

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD  
WINCHESTER SCHOOL LIBRARY  
APRIL 7, 2016**

Board Members Present: K. Bazan, T. Croteau, R. Horton, L. Picard, S. Thompson arrived at 6:52pm.

Administration Present: J. Lewis, E. Jackson, B. Stevenson

The meeting was called to order by Chair, R. Horton at 6:32pm.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

R. Horton reminded the group that Citizens' Comments were for comments, not debate.

Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas asked about the plan for increasing class size from three rooms to two; will other grades be combined into less classes? Advised with reading instruction, the larger the class the less instruction the students get. To the Winchester Teachers Association, smaller class size is a priority; more students, less individual student time.

Hannah Gagnon asked if there would be more students in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade next year.

R. Horton advised they will be hearing from Administration later.

R. Horton advised they need to limit public comments during the School Board Session.

Amy Hill feels the agenda needs to be super specific because if people don't know ahead of time what is on it, they might not come.

R. Horton advised they are not here for debate.

**MINUTES:**

The Board tabled approval of the minutes of 3/15/16 until the next meeting.

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

J. Lewis introduced Dennis Calcutt, Project Manager for the Monadnock Region System of Care Planning Grant who gave a presentation to the Board.

Dennis Calcutt explained the focus is on the care of kids with emotional issues. How can we improve that care? One-in-five children and one-in-four adults have a mental health diagnosis.

Advised there are three different pieces to be put in this plan:

\*Family and Youth Driven

\*How do we make it community based?

\*How to make it culturally and logistically sound.

Most specific to Winchester is they are looking to put in place an intensive wrap-around program. If they receive the Grant, the program will be studied through Antioch. They are looking to work with the Winchester School District and the Conval School District. Winchester is a very small, single school district and Conval is a larger, multi-school district. They need the Boards' approval to include Winchester.

They want to study and see what works in both places and what is needed. They would hire through the grant, a wrap-around Coordinator to be assigned to Winchester and Conval. They are looking to hire up to five Coordinators to have the option to bring it to all schools and communities.

R. Horton is glad to hear this is a program they are working on. Many times as a parent, he has asked where is the support/guidance for parents.

Dennis Calcutt advised they will be adding in pieces that will help with that; how to provide 24 hour emergency services. Can we improve upon awareness?

Dennis Calcutt explained the wrap-around approach is really to have the Coordinator work specifically with the family. If they receive the Grant, they have four years to put the pieces in place. Explained there is no financial commitment to the School Board; it is a grant-funded position. The State has been working on funding structures with Medicaid. In four years, that should be in place.

R. Horton asked if there are specific grades that would be included. Also, would they look at our tuitioned students?

Dennis Calcutt explained fortunately they are partnering with Impact Monadnock for the younger children up to age five. This program would provide training, but would really focus on ages five through twenty-one.

R. Horton asked if it is a four to five year commitment, what is the penalty if we decide not to do it?

Dennis Calcutt explained there is that aspect; people with mental health/behavioral issues wonder will it work? The model the State is working on is based on a model that Maryland has in place. Funding services beyond the Grant is coming from Medicaid. Thinks what they all contend with, is can it work? We will find out if we will have the opportunity in September to start in February. He feels confident with what the state has done and how we align at the state level.

R. Horton – What do you need from us?

Dennis Calcutt advised a Letter of Commitment; could back-out at some point, but it shows we have someone interested in working with us. Advised J. Lewis has given in-kind hours to the program.

L. Picard asked what are some of the negative impacts we might see?

Dennis Calcutt explained potentially there would be a level of who qualifies; others have said they don't want it just for higher risk youth, but that is what the Grant is for. Peer support could impact a broader population of the school.

K. Bazan asked who would qualify the students.

Dennis Calcutt advised the Committee and the State Management team. The student number will be a hard thing to figure out. They will have probably 12-15 cases per each of the five coordinators.

K. Bazan is most concerned about the child almost there, but not there.

Dennis Calcutt – That is the challenge. The wrap-around program has been done in other areas. It started in Milwaukee. NH trainers have been trained off of that and will train our coordinators.

