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RNESU school board approves educational trailer for Leicester school

BY KATHERINE LAZARUS

BRANDON — At a contin-
 ued board retreat and a concur-
 rent board meeting on Aug. 25,
 the RNEU school board spent
 hours discussing academic ideals
 and goals for the year, as well as
 taking care of the school's rou-
 tine business. One major item de-
 cided by the board was to use up
 to \$425,000 of a COVID-related
 education stabilization fund to
 purchase a modular education
 trailer at Otter Creek Academy
 in Leicester because the school is
 full and out of according to Supt.
 Jeanné Collins.

The board also learned that 57
 new employees have been hired by
 the school district this year, which
 is more than usual to compensate
 for helping some students who
 might have fallen behind in cer-
 tain coursework, while a few oth-
 ers are leaving. Those employees
 who are leaving included: Otter
 Valley Union High School Special
 Education Teacher Erika Eckrote;
 Lothrop Elementary Academic In-
 terventionist Rebecca Elrick; and

Neshobe Elementary Special Ser-
 vices Teacher Amanda Stockwell.

Among the newly hired are
 Neshobe Elementary Preschool
 Teacher Michelle Daignault;
 Speech and Language Pathology
 Assistant Amy Duplissis; OVUHS
 Special Services Teacher Pat Fal-
 lon; Technology Integration
 Coach Susan Hennessey; Whit-
 ing Preschool Teacher Samantha
 Masterson; Neshobe Elementary
 Assistant Principal Dan Raabe;
 and Lothrop Elementary Acad-
 emic Interventionist Jody Sanderson.

During the board retreat, which
 went 5-6 p.m., the board conclud-
 ed that there would be an equity
 audit done during the school year.
 Also during the retreat, parents
 presented their sides about the
 pros and cons of having children
 wear masks in school, but ulti-
 mately, the board chose to adhere
 to state guidelines that require
 masks to be worn at school for the
 first 10 days at the very least and
 adjust according to the severity of
 local COVID-19 cases.

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