

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
Florence Rideout Elementary School-Library
6:30 p.m.**

Present: *Matt Ballou, Miriam Lemire, Joyce Fisk, Carol LeBlanc, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Mark Legere, Alex LoVerme, and Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral*

Superintendent Bryan Lane, Principals Brian Bagley and Tim O'Connell, Curriculum Coordinator Julie Heon, and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ballou called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

II. PRESENTATIONS

a. Retirements

Retiring teachers were recognized for their service to the students, community and district. They were presented with a token of appreciation. Ms. Cathy Hamilton, 39 years, Mr. David Finch 38 years, Ms. Judi Wing 30 years, Ms. Marcia Contarino 19 years

b. Math Presentation

Principal O'Connell reported this year FRES took a close look at the mathematical instructional practices throughout the school year. A grant was procured by Dr. Heon and this fall they worked closely with math consultants. They started by looking at math scores and doing some analysis. Members of the Math Committee were present, teachers Ms. Danielle Cambray, Ms. Heather Desmarais, and Ms. Holly Lafoe. A presentation was given by the teachers. They shared tools, provided examples and Ms. Lafoe showed a graph of her student's growth. The importance of procedural fluency, building conceptual understanding using visuals, tools and manipulatives were expressed. Students are exposed to multiple tools of teaching and taught to solve real world math problems.

III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

a. Add Second Public Comment

Superintendent requested to add two resignations and one appointment to the agenda. It was noted a second public comment is added.

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Ms. Fisk to accept the adjustments to the agenda.
Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment to report.

V. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

a. Reports

i. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent reported working with Ms. Burk to close out the budget. There are approximately 214 open purchase orders. As of the end of school the purchase orders for our contracted service providers can be closed and we will get a better understanding of the final number. He will keep the Board informed. He thanked the principals and all those who volunteered to do interviews. There are 3 open teacher positions, 1 sped case manager, 1 computer science/technology integrator and 1 HS math. He hopes to bring nominations to the next meeting. Regarding the food service outstanding student balances, Mr. Deignan provided a list of students that have debt. Letters have been sent by the Superintendent to remind parents of the outstanding balances. In less than 2 weeks over \$1,400 has been collected. A 2nd notice will go out to those who did not pay the balances or call to make arrangements to work with the district regarding the balances. He will continue to work on this throughout the summer. Ms. Deb Roske was the committee's choice for food service director and she has accepted the position. Food Service staff had a meeting today to talk about the program and staff will be cross trained for all buildings. He was contacted by State Representative Michael Cahill from Newfields/Newmarket area in regard to building aid. He is looking to introduce

possible legislation to have building aid be available to districts that chose to approve bonds for renovations or buildings during the time building aid was not available and have some be retroactive. If you are interested, he can provide information on your local representatives if you wish to recommend they join with Representative Cahill. He does not anticipate we would get the 40% the state would owe but even 15%-20% would help in taking care of the bond. Representative Cahill's focus was around his own school district but there are several across the state who chose to finance their own renovations/school buildings. These are not new funds but funds that are there and could they be distributed in a different way.

ii. Principals' Reports

Principal Bagley reported the annual awards night for seniors was held and scholarship donors donated \$83,250! The amount has grown every year since he has been here. He notes it is remarkable that 2 small communities come together to support the students. Thirty-two seniors graduated on June 7; it was a special night with many families in attendance. June 6, the seniors traveled to FRES wearing caps and gowns to walk through the hallways of FRES and be visible to the elementary students who made signs and gave high 5's to the seniors. The girls' softball team won the state championship! He expressed what a great game it was. They played against Epping who were undefeated; it lasted 12 innings. Congratulations to all. There was discussion that Coach Denny Claire is retiring with 504 wins.

