member Dan Haugh will be on the Fields Committee. Member Nicole Carleton will not be on the Policy Committee.

Roof Committee

Superintendent McKenney informed the Board that some members of the community are interested in being on the Roof Committee. Ben Leavitt and Robyn O'Day came before the Board to express their interest. They also mentioned that Michael Turner and possibly Roger Southers might also be interested.

Superintendent McKenney explained a small group will meet to make a plan next Thursday. She expects maybe four meetings will be needed and they will get back to the School Board in January or sooner. The Committee will need a representative from the School Board and someone from Administration. Member Dan Haugh volunteered to represent the School Board. The meetings will be open to the public.

Member Heather Clark suggested maybe hearing a short term plan quicker and a long term plan during the winter. She said having the Committee come back with both plans in January would be really quick. Chairperson David Mylott agrees.

Superintendent McKenney said we have a pretty clear plan for the long term. The short term plan may be a little more complicated but she has a strategy for figuring that out.

d. Student Report

Katie and Becky said Homecoming was last week and the Pep Rally was successful. They had the bonfire and both Epping games were won by Epping. Soccer and Cross Country had a meet. Student activities are going on. Katie said the play is planned for early November and will let the Board know the exact date. She provided an update on Clubs. They are working on bringing in a guest speaker to the school.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS/FACILITIES/TECHNOLOGY

a. Affiliated Agreement – All Sports Booster Club 2017-2018

Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve the Affiliated Agreement. Seconded by Member Nicole Carleton. VOTE: 5-0 Motion Passes

b. Tuition Rates

Bonnie Sandstrom provided the School Board with the tuition rates for 2017-2018. She explained why the tuition rate increased over last year and explained how the tuition rates are determined. She stated we had more out-of-district special education in the high school. The

correct tuition rate for the high school is \$18,002.86. Chairperson David Mylott thanked her for the research.

c. Year-End 2016-2017

Bonnie Sandstrom explained we have \$551,401 left over from last year. \$150,000 of that would go into trust funds and she would like to keep \$200,000 in the fund balance but wants to make sure it doesn't affect the tax rate and will work with the Town to make sure that doesn't happen. She said we need to do that soon. She explained this is needed because we cut a lot out of the 2017/18 budget. We kept \$200,000 last year. She will talk to the Town and get back to the School Board.

PERSONNEL

a. Resignation

Superintendent McKenney explained Erin Milbury has accepted a position as the Principal of Seabrook Middle School and will be leaving Epping Middle School after ten years of service.

Member Deborah Brooks made a motion to accept the resignation of Erin Milbury with regret and congratulations on her new opportunity. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 5-0 Motion Passes

Superintendent McKenney said they posted this position and as of today, they have seven applicants for the Assistant Principal position.

b. Retirement

Superintendent McKenney explained Carole Bilodeau has submitted her retirement at the end of the 2017/2018 school year. She has been an Epping elementary school teacher for the past 24 years.

Member Heather Clark made a motion to accept the retirement of Carole Bilodeau with extreme regret. Seconded by Member Deborah Brooks. VOTE: 5-0 Motion Passes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Public Minutes for September 7, 2017

b. Non-Public Minutes for September 7, 2017

Chairperson David Mylott explained there was some concern about a quorum at the last meeting taking a vote on these minutes. He requested a re vote on them.

Member Deborah Brooks made a motion to approve the public and non-public minutes for September 7, 2017. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 4-0-1 (Haugh abstained) Motion Passes

c. Public Minutes for September 21, 2017

Member Dan Haugh made a motion to accept the minutes of September 21, 2017 as written. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 3-0-2 (Carleton, Brooks abstained) Motion Passes

MANIFEST

a. Payroll

Member Heather Clark made a motion to approve Payroll Manifest #7 in the amount of \$348,227.90. Seconded by Member Deborah Brooks. VOTE: 5-0 Motion Passes

b. Accounts Payable

Member Deborah Brooks made a motion to approve Accounts Payable Manifest #7 in the amount of \$578,368.02. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. VOTE: 5-0 Motion Passes

COMMENTS/OTHER

a. School Board

Member Deborah Brooks asked about a letter from a parent with concerns and asked if it has been dealt with. Superintendent McKenney said it has. Member Deborah Brooks stated she is very impressed with the community of Epping with the Scarecrow Contest. She gave kudos to the library for this idea. This is a fundraiser for the Friends of the Library.

Member Heather Clark attended the Homecoming football game and they were collecting food for the local food bank. Our seventh graders are going to Nature's Classroom next week. EES had their Move-a-Thon today.

b. Administration

Superintendent McKenney reminded the School Board they have a shared School Board folder on Google Docs. She suggested the Board check the Important Information folder even after the Monday deadline as some things might still be added.

Bonnie Sandstrom said a folder with all the budget information will be in its own folder.

NEXT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED

a. October 19, 2017 – Regular Meeting

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3,II

Chairperson David Mylott made a motion to go into non-public session according to RSA 91-A:3,II (a,b,c,d,e,g,i) and to adjourn immediately thereafter. Seconded by Member Heather Clark. Roll Call: Brooks-yes, Carleton-yes, Haugh-yes, Clark-yes, Mylott-yes Motion Passes

The School Board went into non-public session at 8:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by,

Linda Mahoney

EPPING SCHOOL BOARD NONPUBLIC MINUTES
October 5, 2017

The board discussed issues related to RSA 91-A:3, II. a,b,c,,e,g,i.

Present for this meeting were School Board members Deborah Brooks, Dave Mylott, Heather Clark and Nicole Carleton Dan Haugh. Also in attendance was Superintendent Valerie McKenney. The meeting was called to order at 8:36 PM.

Member Heather Clark made a motion to enter nonpublic session, seconded by Member Deborah Brooks.

There was a discussion related to a recent parent complaint via Email.

Member Brooks made a motion to exit nonpublic at 9:17 PM. Member Clark seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Members exited nonpublic. 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie McKenney
Superintendent