

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AND JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION
Tuesday, September 25, 2018
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School
6:30 p.m.**

Present: Harry Dailey, Matt Ballou, Mark Legere, Charlie Post, Joyce Fisk, Carol LeBlanc, Miriam Lemire, and Jonathan Vanderhoof

Superintendent Bryan Lane, Business Administrator Lise Tucker, Director of Student Support Services Betty Moore, Principals Brian Bagley, Tim O'Connell, Director of Technology Kevin Verratti and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dailey called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

II. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Superintendent Lane requested the following adjustments be made to the agenda; move "Draft Plan to Increase Scores" after the Wilton Energy Committee presentation, add one retirement under resignations and the Policy Committee requests to withdraw policy BBAA-Board Member Authority.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Ballou and SECONDED by Ms. Fisk to approve the adjustments to the agenda.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments to report.

IV. PRESENTATION

i. Chris Balch-Wilton Energy Committee

Mr. Chris Balch, representative of the Wilton Energy Committee provided a presentation to improve lighting quality by converting to LED lighting. The committee works under the authority of the Select Board. The model is based on WLC as FRES and LCS already have LED lighting. He reviewed the committee's reasons to convert such as substantial energy savings, improved lighting quality, lower cooling loads, and reduced maintenance costs. He reviewed options for upgrades such as "Lamp Replacement" which is a good option and the least expensive installation and uses existing ballasts. The "Linear Strip Retrofit" option is better with easy installation, best retrofit option and bypasses ballast however a "Full Fixture Replacement" is best option because it's the most energy efficient, best warranty and allows for control of both brightness and color temperature with an annual savings of \$48,000 with 5-7 years return on investment. Rebates are available through Eversource (20%) although he is not sure when the rebates are paid out and believes it is the same year as the installation. The quotes were obtained using electrical bills, meeting with Mr. Erb, Facilities Manager and building walkthroughs. Mr. Balch notes the best time to do the project is early in the summer. The "re-lamping" takes a couple of weeks, the "retro fit" takes longer and the "full replacement" needs to be done in early summer. There are other companies that do this type of work, he assumes it would need to go out to bid and requests the opportunity for the Wilton Energy Committee to vet any company that would come in.

Chairman Dailey is inclined to hand this off to the Facilities Committee and Mr. Post suggests a separate committee to focus on this (there is a lot involved).

Chairman Dailey asks for any objection to hand this off to the Facilities Committee and no objection was heard. This will be addressed by the Facilities Committee.

53
54 ***DRAFT PLAN TO INCREASE SCORES**

55 Superintendent Lane provided a memo and assessment chart in regard to a tactical plan for MS math
56 remediation. The chart is used to identify students and their needs. There are 18 students nearing
57 proficiency. The cut score (530) is proficient and was determined by the DOE. He reviewed the color
58 coded chart; blue signifies the student is above the cut score, green is within 10 points of the cut score,
59 yellow is within 20 points of the cut score and red is beyond that. The math department was charged to
60 come up with an action plan. He wants to find ways to make positive changes and report those back to
61 the School Board and parents. There were 31 students in total who took the test and 3 were not near
62 proficiency and will be addressed through a different process.