T. Croteau – Will time spent take away from school time?

Dennis Calcutt explained it is a family process; they choose where they are the most comfortable, their interest and focus. It would be a whole orientation process. MFS or a therapist might have a child who would benefit from it. Need to make sure everyone knows it is available.

After discussion, R. Horton advised the Board designates the Superintendent to pursue this.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

L. Picard had asked the Board to consider what they want on Facebook and what they are concerned about being on Facebook.

K. Bazan advised ultimately he wants to see the agenda and minutes linked to the web page.

J. Lewis – They will be working on the website soon.

T. Croteau wants to see activities that are going on at night; feels they should be on there.

L. Picard thinks there should be a quick blurb with a link to the website; ideally feels it is the Board's Facebook page.

K. Bazan feels it should mirror the School's Facebook page. It should not be a place for discussion/comments.

L. Picard advised that page won't be open to discussion/comments.

R Horton – Can it be coordinated with the School's Facebook page?

L. Picard advised yes; maybe a quick Friday afternoon conversation with the people that handle the School's Facebook page.

After discussion, J. Lewis reiterated the need to make sure the Facebook page is not used for comments/discussion.

L. Picard – No; informational only. Could take comments, but they would only be seen by the Administrator of the page.

L. Picard advised in the next week or so she will get a little more active with it. There are currently 163 likes.

The Board received a copy of the old and new Superintendent Job Description.

J. Lewis reviewed and advised changes that were made. Explained there is a lot here that needs to be done. Under his present position, he has been working eighty hours; would prefer it to be 40-45 hours per week. The State wants Winchester to have a Special Ed Director. It would be a combination of two positions, Superintendent and Director of Student Services. J. Lewis explained he has not worked on the homeless issue and the Superintendent should be, per the State Board of Education.

Explained it would be exactly as it was set up with his predecessor. The first year it was a full-time Superintendent position and they had a part-time Special Ed Director. The position would be called Superintendent or Superintendent/Director of Student Services.

R. Horton – At some point it was in-house and there was an overlap; that’s why we moved it to a part-time Out-of-District Special Ed Coordinator.

J. Lewis – That person works very hard; he doesn’t think there would be an overlap.

K. Bazan – How long has there not been a Special Ed Coordinator?

J. Lewis advised three to four years.

K. Bazan – Is there a penalty for not having a Special Ed Coordinator?

J. Lewis advised the DOE is not happy about it. They work with us if we work with them.

R. Horton – We haven’t neglected the need?

J. Lewis – Absolutely not, but could spend more time on it.

L. Picard – Can the school run without a Superintendent?

J. Lewis – No, it is required.

R. Horton – Could we contract it?

J. Lewis – Yes.

S. Thompson asked how much time the Superintendent would spend inside the school.

J. Lewis would say 70/30. There is a lot that position needs to do inside the school.

J. Lewis explained he visited other schools a few years ago who were doing well, to see what they were doing. No one school has all the answers. Feels there are certain things available right on our doorstep and we don’t know it. Advised the Science Lab would not be as good as it is if we didn’t visit other schools.

L. Picard – Who initiates that?

J. Lewis – The Superintendent brings back information to the staff and Board.

R. Horton – As we have heard a presentation on a new program, it would initially have a small impact on the budget. Would there be time to look at additional revenues?

J. Lewis – Yes, grants are there. Advised he doesn’t have time to do it.

R. Horton – By visiting other schools, he imagines we would see programs they are doing.

J. Lewis advised they saw the 3D printer in action; didn’t know what it could do.

R Horton – Can you schedule a tour of the Science Lab for a future meeting?

L. Picard – After school vacation.

J. Lewis – Advised it won’t be the next meeting.

S. Thompson – Asked about the Director of Superintendent Services. If J. Lewis is already doing it, is it more a technicality to add it to the Superintendent Job Description?

