

Board Member Attendees: Tim Dow – Chairperson, Deborah Brown, Maureen Aube, Cecile Cormier, Delaney Carrier - Vice Chairperson, Christine Martin, Paul Doucette

Absent Board Members: Susan Hallett-Cook and Glen Carter

Administration: Daniel LeGallo – Superintendent; Jefferson Braman – Business Administrator; Jule Finley – Curriculum Director;

Others: Will Phillips (NHSBA Attorney/Policy); Barrett Christina (NHSBA Executive Director); Cathy Viau (School Board Clerk).

Call to order by the Chairperson- 6:01 pm

Salute to the Flag

Introductions were held to have a better understanding of who is who and their role.

During this training session the following topics were discussed:

1. Roles and Responsibilities for the New Hampshire School Boards - the role of a Board member is not to run the schools, but to see that they are run well. A fundamental rule is that individual Board members have no authority beyond that exercised in a Board meeting/non-meeting conforming to the requirements of RSA 91-A, the New Hampshire Right to Know Law.
2. Key Roles and Responsibilities of School Boards - State Statutes, NHDOE Rules RSA 189:1-a, I
 - a. Set and Establish School Board Policy
 - b. Legal Requirements Pertaining to School Board Policy NHDOE Rule Ed 303; 306.04(a); 303.01
 - c. Various NH Statutes/RSAs
 - d. Establish the School District's Budget and Provide Budget Oversight - RSA 32.5, 32.8, 32.10, 197.23-a, 40.13-IX(b), NHDOE Rule Ed 303.01(e), NH Department of Revenue Administration Rule Rev 1100
 - e. Hire a Superintendent (RSA 194-C)
 - f. Evaluate the Superintendent - Ed 303, contract, local policy
 - g. Conduct Hearings and serve as an Adjudicative Body (Various statutes/rules)
 - h. Collective Bargaining (RSA 273-A)
 - i. Communicate with the public - keep the public informed of Board Actions
 - j. Strategic Planning - Long and Short-Term Goals, Plans and Objectives
 - k. The Learning Curve for New School Board Members

3. The Superintendent's Role

- a. Implement School Board Policy NHDOE 302.02
- b. Nominate Professional Staff (RSA 189:39; 189:14-a; NHDOE Rule 302)
- c. Provide Superintendent Services - RSA 194-C:4

A variety of NHSBA selected governance policies were provided to the Board in their packet.

Discussion was held regarding Board Success Through Good Policy as follows:

- Guidelines
- Evaluate
- Access
- Update
- Avoid Litigation
- What about Regulations?
- Conclusion

The 7 Habits of a Highly Effective Board Member by Susan Rountree Salter, Director of Leadership Development was discussed.

Other information provided included a packet on the Eight Characteristics of Effective School Boards; About CPE, IASB Standards for Effective School Boards, and Choosing Good School Governance.

Other Pointers:

The similarities between a school Board's policy requirements (budget, staff, curriculum, etc.) and the superintendent's duties. There is a clear link between school Board policies and the day to day obligations of the superintendent.

The Board Adopts the policies and the superintendent implements those policies. The Board holds the superintendent responsible via the superintendent's evaluation.

Questions from parents/public as to the implementation of a policy should be directed to the administration. Questions about the contents or language of a policy are within the Board's purview.

Discussion was held about the need to hire a Special Education Teacher at FMS.

MOTION: Deborah Brown moved to allow the Superintendent to move forward with the hiring of a Special Education Teacher at FMS as requested, seconded by Cecile Cormier.

Motion Carried - Unanimous By Roll Call Vote

There have been no applicants for the third grade teaching position at this time.

An update was given about vaccinations.

Adjournment

MOTION: Deborah Brown moved to adjourn at 8:12 pm, seconded by Paul Doucette.

Motion Carried - Unanimous by Roll Call Vote