63
64 Ms. Audrey Withee and Ms. Amanda Miller, MS math teachers presented the action plan. Ms. Withee
65 reported on Mondays and Tuesdays for 49 minutes all students will spend time on math instruction of
66 some form with some having direct instruction and the rest will spend half of the time on targeted skills
67 through Khan Academy and the remainder of the time working on either current course work that needs
68 their attention or continue on a mastery goal through Khan Academy. Wednesdays and Thursdays all
69 students spend half of the 5th period working through Khan Academy mostly and some will see teachers
70 for direct instruction and the rest of the time is devoted to core work. Friday is club day which students
71 in good academic standing can participate in. If not, they report to their teacher for the entire 5th period.
72 STAR is used to pinpoint the specific things they need to work on. She notes STAR is a 3-minute timed
73 task and the State assessment is unlimited. Superintendent Lane notes the State assessment is specific to
74 NH and was created last October; there was nothing provided in advance to show what it would look like.
75 Board members voiced concern regarding the other subject areas due to so much focus on math.
76 Superintendent Lane responded to the concerns saying that the four subject areas will still be taught as
77 they have in the past. The students who have a higher need will have more special instruction in this
78 area. Responding to Ms. LeBlanc, questioning if we should have as much confidence in STAR outcomes
79 since it is not in line with the State test or are we giving too much credit to the State test since the
80 students were not educated on it, he replied that we need to look at STAR in the second year and compare
81 it to the State; at the end of the second year evaluate to see if it's a program we should continue with.
82 Mr. Vanderhoof questions if this is a sustainable plan going forward. Ms. Withee responded that we
83 hired a math consultant and RTI Coordinator at FRES and that will take time to trickle up as that level of
84 support is not offered in the MS. This plan will be worked with and modified as we go along.
85 Superintendent Lane agreed this is a living document and will be modified as needed to meet the needs. It
86 will be analyzed as a whole and progress brought back to the Board. It was noted the style of questions
87 change in grades 6-8 and are more process oriented. Ms. Miller confirmed there is no additional cost for
88 Khan Academy and can be accessed at home. Superintendent Lane confirmed the practice exam came
89 out in March one month before the test but regardless collectively we need to do a better job. Ms.
90 Lemire assumes most of the questions on the State test were word problems and questions if the reading
91 portion was analyzed. Superintendent Lane confirmed there is reading instruction that is not targeted and
92 we need to look at this; you can involve math in a reading lesson. The teachers responded to all the
93 Board's questions.

94
95 **V. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

96 **a. Reports**

97 **i. Superintendent's Report**

98 Superintendent Lane provided an overview of his report which included remarking on the excitement and
99 energy of the kindergarten students in the morning and throughout the day. He speaks to parents while
100 he directs traffic at LCS and parents seem to be pleased with the program at this point. He put forward
101 some concepts to the WLCTA (Wilton-Lyndeborough Certified Teachers Association NEA-NH)
102 regarding the calendar. In an effort to find collaborating time in a scheduled day, they will look at
103 "themes" and try to think outside of the box. He attended the school funding presentation in Keene
104 which was informative and gave a perspective on how things are not always adequate through adequacy

formula. He will attend the Kidder Law conference in October. Responding to Mr. Post, he shared he was not present for the WLCTA meeting the teachers had and as an association they are resistant to changes around the calendar until negotiations.

ii. Director of Student Support Services Report

Ms. Moore reported two new contract service providers were hired; reading/writing specialists, Ms. Kira Brewster and Ms. Janabeth Reitter; these are not new positions and provide services to our most needy students. The total number of special education students is currently 112. She confirmed there has not been an influx due to the RISE (Reaching Independence through Structured Environments) program. Ms. Lemire remarks she believes the national average is about 13%, we are about 23%. She asked if we are monitored for potentially over identifying. Superintendent Lane responds that we are monitored by the State and are in compliance but they don't get into factors of why. Ms. Moore confirmed the new students were already identified prior to coming here and believes in NH the percentage is higher than the national average at about 25%.

iii. Director of Technology's Report

Mr. Verratti provided an overview of his report including changing the 1:1 laptop model in the MS to a classroom model in order to increase efficiency and minimize breakage as they found most of the breakage was occurring during passing times. There was a power outage at FRES which resulted in the generator not coming on; this is a big part of the backup plan. Chairman Dailey asked if there was anything that could have been done as FRES as this is used for an emergency shelter. Mr. Verratti confirmed there is a manual override for the generator. Mr. Verratti spoke of another power outage that occurred at WLC which was not discovered until the morning and took about an hour to fix. The telephones went out after the battery backup was exhausted. Mr. Verratti informed members; he is still in the beginning stages of taking with the towns to see how we can collaborate. Chairman Dailey wants to be sure the towns understand the process and he recommends any proposal come to the School Board first as the net financial responsibility lies with the School Board. The entire salary would be listed within our salary budget and the reimbursement would show to offset this.

b. Letters/Information

i. Draft Plan to Increase Scores

*Moved to earlier in the meeting, see above.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

There was no consent agenda to report.