J. Lewis advised ultimately the Superintendent is responsible.

K. Bazan advised seeking new sources of revenue is definitely most important. He wants to see that clear in the job description; “Seeks new sources of revenue for the District”.

L. Picard asked if J. Lewis is a grant writer.

J. Lewis – No, it is something he would have to oversee. There is someone training to be a grant writer. Feels they need to look at cleverness, something such as a solar farm. He thinks things need to be explored. He can’t get to them now.

T. Croteau feels evaluations should be done by the Principal.

J. Lewis advised revenue-seeking is important. Don’t know when the State will say they are taking \$600,000 from our budget.

L. Picard doesn’t think this is the right job description. The Board has already found some changes that are needed and J. Lewis wouldn’t be the grant writer.

J. Lewis advised he can write grants, but there is no time.

L. Picard advised it would be considered old business for the next meeting.

J. Lewis will send an updated job description to the Board ahead of time.

R. Horton would like to see what other schools have for responsibilities in their Superintendent Job Description.

J. Lewis – No problem; he meets with other Superintendents every third week of-the-month.

#### **Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator:**

J. Lewis advised the question has been can we do this? Can we put two positions together? We are not just merging two positions; there are a couple of things missing and a couple of overlaps.

B. Stevenson asked why the new position would report to the Superintendent and not the Principal as the immediate Supervisor.

The Board advised that position should report to the Principal.

B. Stevenson - The Curriculum Coordinator has 45 duties. If they were reporting to the Superintendent previously, would need a different level of supervision.

T. Croteau – One of the issues is a flow chart of who reports to whom. If the position is approved, the flow chart needs to be updated.

L. Picard - Everything the Curriculum Coordinator did plus some Assistant Principal's duties are being added?

B. Stevenson – Why would the Assistant Principal need to oversee the Paras when there are three Special Ed professionals.

Jen Heise asked everyone at the table to stop saying Sped; it is Special Ed.

J. Lewis advised they were not being disrespectful.

J. Heise advised it was not a responsibility of hers to oversee the Paras because she can't sign time cards.

V. Carey advised there are additional items of responsibility for the Curriculum Coordinator.

L. Picard – There is no change to the Principal Job description; correct?

J. Lewis doesn't believe so.

T. Croteau asked J. Lewis to bring the Principal Job description to the next meeting.

L. Picard asked what is the downside of combining positions? What will fall between the cracks?

J. Lewis advised the downside is the staff all work hard. Fatigue is an issue at times. He and others go home exhausted. Advised he has driven home tired; but it is his choice.

R. Horton asked, what are the positives?

B. Stevenson advised a lot of similar student-population schools have similar positions to keep abreast of research and implementing as part of staff meetings, as part of responsibility of student improvement. One person working with student improvement is good instead of too many cooks in the kitchen. Accountability is huge.

B. Stevenson feels the downside is we can't see how we will do without an Assistant Principal; 90% of what she does is discipline. She is curious how it will balance.

L. Picard – There was previously a Discipline Coordinator; for how many years?

R. Horton thinks it was two; it was previously a Secretary position.

B. Stevenson advised they are trying to eliminate the need. There is a committee and a great staff working on it; need to make sure it is implemented.

L. Picard is concerned it would be difficult combining positions.

B. Stevenson is concerned with the expectation and requirements time-wise. Advised other similar districts combine those positions. They are looking for an alternative to ISS. We have an excellent staff that supports our kids.

B. Stevenson – Hopefully for whoever assumes that position it wouldn't be so time consuming. Feels it could be because it is for her now.

L. Picard – Would like to see other job descriptions. She is concerned with the number of things on that list. Things wouldn't get done.

R. Horton advised when they previously discussed the Common Core addition to the Curriculum Coordinator, J. Lewis had said at some point it could go back to part-time.

S. Thompson asked about grant funding.

J. Lewis thinks it would be 25%, but he's not sure.

Mel Harrison advised this year was 50%.

R. Horton asked if the number would decrease if the position reduced.

M. Harrison advised she can put in as much money as she put in last year, but it couldn't be more.

E. Jackson – Percentagewise it doesn't matter, the money matters?

Mel Harrison – Yes.

