

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
December 10, 2012

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, **December 10, 2012**. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by Nancy Ross in the School Board Room, Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, NH.

The following were recorded as present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Nancy Ross, Chairperson
Janice Bennett, Vice-Chairperson
Rebecca Hallisey
Dustin Ramey
James Doggett
Cheryl Gannon
Molly Statezni, Student Council Representative

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Brian Blake, Superintendent of Schools
Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services
Carol Coppola, Business Manager

EXCUSED: Wendy Miller
Carol Coppola, Business Manager

REVIEW AGENDA

Ms. Ross reviewed the agenda – Budget for the 2013-14 school year.

Dr. Blake requested two items to be added – Request for field trip to Spain, Senior Class trip

MINUTES

No minutes to review

MANIFEST

No Manifest

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Blake – Field trip requests

Dr. Blake introduced Ms. Daniels and students from Sanborn Regional High School who outlined the proposal for a SRHS student trip to Spain during February vacation 2014. Ms. Daniels outlined the tour company selection that included references and recommendations from Winnacunnet High School, Timberlane High School and Londonderry High School. Each high school endorsed NETC. Motion made by **Mr. Doggett** to approve the Sanborn Regional High School trip to Spain during the February 2014 vacation with second by **Ms. Bennett**. Discussion followed. **Mr. Doggett** stated he is pleased that planning is so far in advance of the scheduled trip due to cost. Ms. Daniels explained the students and faculty hope that fundraising efforts will lower the student cost. Ms. Daniels, Mr. Kingsley and the NETC will be the student chaperones. **Ms. Ross** asked about the number of interested students. Ms. Daniels replied the number is fifteen but the recent parent meeting had 40 in attendance. **Ms. Ross** asked about the price stability. Ms. Daniels replied that the lock in date is January 15. Mandatory travel insurance allows 75% refund. **Mr. Doggett** inquired about group size. Ms. Daniels explained that the groups have maximum size of fifteen. If more than fifteen attend, both owners of the tour company join trip. With adequate chaperones, the company could handle two groups of 15. Vote was unanimous. Dr. Blake asked Ms. Daniels to return to the Board with updates at the December 2013 meeting.

Dr. Blake – introduced Karen Ladd and Andrew Wood, SRHS Senior Class advisors who in turn introduced Angelica Gardella and Phoebe Nault to present a request from the SRHS Senior Class to travel to Virginia Beach for their senior class trip. Ms. Ladd spoke to the references for the tour company. Strong references to date. Details of the trip described chaperones, trip capacity and standard room accommodation options. The itinerary is for Thursday, May 16 through Sunday, May 19 which includes one day of school absence. Motion made by **Mr. Doggett** to approve the Sanborn Regional High School Senior Trip to Virginia Beach from May 16 through May 19 with second by **Ms. Bennett**. Discussion followed. **Ms. Gannon** asked if students typically miss school. **Mr. Doggett** commented that senior trip is becoming a select group of students. Ms. Ladd explained that this trip was voted by overwhelming majority at a recent senior class meeting. Ms. Ladd went on the SRHS Senior trip 2007 with two busses. She hopes for a similar response. Typically not every class member attends. **Mr. Doggett** expressed concern about declining attendance due to cost of the trip. Ms. Ladd explained that some families choose to go on family trips instead. Angelica Gardella explained that senior class treasury balance will help defray cost. **Mr. Doggett** stated that he feels the trip has become a mini vacation rather than senior class trip. **Ms. Bennett** stated this sounds like a great trip. She is looking forward to report back from the seniors. **Ms. Bennett** asked how many seniors are there this year. Ms. Gardella replied 175. **Ms. Bennett** asked if the cost were \$150-200 less, would the trip be more appealing. A senior from the audience replied that cost is similar to the last year's senior class trip cost. **Ms. Bennett** commended the group for their planning and research. **Ms. Hallisey** inquired if students are always with a chaperone. Ms. Ladd explained there would be a 10:1 ration with students/chaperones in the same area with organized evening events. Additional hotel security is available at additional cost. Vote was unanimous.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Ms. Statezni updated the Board on the “12 Days of Caring”. Donations are accepted for all ages. Items are then donated for needy families in the area. Ms. Statezni was not able to attend the November NH Student Council retreat in Waterville, but heard good reviews.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Negotiations** – Dr. Blake stated that final agreements may be reached soon. He hopes the signed agreements may be presented at the next school board meeting.
- b. **Budget** – **Ms. Gannon** updated the Board. Budget Committee comments did not favor the full day kindergarten. The Committee is looking for a final number between the default and proposed budget or less than a 2.3% increase. The Committee awaits the School Board's decision. Next Budget Committee meeting was rescheduled from December 17 to December 13 at 7pm.
- c. **Public Relations** – **Ms. Hallisey** stated the next “Essential News” will focus on the budget with emphasis on controllable costs vs. uncontrollable costs. The PR Committee hopes to use the schools' Facebook pages to advertise events.

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENT

Ms. Ross is encouraged to hear that negotiations are close to an early closure compared to other negotiation timelines. **Ms. Ross** commended the negotiation teams. **Ms. Ross** wished everyone well for the holidays.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Gannon – asked about further action on the school board goals with clearer timelines. **Ms. Ross** stated goals will be revised after the holidays and will include actions completed and goals in process. Specifically the goal for housing the SAU will be discussed.