VII. 7:00 PM JOINT BOARD & BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION

Present: *Leslie Browne, Christine Tiedemann, Bill Ryan, Edwina Hastings, Jennifer Bernet, Lisa Post, Pam Altner and Dennis Golding*

The committee was already in session as they met prior at 6:30pm.

a. FY 2019-2020 Budget

i. SAU

Superintendent Lane gave an overview of the SAU budget reporting it is essentially flat with a \$6 decrease and a few adjustments up and down. We are estimating increases in oil and electricity of 31% and 45% using the CPI Index (provided to indicate our increases) although they are predicting a higher increase. Ms. Tucker confirmed although the CPI Index is not for our area, it is Boston based and the closest we have. Chairman Dailey voiced a concern that we undercut. Ms. Tucker notes for electricity we projected a deficit for this year in early September. The fuel bid could be \$30,000 for just fuel. Responding to Ms. Browne, Ms. Tucker confirmed the kWh usage is due to the heating pumps at LCS (heats the SAU side of the building) which are behind the multipurpose room. This is not new and was part of the renovation. Chairman Dailey pointed out line 2510-534 (business office postage) shows a

\$600 increase. Ms. Tucker believes a reallocation was done from 2319-534 (school board postage) but will look at this.

Total adopted for FY19 is \$93,280 with FY20 total proposed of \$93,274; decrease of \$6.

ii. Technology

Mr. Verratti gave an overview of the technology budget noting there is not a lot of movement mostly maintaining the software, contracts and being sure things are budgeted to the appropriate lines. There is an increase in the 650 (software) lines due to reallocating to the appropriate lines. There is a 5-10% increase in software packages such as Microsoft and Adobe. Increases in replacement equipment (735 lines) which are related to replacement of HS computer lab which is up for replacement based on the 5 year recycle plan. New systems will have hardware that align to robotics, programming and engineer curriculum as well as digital art and math as needed. This is the final contract year with Mitel and Comcast for phones and internet service. Per FCC and E-rate rules these contracts will need to be negotiated for FY20-21. There is an overall decrease in the technology budget of \$3,590.

Total adopted for FY19 is \$281,101 with FY20 total proposed of \$277,511; decrease of \$3,590.

Mr. Verratti informed members that currently we are paying TDS for call forwarding of the pre-existing main phone numbers at each school including the SAU. If we changed those to use the Mitel numbers with the 732 exchange, we would potentially save an estimated \$5,700 a year. This has not been removed from the budget but is up for consideration. Parents, vendors etc. would need to be notified if the change were to occur. It was suggested that Mr. Verratti try to resolve this by porting the numbers and if necessary contact the State.

It was suggested to review the 2844-735 lines; replacement equipment each budgeted at \$5,000, as it does not match the FY18 expense and provide backup. Mr. Verratti noted if it were cloud based there would be a decrease here. Chairman Dailey questioned the balance of the technology capital reserve and thought the intent was to use for emergency situations. Mr. Verratti briefly explained what touch screen devices are. Acer Chromebook tablets are geared to lower elementary and we used iPads in some areas but they are fragile and don't fit well into some grade levels. He confirmed the two different costs for cameras are due to one being a straight forward wide, angle camera and one that is 360 degrees and looks at all angles including straight down. E-rate was briefly discussed and is essentially a reimbursement process for certain things that you meet the criteria for (mostly infrastructure based). It was suggested a note be added on the budget worksheet to indicate what you will apply for and what you will not regarding E-rate or rebate. Mr. Verratti confirmed regarding the 1:1 program, that each student has a device however not all grades are truly 1:1. Grades 1-2 use a cart based system and grades 3-12 are entirely 1:1. The devices are on a 5-year replacement cycle and some will be up for replacement in the next budget cycle. Mr. Verratti was asked to provide backup around the numbers or plan for any recycle replacement numbers or large numbers. He will provide a plan for any adjusted numbers. Mr. Verratti confirmed the 580 line (technology conferences) was reduced because he had had difficulty finding quality related workshops.

iii. CPI Index/Category Summary

Provided for informational purposes.

