

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
WINCHESTER SCHOOL LIBRARY
MAY 17, 2012**

Board Members Present: K. Whippie, W. Hildreth, T. Croteau, R. Horton, E. Jackson

Administration Present: K. Dassau, P. Bigelow, C. Paulin, J. Lewis, D. Chamberlain,

The meeting was called to order by Chair, T. Croteau at 6:30 pm.

MINUTES:

W. Hildreth MOVED to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2012 Board Meeting; SECONDED by: K. Whippie, VOTED: 2-0-2 (E. Jackson, K. Whippie-abstained) (R. Horton arrived after the Vote) MOTION PASSED.

E. Jackson MOVED to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2012 Board Meeting; SECONDED by: K. Whippie, VOTED: 3-0-2 (K. Whippie, W. Hildreth – abstained), MOTION PASSED.

K. Whippie MOVED to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2012 Board Meeting; SECONDED by: W. Hildreth, VOTED: 4-0-1 (E. Jackson – abstained), MOTION PASSED.

K. Whippie MOVED to approve the public minutes of the May 8, 2012 Board Meeting; SECONDED by: W. Hildreth, VOTED: 4-0-1 (T. Croteau - abstained), MOTION PASSED.

Amy Hill and Valerie Wilbur gave a presentation on the Common Core Standards; what it is and what it means to students and the school. Forty eight states have adopted it. There would be a guaranteed curriculum. Every state and every grade would have the same standards. A common assessment would give NH a voice. They explained that testing will take place in the Spring instead of October. They reviewed the future time line and answered questions of the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

W. Hildreth MOVED to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$153,393.96; SECONDED by: R. Horton, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

The Board received J. Lewis' report.

*Students took part in a kickball game of Math Facts; need to address weaknesses to get kids better in Math.

*Staffing proposal – need to get kids ready for Kindergarten and future years. Have moved teachers around; feel it is the prudent thing. There will be 27

students per classroom in 4th grade. E. Jackson and K. Dassau are concerned with that number of students given the high sped numbers.

E. Jackson and R. Horton feel they need to have the teachers concentrate on the eighth grade to help the students before going to Keene High School to ensure their success. There was much discussion and the Board asked questions.

J. Lewis advised that all the information states the importance of working with students at a young age.

The Board asked about the retention policy.

*J. Lewis explained and there was much discussion.

*Received the report from Keene. Kids are doing better, but not well enough. They are still behind. The Board received information in their packets. J. Lewis reviewed it and answered questions.

*This year's Senior Class President is from Winchester.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: The Board received K. Dassau's report and addendum.

K. Dassau read the resignation of David Aguirre as ESOL teacher (English as a Second Language).

K. Whippie MOVED to accept the resignation of David Aguirre; SECONDED by: R. Horton, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED. The position will be posted.

*The Board needs to sign the form approving Hubert Crowell as Deputy-Treasurer.

*Negotiation with support staff will be this year. K. Dassau distributed information for Board review. There is a workshop being put on by Drummond and Woodsum.

*Received a request from the Budget Committee Chair. K. Dassau read it to the group. He advised other than item A, this school has none of the additional information.

*T,. Croteau asked if the Board could request information from Keene via a letter. K. Dassau advised yes, if they have the information; but if not, they are not required to get it. K. Dassau will write a letter to Mr. Gurney with a copy to Mr. Harper and ask for information within the next few weeks.

*K. Dassau will review staff positions; other than the SAU positions, in non-public session tonight.

The Board received job descriptions in their packet; K. Dassau reviewed them and the Board asked questions.

*C. Paulin advised his current contract is for 157 days

K. Dassau advised they will make changes and reprint the contracts for the Chair's signature.

BOARD COMMITTEE/REP. REPORT:

*K. Whippie advised the Scholarship Committee needs to meet before May 31st. There will not be a meeting so the Board can be there.

T. Croteau and W. Hildreth met to go over the Capital Reserve fund. They advised that the Capital Reserve Building Improvement policy is basically the facilities policy that we have now, with elimination of one paragraph. The intent is to address safety issues, heating issues, remodeling, etc.

K. Whippie suggested putting \$10,000 in as a base line into the policy.

C. Paulin reviewed with the Board, the Expenditure Statement request for budget line transfers and information on the actual total budget.

K. Whippie feels the Board should allow C. Paulin to move line items among categories and then he would let the Board know at the next meeting where variations are in the budget.

K. Whippie MOVED that the Business Manager control the budget of the Board to the level of function and report to the Board any transfers among those levels; SECONDED by: R. Horton, E. Jackson asked that the Board receive a copy of expenditures for the previous month at the first meeting of each month, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Sue Rice asked about the April 19th minutes of the non-public session. She advised there was discussion regarding use of the Ford Building for Board meetings. She asked for clarification of the adjournment of the Public Session.

K. Whippie explained the process.

K. Dassau advised they always need to return from non-public session.

P. Bigelow explained at this point there are 30 families signed up for Ready-for-Kindergarten workshops.

The last day of school is June 19th. There will be a luncheon on Tuesday at about 12:30 for staff. P. Bigelow and J. Lewis hope the Board can attend

Don Chamberlain advised they are one more custodian short; one quit this week. He feels they should probably hire a part-time person for now.

T. Croteau brought up the possibility of using help from the Work Release program. There was discussion by the Board.

D. Chamberlain advised he will post a part-time position tomorrow. He doesn't feel they should hire someone full-time and then reduce the position.

E. Jackson asked if there are services that he could contract to help.

D. Chamberlain advised everyone is working hard, but they can't do it all. Teachers have already complained that their classrooms have been missed. He wants the Board to be ready for complaints.

T. Croteau MOVED to go into non-public session at 8:45 pm. under RSA91-A:3II (b); SECONDED by: K. Whippie, E. Jackson – yes, T. Croteau – yes, W. Hildreth – yes, K. Whippie – yes, R. Horton – yes, MOTION PASSED.

K. Whippie MOVED to leave non-public session at 8:52 pm; SECONDED by: W. Hildreth, E. Jackson – yes, T. Croteau – yes, W. Hildreth – yes, K. Whippie – yes, R. Horton – yes, MOTION PASSED.

In non-public session non SAU contracts were reviewed and approved.

K. Whippie asked if the process is underway for bonding the Deputy Treasurer.

C. Paulin advised there is a blanket bond for \$500,000.

He had asked if the Treasurer needs to be bonded. LGC said they didn't think so.

K. Whippie wanted to be sure that the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer would be covered. C. Paulin advised that was confirmed.

K. Whippie MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm; SECONDED by: E. Jackson, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins
School Board Secretary