S. Thompson – Are all these new positions being posted?

J. Lewis advised the Principal position has been posted and the Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator is going to be. There has been discussion regarding the Superintendent position so it hasn't been posted.

There was discussion by the Board.

J. Lewis advised he wanted to make a proposal to discuss the grade structure for staff. Distributed a handout and reviewed positions being proposed for next year.

L. Picard asked if J. Lewis was confirming one staff position which was not in the proposal for next year.

J. Lewis - Yes; also one Case Worker reduction.

R. Horton asked about services required and the number of teachers needed in First Grade.

J. Lewis advised he observed a teacher doing an outstanding job keeping kids focused. There was a need for two Paras; outstanding use of Paras.

A staff member advised if they cut that position, are doing taxpayers a disservice. Feels they can cut somewhere else.

K. Bazan – Asked about First Grade class size. He would like to see a smaller class size in the younger grades. When we looked at it before, we were looking at the Fourth Grade, not First. Feels 21 kids are too many in First Grade. He would be in favor of putting back the third First Grade class.

R. Horton – What other support could be put in a class of 20 or 21?

J. Lewis advised the best they could do is a dedicated Para; it's not the same. We have outstanding Paras, but a teacher is the dedicated figure.

R. Horton – This isn't going to go away. He doesn't see more funding next year.

J. Lewis – Not unless the Superintendent can find revenues.

K. Bazan – The Board has focused in on younger grades. Want to get kids early. He doesn't like to see an increase in class size in the younger grades. Feels it is a reality; could drop another 30 kids.

J. Lewis – Doesn't like to see a reduction in classes in any grade.

L. Picard thinks they could look back at the budget and find money from somewhere else or shift the budget. The cost is \$75,000.

K. Bazan advised they should look back at the budget to put the First Grade Teacher back.

E. Jackson advised the First Grade Teacher is \$75,000 plus \$75,000 for a position that J. Lewis didn't cut.

T. Croteau advised the budget has been set.

E. Jackson asked if the salary was staying the same for the Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator.

R. Horton advised it would be a savings.

E. Jackson – No, have allocated those funds. The Board decided to move monies to the Superintendent position and also have a Principal with benefits.

R. Horton – At that time we didn't know what the count would be.

E. Jackson – It stayed the same; there are no additional funds we can allocate.

R. Horton advised at the time they didn't know how much they would receive in funds from the grant.

L. Picard asked if anyone had feedback or ideas as to where they would come up with the \$150,000.

J. Lewis advised they have some ideas; could come back to the Board.

The Board discussed possible lines in the budget to use instead of the third First Grade Teacher.

After discussion, T. Croteau advised they always want to have Foreign Language, but he thinks they should eliminate it.

E. Jackson distributed the budget to the Board as they proposed and the year-to-date for this year.

L. Picard – Even if we keep the Superintendent part-time, reduce the line by \$20,000, shift the focus because it does include Maintenance and take out the Foreign Language Teacher, we are still at \$106,000. L. Picard asked J. Lewis to look at the finer points.

E. Jackson – We would be at \$77,000 with cuts.

R. Horton asked about a Health Teacher. Health, Wellness, Mental Health, may need outside services and could keep it here.

J. Lewis – It may help in keeping students from being out-placed.

E. Jackson advised the Board had voted on \$200,000 to offset taxation.

R. Horton – Anticipating a \$400,000 fund balance?

E. Jackson - \$400,000, but a family has moved in.

R. Horton – Could use monies from the Special Ed fund.

E. Jackson – If the line is overspent.

R. Horton – Feels there is more to know about upcoming tuitions.

R. Horton advised he has always been in favor of returning what we can to the taxpayers; this year we are anticipating returning \$200,000.

T. Croteau – If the Selectmen choose to do that with the money.

\*The Board discussed the Health Teacher position.