Principal O'Connell reported at LCS and FRES they have been wrapping up the school year. Fifth grade celebrations were today. There are 41 5th grade students moving on to the MS next year. Yesterday the 5th grade students went to Canobie Lake Park. Elementary teachers are planning to do professional development work over the summer. Project Lead the Way training will take place over the summer and a lot of teachers are interested. Four teachers will become teacher trainers and go to NY for extensive training in August. Dr. Heon was able to procure a grant allowing Summer Academy to be held. It is a 5-week program at FRES starting July 15-mid August. There are 33 anticipated students in attendance and transportation will be provided. All is entirely grant funded. Marks closed on June 7. Next week kindergarten teachers will hold kindergarten screenings to obtain a baseline of information regarding skills they need coming into school so they can plan for instruction. There are 38 students registered for kindergarten next year.

iii. Curriculum Coordinator's Report

Dr. Heon reported all 3 grants she applied for this spring have been approved totaling almost \$80,000. These grants will pay for Summer Academy and include transportation (including Boys and Girls Club) and salaries for 6 teachers. June 20, K-5 teachers will be trained in math through a grant. The same teachers will come later in the summer and continue working on the grant to be trained in Project Lead the Way in science. On June 25 she will meet with new teachers and walk through curriculum design and learn what was written this year so they feel more confident although not all of the new teachers can attend. She will meet with them again on August 21 and 22 for new teacher orientation. The Health Committee agreed to meet June 19; it includes 7-8 people including nurses. They will define a scope and sequence on what topics and depth should be done at each grade level. The last assessment scores are included and she has begun to review those with school administration and will do with teachers for them to take ownership. Recommendation for a new math program is included and will be discussed later in the night. A question was raised regarding results showing students are not at the level they should be and what is being done. Dr. Heon responded K-5 have IMPACCT meetings every quarter and in May and June we looked at all of the student data. There are students that we want to start the year providing this kind of intervention and some are coming to the summer program and may have had enough gain by the start of school. Work is being done at the MS to come up with some strategies to provide some type of intervention. They are not waiting to start in the fall, but looking at this now. A request was made to see the assessment scores by cohorts and to know how much of this cohort is intact; how many are the same students. Concern was raised regarding the 8th grade finishing below 8th grade level. It was noted the focus was on 6th grade and the 8th grade teacher was pulled which left the 8th grade without the help they needed. Mr. LoVerme voiced disappointment as a parent and a school board member. He is hoping to have the MS scores increase as they are low in reading and math. Dr. Heon addressed his concerns responding they did pull out all the stops for an emergency in math and it seemed prudent to focus on the 6th grade. Superintendent noted last year 32% were proficient in math and this year 45% are proficient in math; 13% more proficient than last year. He acknowledges he would like a higher percentage and will have more information at the next meeting. They will work on strategies for the 9th grade as well. Mr. Legere they didn't go backwards. The events of the year didn't push things back, there was still growth and we are getting closer although didn't end where we wanted to be. Principal Bagley spoke of being as concerned about the scores and that they will not quit until they reach a level they are satisfied with. A question was raised regarding how far back can we go to look at cohorts. It was noted there has been a lot of emphasis on the MS

failing and it was requested to look into the elementary school. Superintendent can provide prior data however the assessment has changed. This is only the 2nd year of this assessment. He will provide data going back 3 years.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

There was no consent agenda to report.

VII. CONVAL SCHOOL FUNDING LAWSUIT UPDATE

Superintendent sent a link to board members of the 100-page decision regarding the ConVal lawsuit about the adequacy amount. He reports the Judge found the funding formula doesn't seem to be valid and he would not say how to fix it. He referenced page 91 of the document. In looking at page 91 the Judge agrees the formula is flawed and it's the legislatures job to fix it. The Legislature came up with the funding formula we have now. The Judge did grant that the DOE and State refund all the legal fees for school districts which tends to say they are leaning on the school district side. ConVal wanted \$9,929 per student and for it to be retroactive. Superintendent questions at this point is it to our districts advantage to get involved. No statement has been made from the Governor or the Attorney General. If the Governor and DOE determine we need to fix this, he does not anticipate it will happen in this fiscal year. Where will the funding come from? It is his opinion this will not be solved unless there is an identified revenue stream to take care of any increases. He recommends not becoming involved but to be informed.