Chairman Dailey asked if there was anything the Budget Committee wanted to discuss. Ms. Browne clarified (it came up in the last Board meeting) what the Budget Committee meant by wanting a flat budget. The committee wants a value, a good education for a good price and are open to changes but wants to see a return on investment. They are not saying they don't want any increases. Chairman Dailey noted there are contractual increases that need to be budgeted for of roughly \$120,000 for collective bargaining agreements and energy costs that go up each year. That money has to be taken from somewhere to account for those expenses. A discussion regarding what a flat budget and/or a level funded budget means was had. Members voiced what it means to them and not all agree. Chairman

Dailey comments the same “budget number” as last year is actually a cut. Mr. Post comments a flat budget is no increase to the tax payers.

Superintendent Lane informed the group of two pieces of legislation. One is regarding lead testing which has not been clarified yet on what we have to test and what we have to remediate. It will be an unfunded mandate. The second is around technology infrastructure and security (we are in a better place than most districts) which says we have to have in place safeguards around data etc. This is also not funded and both will be in his budget cycle.

Chairman Dailey questioned if funds can be transferred from one capital reserve to another and Superintendent Lane does not believe so and suggested it be run by the DRA and district’s attorney as he did not know the original intent of the wording.

The next joint meeting is scheduled for October 9 at WLC.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Fran Bujak, resident (former School Board member) spoke regarding the budget and commented if someone wants a zero increase he suggests they step up say they want a zero increase. He added as a tax payer we voted for those contracts and the numbers should be added to your budgeted lines. Although he appreciates anyone trying to save money the only way to get to the \$120,000 (increases in the bargaining agreements) is to cut services and that was not the intent of passing the contracts (knowing what the intent of the contracts were).

A MOTION was made by Ms. Tiedemann and SECONDED by Ms. Altner to adjourn the Budget Committee meeting at 8:13pm.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

IX. POLICIES-1ST READ

- i. AD-Philosophy of the District**
- ii. BCA-School Board Member Ethics**
- iii. BBAA-Board Member Authority**
- iv. BEA-Regular Board Meetings**
- v. IK-Earning of Credit**
- vi. JICA-Student Dress Code**

Questions were raised by Mr. Post regarding not having the minutes from the Policy Committee and how can they move forward without them. He noted according to RSA:91a they should be available within 72 hours. Superintendent Lane took responsibility and apologized; he didn’t have them, confirmed he did take notes however they were not available this evening. He added as far as the ability to discuss this you can read the policies but not discuss them and no votes would be taken. To make the information available to you he doesn’t believe is out of the lines with the law. Mr. Legere questioned Mr. Post asking what action would he take if they did read them. Mr. Post questioned the appropriateness of the dialog. Mr. Ballou spoke indicating that these are not critical to be read tonight.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Ballou and SECONDED by Ms. LeBlanc to table all the policies first read until the next meeting.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

X. NHSBA-CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

Superintendent Lane informed members this information is provided for the Board to bring forward any resolutions they wish.

XI. SELECT BOARD & SCHOOL BOARD COORDINATION

Chairman Dailey provided an overview of the Select Board meeting he attended. Discussion was had that there has been a lack of communication or coordination and there should be coordination amongst the Boards in general. Suggestions made were to have some sort of executive committee or group (containing members of both Boards) that meets to discuss issues without decision making, to have Chairman Dailey monitor Wilton's meetings and be available for clarification and answer questions, or to discuss topics at the School Board meeting prior to the Select Board meeting and then vote to have someone represent the School Board or not. Chairman Dailey noted the next Select Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 1 and they are having a public hearing on parking ordinances which School Road may be included. His concern is they may make decisions or pass ordinances that affect this Board. Mr. Post doesn't believe there is a need to meet with the Lyndeborough Selectman quarterly as it has been working with Superintendent Lane communicating with the Lyndeborough's Town Manager. When asked, there was not a consensus to have Chairman Dailey attend the Select Board meeting and Mr. Vanderhoof voiced his concerns regarding this and made it clear he is not in favor. Superintendent Lane suggested in the spirit of communicating on a regular basis with the town, he could contact the Wilton town manager.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Fisk and SECONDED by Mr. Legere to have Chairman Dailey attend the Select Board meeting on Monday to represent the School Board to answer questions and provide clarification.