R. Horton – What would be our options if there was no Health Teacher for next year?

J. Lewis advised they would change the schedule to make it more cohesive.

B. Stevenson explained counselors are working on things to meet students' needs – there is some overlap. The woman from KSC can come in to discuss healthy relationships, drugs, etc. There are supplemental things we currently utilize that are successful. There are things we need to do until we can have a Health teacher.

After discussion, R. Horton advised he is in favor of keeping the First Grade Teacher instead of a Health Teacher. Feels they absolutely need to look at the Middle School and put the same focus there. Thinks the lower grades have had some success. It has been the focus of the Board to hit the lower grades. He thinks there could be a shift in funds to support a First Grade Teacher.

B. Stevenson -There has been significant time spent on a Health Teacher grades Five through Eight and an alternative class going through the Middle School. The position would provide two classes. We attempted to use this to support mental health and academic needs full-time. It would be very important to the model.

Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas advised she had kids last year who were part of a high-needs population; wouldn't have to rewrite IEP's. This model would support it.

L. Picard asked if Grant funds are available.

V. Carey advised the application was due today; didn't put in for Middle School team to go for that model. There is only a short window, probably will know by April and need to spend by June. The grant only supports a co-teaching model for the Middle School. It pays for five days teaching work in the Summer.

R. Horton – Not for staffing in the school?

V. Carey – No, because it can't support a position the school is required to fund.

K. Bazan - Would the Special Ed teacher next year be able to do some?

J. Lewis – Could provide some. It would only be about an hour at the end of the day.

K. Bazan – So it's an opportunity?

J. Lewis – It's always an opportunity.

K. Bazan – Getting rid of everything they wanted and have sixty less kids; can't explain it.

J. Lewis – We have some kids that need special attention.

K. Bazan understands that. If we eliminate the Health Teacher, we will be sending kids to Keene High School and they will already be behind. We will have no Health Teacher or Language Teacher.

L. Picard – Or Music.

J. Lewis – Could possibly offer Band next year.

B. Stevenson – If we didn't add another First Grade Teacher, it would be beneficial to add a designated Para in each First Grade.

R. Horton – What kind of adults for next year are we looking at?

J. Lewis advised Kindergarten has a designated Para for each classroom.

V. Carey – In Kindergarten there are not Regular Ed Paras. In Kindergarten there are three one-on-one and three shared Paras for Special Ed.

R. Horton – It has always been the Board's focus to let teachers know as close to the April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for the bargaining unit; want to notify them early. If we table the Health Teacher position, does that change the number of teachers?

J. Lewis advised there are folks he wants to present tonight for contract renewals. If they are not on the list, it doesn't mean we can't hire them after the 15<sup>th</sup>.

T. Croteau thinks they should put the First Grade position in there and they could make it work.

Every year they return \$200,000 to \$300,000 to the Town. Granted they have a new student who could use some of that money, but he thinks they could do it by removing Language and maybe Health.

E. Jackson – Health would offset the First Grade Teacher. We would need to look for funds for the other position.

R. Horton advised that K. Bazan has said several times that next year's Eighth Grade is a huge burden on the budget; \$30,000 for Special Ed and \$14,000 Regular Ed.

T. Croteau advised there is \$300,000 extra right there. We are at a breaking point because Keene sends us a bill and we pay it and everything else gets pushed aside. Feels people need to think about options. Feels we could save \$600,000-\$700,000 by doing something different.

K. Bazan – We also have an aging school here. Will have big repair bills soon.

J. Lewis – Would like to meet with the Board for negotiations after tonight's meeting.

L. Picard would like feedback from staff regarding cutting the Health Teacher position.

R. Horton advised the Board is meeting next on the 14<sup>th</sup>; always try to make sure we do Letters of Assurance the right way.

J. Lewis advised we need to be absolutely sure we can afford people on the list.

R. Horton – Are you prepared to present the additional First Grade Teacher?

J. Lewis – Yes.

- R. Horton – Feels they are not prepared for this group, but could be for the next meeting.
- J. Lewis – The Board is in a difficult position.

The Board agreed not to discuss the Health Teacher until they focus on other things.

The Board agreed need three First Grade classrooms.