VIII. HIRING POLICY

Superintendent provided a draft copy of a hiring protocol as a concern was raised at a previous meeting. He suggests the Policy Committee create a policy that indicates the district will create a hiring protocol for all positions. The protocol would not be part of the policy but would be approved by the Board. It would include how staff are hired and how positions are advertised. The Board may want additions/deletions; it is a starting point. There were some language changes suggested under the Superintendent section regarding the number of candidates as it may be "locking" us in. Superintendent to review and update. Concerns were raised regarding the creation of a new position. Previously when the RTI and Curriculum Coordinator were added, it was vetted and done through the budget process. This time a position was created and filled in about 5 minutes and it was not posted or on the agenda. It was suggested to included something that would "slow down" the process. Clarification was given regarding new positions are new position in the district and not adding more of the same position. IEP required positions are required and not a yes or no scenario. Superintendent added LPN/LNA positions are not included in the draft hiring protocol and should be added; they are not part of a bargaining unit. It was suggested to change 10 days of postings to 10 business days. The consensus of the Board is to move forward; no objection was heard. Superintendent to make adjustments and bring back to the Board. The Policy Committee will work on creating a short policy that indicates a protocol needs to be created.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lemire and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to approve the minutes of May 21, 2019 as written.

Voting: eight ayes; one abstention from Mr. Legere, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lemire and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to approve the minutes of May 28, 2019 as amended.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lemire and SECONDED by Mr. LoVerme to approve the workshop minutes of May 28, 2019 as written.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

An addition was made to the Goals & Objectives document under 1-2 years' column, under "Develop a system..." for tracking alumni.

- Keep track of alumni through email.

No changes were made to the Strategic Planning Committee's prioritized items.

b. Assign School Board Rep for Summer Appointments

Superintendent requested as in the past, the school board assign a member to have the authority to approve nominations/appointments on behalf of the school board through the school board's summer break. Without

approval, an offer cannot be made final. Chairman Ballou was nominated and Ms. Lemire volunteered to be the alternate.

*A MOTION was made by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Mr. Legere to designate Chairman Ballou to approve nominations/appointments during the school board's summer break with Ms. Lemire as the alternate. **

Mr. Vanderhoof requested to know more accurately about what the positions are and voiced he did not want to delegate his vote to someone else.

**Voting: seven ayes; one nay from Mr. Vanderhoof, one abstention from Chairman Ballou, motion carried.*

Mr. Vanderhoof noted his displeasure with delegating his vote to someone else who may or may not vote the way he would.

c. New Math Curriculum

Dr. Heon spoke regarding the committee's recommendation for *Into Math* by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for the new math program for K-5 students. She provided reasons for their recommendation listed in her Curriculum Coordinator's Report. She negotiated that we could use this program for 6 months as a trial without paying. The Board would be informed in January if this resource doesn't meet the expectations and would finish the year, return the resources and are then able to choose another option. Instead if it is determined to meet the expectations it would be paid for. The cost does exceed the 2, \$25,000 amounts and the company has said if we want to keep it they will work with us to keep us on budget. There will be professional development on June 20 which is included in a grant. A question was raised if the curriculum lines up with the investments made recently such as the math coach. Dr. Heon answered that there is not a program that has all the various components. We will teach the math facts in the order that has been recommended by the people who trained the teachers. There was no program that followed that particular approach. It was noted we do not want to pay for two separate resources that do not line up. She reviewed that the recommended reasons she listed in her report to choose this program over others are better than what we are doing now. Our current program is 5 years old and doesn't totally align with the standards. She spoke regarding the transition from 5th grade to 6th grade and noted they are rewriting the scope and sequence that aligns better with the standards and that MS uses *Big Ideas*; built on the standards. She agrees communication is needed however. As the students become more proficient it will hopefully make the transition more proficient. Superintendent agrees we are not there right now but it is where we are going. A question was raised if it would be difficult for parents to help their children if what they are learning is so different. Dr. Heon explained that there is an enhanced digital component and parents can see explanations and see examples. The program doesn't have any "funky" language, it is all mathematical language. There will still be things parents don't recognize and the reason is we are teaching the conceptual mathematics. It was suggested it may be beneficial to have math teachers have an open house for parents. Principal O'Connell added it was a concern that the committee looked at; would there be enough resources for parents. There are online videos to access to help support children. This program has it as a relative strength from others. Superintendent noted since we are not spending any funds there is no need to vote but there should be a presentation at the end of the quarter mid-year to see if it is an appropriate expenditure.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. Budget Liaison

Mr. Vanderhoof reported the Budget Committee did not meet. The next meeting is July 16.

ii. Negotiations

Mr. LoVerme reported there has not been a meeting because it was postponed with the teacher's association. A meeting is scheduled for arbitration on July 30 and a meeting will be set up prior to this.

iii. Food Service

Mr. LoVerme reported the committee met last week; 3 people were absent. We will move forward with the expectations of the Food Service Director and are looking forward to working with her. She will bring a lot to the program. The next meeting is scheduled on Monday, June 17 at FRES in the cafeteria.