Ms. Bennett – asked for the Superintendent to provide information about the impact of the Charter School expansion; what is the long-range goal of both the SAU and Charter School. **Ms. Bennett** inquired about the Charter School enrollment. Dr. Blake stated that the Charter School does not need further space. **Ms. Bennett** asked about the Technology Office. Dr. Blake stated this space is adequate for now. **Ms. Bennett** remarked that the SAU Offices will be discussed in January. **Ms. Gannon** asked what the lease is for the Charter School. Dr. Blake stated that there is one more year on the current lease with options to extend lease for one or two years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. 2013-2014 Budget

Dr. Blake reviewed the warrant articles template. There are no 2013-2014 warrant articles included in this template. Dr. Blake will resend the warrant article template; some board members had difficulty opening first version.

Ms. Bennett – asked for the default budget figure. Dr. Blake stated that the number on page 225 of the budget book is \$31,736,733. The Superintendent's revised proposed budget will include a \$216,768 reduction to reflect the updated health care costs. The proposed budget from the Superintendent is now \$32,007,241. The revised default budget is \$31,519,733. The difference between this proposed budget and the default budget is \$270,740.

Ms. Gannon – asked if the proposed budget can be changed to reflect this new number that includes the reduction of insurance costs. Dr. Blake explained that the School Board may reduce to Superintendent's proposed budget. **Ms. Gannon** asked what the percent increase is when comparing the 2012-2013 budget with this new figure for the 2013-2014 budget. Dr. Blake stated that difference between the \$31,269,788 budget for 2012-2013 and the proposed revised 2013-2014 budget reflects a 1.65% increase. **Ms. Ross** stated that is under 2.36% and between the proposed and default budget.

Mr. Ramey – asked if this reduced budget number is adequate. Dr. Blake stated that the proposed budget reflects \$268,000 in reductions from the administrators' requests. Items removed include a request for upgrading the flooring at the SRMS (\$60,000), a request for upgrading heating controls at the D.J.Bakie School (\$90,000) plus reduced athletics requests. Dr. Blake explained that these were hard decisions when considering cutting staff or removing projects and new budget requests.

Ms. Bennett – stated that this proposed budget includes both the anticipated increased retirement costs and the increased health care costs, which means the budget is actually below first budget number.

Mr. Doggett – stated that Ms. Gannon may recommend a \$155,250 cut to the budget. He stated this was before the board was aware of the reduction in the anticipated insurance cost increases.

Ms. Bennett – stated that the responsible action may be to reduce the budget by \$270,740.

Motion made by **Ms. Bennett** with second by Ms. Hallisey to bring forward to the Budget Committee the number of \$31,790,473. Vote was 5 – 1 (Mr. Doggett).

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT

Dr. Blake shared the obituary notice for School Board Secretary Gail LeBlanc's father.

WRITTEN INFORMATION

None

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Special Meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board on Monday December 17, 2012 at 6pm in Room 100.

Agenda – Negotiations – Discussion and ratification of the teachers and support staff agreements [Because family members work for the district, two board members will reclude themselves from voting (Ross, Gannon)].

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bart Noyes of Kingston – Asked the Board to never consider expanding the Charter School to include the current SAU office space. In response to Mr. Ramey’s question about the revised proposed budget number being adequate, Mr. Noyes encouraged the board to revisit the original proposed budget items should there be monies available at the end of the 2013-3014 school year.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Gannon – stated that she has decided not to run for reelection to the school board due to family reasons. Ms. Gannon thanked the Board as she looks forward to the rest of her term on the school board.

Mr. Doggett – asked if Ms. Gannon would be interested in returning to videotaping the meeting. Mr. Doggett stated that he will be running for reelection.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The next special meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on **Monday, December 17, 2013** at 6:00 in room 100 (note change of room), at the Sanborn Regional High School, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- b. The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on **Wednesday, January 2, 2013** at 7:00 pm at the Sanborn Regional High School, Room 137, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- c. The next **Budget Committee** Meeting will be held on **Monday, December 17, 2012** at 7:00 pm at the Sanborn Regional High School, Room 137, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- d. The **Budget Committee Public Hearing** will be held on **Wednesday, January 9, 2013** at 7:00pm at the Sanborn Regional High School Auditorium, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- e. The **Filing Period** for positions on the Sanborn Regional School Board, the Sanborn Regional Budget Committee and the District Moderator will open on **Wednesday, January 23, 2013** and end on **Friday, February 1, 2013** at 5:00pm.
The candidate filing forms may be obtained at the SAU Office from 8:00am to 4:00pm. The School District Clerk will be available on the last day to file from 3:00pm to 5:00pm at the SAU Office, 178 Main Street, Kingston.
- f. The **First (Deliberative) Session** of the Annual School District Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 6, 2013** at 7:00 at the Sanborn Regional High School Auditorium, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- g. The **Second (Deliberative) Session** of the Annual School District Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 12, 2013** from 8:00am to 8:00pm in the Swazey Gymnasium (Sanborn Seminary Campus) for Kingston voters and in the Newton Town Hall for Newton votes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Doggett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm with a second by Ms. Hallisey. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services
Recorder

Minutes of school board meetings are unofficial until approved at a subsequent meeting of the school board