The Board took a five minute break.

The Board reviewed the policy on Soliciting Donations as a first reading.

**FINANCIAL REPORT – E. Jackson:**

**T. Croteau MOVED to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$24,466.70; SECONDED by: K. Bazan, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

**K. Bazan MOVED to approve the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$222,801.04; SECONDED by: T. Croteau, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

\*Primex – We have said we want to go with them. It should be one to two weeks before we have the completed paperwork.

\*DOL inspection – We will receive a report of their findings in four to six weeks. Advised very impressed with egresses; best school they have seen in that regard. Need eye wash stations.

E. Jackson explained the biggest issue was the third floor electrical; wires are hanging, there are no caps on them. It will need to be addressed as soon as possible. We can request an extension, if needed.

K. Bazan advised that area needs to be cleaned out before the end of the Summer. We need to get the message to ACCESS that the space probably will be used and they need to move their stuff.

R. Horton advised the electrical is being done for safety reasons.

E. Jackson – Yes, not for remodeling. Liability is an issue. Advised it could be a concern if the electrician comes in to work on it; they could be assuming liability.

R. Horton – Could the electrical be shut off up there?

E. Jackson – Yes.

R. Horton asked E. Jackson what are the most pressing needs for Food Service.

E. Jackson advised Nancy Dziejczak has said a three compartment steamer and 40 gallon tilting kettle.

E. Jackson reviewed quotes for the hood.

E. Jackson advised there is \$100,000 in the account; need to spend \$70,000.

\*E. Jackson advised the bricks were cleaned in the library with lemon, water and vinegar; it did the trick.

\*Security alarm in Science Lab and SAU is almost completed; the bill is only up by about \$250.00 per year.

\*R. Horton asked about doors.

E. Jackson - Still waiting for quotes.

\*Reviewed upcoming projects for April Vacation.

\*Reviewed summer projects. Waiting to hear back from EEI regarding showers; need an engineer. Will work on the electrical piece for the third floor, clean out that area and see what the Board wants to do with it.

\*E. Jackson proposed purchasing computers this year. They could be used for testing, too. Reviewed quote with the Board. The cost would be \$14,000 as opposed to the \$20,000 budgeted.

After discussion, **K. Bazan MOVED to approve \$14,400 to purchase 40 laptops from Government Connect using this year's funds; SECONDED by: T. Croteau, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

R. Horton – Need to look into burying the tank.

T. Croteau – Or put a fence around it.

E. Jackson distributed a “wish list” for 2016-2017 from D. Chamberlain of things to be repaired/updated and reviewed with the Board.

E. Jackson advised tables for the cafeteria might be able to come out of Food Service.

R. Horton – Some items could come out of the Building Improvement Fund.

J. Lewis – There are steel re-enforcers on the steps in the stairwells; they are old. It looks bad. He wants to replace the tread and risers on the stairs.

The Board asked J. Lewis to bring information back.

- \*E. Jackson advised the Town called regarding electrical bids. Peterborough has invited the Town of Winchester and the School to go in with them. She and T. Croteau will be at the Selectboard meeting. We would have our own contract, but would get a discount since we would be going in with the Town and Peterborough.
- \*Dale Gray will put the basin on the Elementary side on a regular cleaning schedule. He will also remove stuff from outside the fifth grade glass hallway area with the excavator.

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT: B. Stevenson:**

- \*Second Pre-K through Grade 6 Bus Evacuation was held.
- \*Sean Provost with the Stem Pilot Program will be meeting tomorrow with B. Stevenson, J. Lewis and V. Carey to see what the program would look like.
- \*Marking periods end Friday; Parent/Teacher conferences are next Friday.
- \*Grade 6 will be taking a trip to the Museum of Science and going to the IMAX Theater as part of their study on Ancient Greece. The cost is covered by the Grant; there is no cost to students.
- \*Guidance Counselor and Mentors are working on healthy relationships up to Grades Four and Five.
- \*Colonial Day will be held 4/29/16.
- \*Title I Night is April 26th at 6:00 pm.
  - T. Croteau asked if that could be put on the Facebook page.
  - Mel Harrison advised Parent Title I Nights are required by the Grant, but are poorly attended. Anything the Board can do to get people there is good. She knows people are busy. Advised student sessions are well attended.
- \*Flyers for Alt Ed are going to be put up around town.