Chairman Ballou noted a nonpublic session regarding negotiations should be scheduled for the next meeting.

VIII. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES

• Jason Shea-WLC HS Math-Resignation

222 • **Paul Petrimoulx-WLC Computer Science/Technology Integrator-Resignation**

223 Superintendent reviewed the resignations. Mr. Shea will have a shorter commute in his new job and Mr. Petrimoulx
224 will be teaching HS only in the Bow school district.

225
226 A request was made to ask that teachers not tell students they are leaving before the Board is aware of their
227 resignation. Superintendent agrees that would be nice but it is not required.

228
229 • **Melissa Norton-MS Social Studies-Appointment**

230 Superintendent reviewed his recommendation for Ms. Norton, MS social studies teacher.

231
232 *A MOTION was made by Ms. Lemire and SECONDED by Ms. LeBlanc to accept the recommendation and appoint*
233 *Melissa Norton, WLC MS social studies teacher. **

234
235 A question was raised with 33 candidates, what qualifies this candidate above the others. Principal Bagley spoke that
236 4 candidates were interviewed and this was the top choice of the committee. The committee consisted of 2 social
237 studies teachers, one was MS. She was very energetic. Dr. Heon added she has a vibrant personality, brought
238 examples of lessons; some candidates were not as successful or prepared. Superintendent noted typically there are 25-
239 50 applicants for social studies positions.

240
241 **Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

242
243 **IX. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

244 Mr. Legere commented the end of the year activities were great, field day was a success; thanks to all and to the PTO
245 and those who volunteered. Graduation was great!

246
247 Mr. Vanderhoof thanked those who worked on grants and the math program and getting a free trial. Graduation was
248 good! He questioned if there was a way to handle summer hires so everyone can be notified. He disagrees giving one
249 person the ability to approve appointments in this situation but could get behind it if it was an emergency.

250
251 Mr. LoVerme commented he is glad the school year is over and knows everyone had a tough time this year. He spoke
252 of the softball game which was probably the most exciting game he has been to in any sport with everyone pitching in
253 from the youngest to the oldest; it was a great game. He wants to see the dug out complete and wishes everyone a
254 good summer.

255
256 Chairman Ballou encouraged all board members when they get an opportunity to go to one of the learning nights or
257 STEM nights to come out and see what our students are doing. He attended one at FRES and learned about some of
258 the things happening there. He notes it was amazing to see such as 1st graders reading to kindergarten students and
259 work being done with iPads. He was happy to inform members that Lyndeborough is starting to roll out fiber optics
260 which will be great to provide the connection that other students have at a reasonably high speed. This may also help
261 with people moving into town.

262
263 Ms. Cloutier-Cabral apologized for missing the Food Service Committee meeting. She will attend the meeting on June
264 17. She spoke regarding graduation that it was a beautiful thing and was proud of all the students that were up there.
265 She thought the student and teacher speeches represented WLC very well. Softball was really awesome; hearing the
266 girls won and how exciting it was having the firetrucks bring them into town.

267
268 Ms. LeBlanc spoke of being at LCS with so much fun going on. She was impressed how far the staff will go. She
269 enjoys going to activities and seeing everyone so energetic; you walk away feeling good. It's contagious!

270
271 **X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

272 Ms. Jessie Salisbury, resident and reporter requested the list of senior awards for the newspaper. She questioned
273 Principal O'Connell regarding how the history tour went; sponsored by the Heritage Commission. Principal
274 O'Connell responded the highlight was firing off the cannon. The boys and girls came back talking about their
275 experience with Captain Holland and the Lafayette Artillery.

Ms. Salisbury voiced that there are a lot of fun things happening at the schools which she would attend if she knew about them. She adds she rarely gets an invite (from FRES and WLC) to attend these things and a goal for next year would be to do better.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

*A MOTION was made by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Ms. Lemire to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:34pm.
Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Fowler*