- K. Bazan - Need to get the word out for Kindergarten registration.
- E. Jackson advised they have a list and will be calling parents.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

Heather Pelkey discussed Curriculum Coordinator position as full-time instead of part-time. Advised the position is now in charge of Paras and Power School along with the test. They are four years into Common Core, now need to go back and revamp it. Feels the position is important.

Heather Pelkey advised she is concerned with some combined positions being posted and not all. Feels there could be legal issues.

Heather Pelkey asked about the Health Teacher. There would be three classes going into two. Currently have 51 7<sup>th</sup> graders and 34 6<sup>th</sup> graders, possibly more. Those kids already lost a year; don't want to do that again.

Heather Pelkey advised as a parent and a citizen feels if they are looking at other schools, would want exactly the same offerings as Keene and the school to be in NH. She doesn't want her child or other children to take the Massachusetts test. They got a great deal in Keene originally and it slowly increased. It could be the same in other schools. Pioneer doesn't have the Special Ed population we have. It is a very different school.

Sue Rice asked if there is an alarm in the Science Lab or a motion detector.

E. Jackson advised the door to the hallway is alarmed and the motion detector is in case someone is coming in the other door.

Sue Rice asked about the Maintenance position. She feels if we just had someone come in for electrical and plumbing issues, etc., who would do the other things that come up, such as when a toilet overflows?

Staff member advised they were very concerned also that Pioneer doesn't have the same opportunities as Keene. Feels the schools need to be comparable.

Sarah Lounder feels Keene may have a lot of offerings, but our kids can't take advantage of them.

Staff member asked why they are not able to.

Sarah Lounder advised they just don't.

Heather Pelkey advised don't and can't are two different things.

A staff member wondered if at another school system they would be set up with the same calendar for breaks.

Heather Pelkey asked the Board to look at the calendar for next year. If we start on Labor Day, we lose three days and they are added to June. Those three days are primetime for learning. If we have snow days, it pushes three more days in June. If we start after Labor Day when is Open House? Feels education-wise starting before Labor Day is a better option.

A staff member advised years ago they followed the KHS calendar then moved away from that.

J. Lewis advised they are aligned with Keene for vacations.

Sarah Lounder advised they should talk to Keene and ask them to align to ours.

Bambi Truesdell thanked the Board for putting the First Grade Teacher back. There was applause from the public.

**K. Bazan MOVED to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 (b) at 10:00 pm; SECONDED by: S. Thompson, R. Horton – yes, T. Croteau – yes, L. Picard – yes, S. Thompson – yes, K. Bazan – yes, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

**K. Bazan MOVED to leave non-public session at 10:16 pm; SECONDED by: L. Picard, R. Horton – yes, T. Croteau – yes, L. Picard – yes, S. Thompson – yes, K. Bazan – yes, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

**K. Bazan MOVED to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3(a) at 10:16 pm; SECONDED by: L. Picard, R. Horton – yes, T. Croteau – yes, L. Picard – yes, S. Thompson – yes, K. Bazan – yes, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

**K. Bazan MOVED to leave non-public session at 10:43 pm; SECONDED by: L. Picard, R. Horton – yes, T. Croteau – yes, L. Picard – yes, S. Thompson – yes, K. Bazan – yes, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

R. Horton advised the Board went into non-public under RSA91-A:3 (b) to discuss the Teachers Contract then came out and went in under RSA91-A:3 (a) to discuss compensation.

**K. Bazan MOVED to seal the non-public minutes under RSA91-A:3 (a); SECONDED by: S. Thompson, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

**K. Bazan MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 pm; SECONDED by: S. Thompson, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

The Board went into a non-public Negotiations session.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins  
School Board Secretary