Discussion continued and opinions were shared. Mr. Vanderhoof voiced his concerns multiple times regarding Chairman Dailey's attendance. He noted he would happier if there were at least two members attending the Select Board meeting. Chairman Dailey when questioned by Mr. Vanderhoof, confirmed when he is attending meetings as a citizen (and not representing the Board) he makes that clear.

Ms. LeBlanc questioned at what point would it be advised to draft a letter and have it signed by the Board.

Voting: three ayes; four nays from Mr. Ballou, Mr. Vanderhoof, Mr. Post and Ms. Lemire, motion fails.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lemire and SECONDED by Mr. Ballou to direct the Superintendent to draft a letter to the Town of Wilton opposing an ordinance.

Superintendent Lane clarifies a letter can be drafted to town manager to request any vote be delayed regarding any ordinances on School Road. The discussion continued which included the request is not necessary as School Road is not a town owned road.

Ms. Lemire WITHDRAWS her MOTION.

A MOTION was made by Ms. LeBlanc and SECONDED by Mr. Ballou to authorize the Superintendent to instruct the Wilton Select Board to delay vote or action regarding School Road.

Voting: four ayes; three nays from Mr. Vanderhoof, Mr. Post and Ms. Lemire, motion carried.

Superintendent Lane will draft a letter and show this to the Chairman and Vice Chairman prior to sending. It was requested that the Superintendent find out if any other districts have formal meetings with the town.

XII. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Vanderhoof spoke of wanting more content in the minutes as he doesn't like it when it says for example (from September 11, 2018) "discussion was had regarding the scores and members voiced concern" and doesn't contain details. Chairman Dailey shared he does not want the minutes too long.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Fisk and SECONDED by Ms. LeBlanc to approve the minutes of September 25, 2018 as written.

Voting: six ayes; one abstention from Mr. Post, motion carried.

b. Fuel Bid

Ms. Tucker reviewed the memo regarding the fuel bid. An invitation to bid went out to five companies. Details of quotes included the supplier of No. 2 fuel oil and propane. Delivery is to be automatic, but additional deliveries may be made within 24 hours of request. The term of the agreement is September 15, 2018 to June 15, 2019. She confirmed we do not have a contract at this time. Results of the bids were provided. The budgeted price per gallon for No. 2 oil is \$2.422. Anticipating the lower bids, this reflects a projected deficit of .047c per gallon. The budgeted price per gallon for propane is \$1.492. This projects a savings of .063c per gallon. Quotes were received from Discount Oil of Keene, Keene, NH, L & G Propane, Keene, NH and Ciardelli Fuel Company, Milford NH. Her recommendation is to award the bid to Discount Oil of Keene for No.2 fuel at \$2.469 and L & G Propane for propane at \$1.429. With approval of the recommendation she anticipates a deficit of \$29,123 assuming the same consumption as last year. Mr. Erb wanted the Board to be aware that the lower bidder has had to be reminded of the automatic delivery requirement and as a result they have to bleed the boilers which costs labor time of approximately \$2,400. It was suggested to add penalty if they fail to make a scheduled delivery. Superintendent Lane responded it was not part of the bid. Mr. Post questioned if it may have been due to a lack of history from us and last year it was extremely cold. Ms. Tucker agreed it is possible. It was noted that last year was an outlier.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Legere and SECONDED by Ms. Lemire to award the bid oil to Discount Oil of Keene and the propane bid to L & G Propane.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

It was suggested to obtain a two-year average for a more realistic budget number (not only last year).

XIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. Policy Committee

Mr. Ballou reported the committee will meet again in October. There are a lot of policies to go through; the policies brought this evening had less content than others. Mr. Legere added some of the policy changes brought this evening were related to the legislative packet which Superintendent Lane shared at the last meeting.

ii. Strategic Planning Committee

Mr. Vanderhoof reported at the last meeting the committee spent the first hour discussing the food service program. Mr. Robert Deignan, Food Service Manager was in attendance and it was helpful to get insight around the reasons they do things. The discussion will continue. The second half of the meeting was regarding MS and administrative structure and they took some votes on that. There were three things they wanted to bring forward around MS. One was no changes, second gives options to the 8th graders to obtain HS credit and adjust the schedules accordingly with two teacher reductions and the last was the same scenario as the second without the teacher reductions. With teacher reductions the class sizes would be about 22 students and the 8th grade teachers wouldn't be fully involved in the teaming concept. There was a 3-2 vote to create the changes with the teacher reductions and this will be spelled out in an upcoming meeting. He confirmed it was unanimous in regard to the administrative structure to do nothing (the structure was discussed somewhat last year and had one Principal with department heads) however he added there was a lot of talk about the way the vote goes with the whole Board and if the

Board voted to not accept the recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee and voted to do without the teacher reductions, then there is a good chance the committee members would vote to change the administrative structure (you cannot have both). There is paperwork outlining everything and a MS schedule with and without teacher reductions. Ms. Lemire noted she didn't recall how the MS teacher structure was changed. Superintendent Lane responded there are a lot of moving parts and we have two staff members who can teach English and social studies; we would combine these (and remove one) to handle the two sections of 8th grade English and social studies. We would remove a science teacher which could be MS or HS teacher pending the structure. Mr. Vanderhoof commented it all falls within the policies. Mr. Vanderhoof responding to a question, indicated if you go with the MS teacher reductions you can't change the administrative structure and vice versa. Ms. LeBlanc does not feel this is the best time to make a change and would like to hear from the teachers who are directly involved. Superintendent Lane responded that once it becomes an action item for the Board, he recommends the MS teachers speak within the structure of a decision making process. Mr. Vanderhoof noted the committee was able to determine it would not affect what we are trying to do with math remediation.

XIV. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES

Superintendent Lane reported the retirement of elementary teacher, Ms. Cathy Hamilton at the end of this school year.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lemire and SECONDED by Mr. Post to accept the retirement/resignation of Ms. Cathy Hamilton, elementary school teacher.
Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

XV. BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION

Additional discussion regarding a "flat" or "level" budget was had. Chairman Dailey wants to make clear the ramifications of a flat budget (there are contractual obligations). Mr. Vanderhoof is not advocating for a level budget and does not agree with Chairman Dailey's definition of a flat budget. Mr. Legere does not want any detrimental effect to students.

Mr. Vanderhoof brought up the phone savings (buildings main phone numbers) was listed as an option and it was not really talked about. He suggests action be taken one way or another. He doesn't believe it is a big issue to change the numbers. Mr. Ballou clarifies we would find those savings by porting the numbers over. Mr. Verratti noted he was advised by Public Utilities commission to work through the carrier; both companies need to have a porting agreement in place and they do not. Mr. Ballou suggests a phone call be made to see if this can be cleared up as it would be disruptive to change the phone numbers (other changes would be needed such as stationary etc. as well).

Mr. Vanderhoof spoke regarding the grade 1 touchscreen devices in the technology budget and not being in favor of this educationally or financially as there is some level of thinking it does for you and notes a lot of private schools don't allow students under the 4th grade to use them. He does not think it is necessary to have more screen time at school. It was noted the decision to have them was in the original initiative for 1:1 computer plan. It was suggested Principal O'Connell provide information on what they are used for.

Mr. Legere questioned if it would be beneficial to have the budgets broken out for facilities and curriculum coordinator. Superintendent Lane responded we can make it inclusive to one of the discussions as long as the Budget Committee is amendable; pulling it out at another time is not a problem.

XVI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Fran Bujak, resident, questioned the Strategic Planning's report. He spoke of the Board having a big issue with test scores but the committee comes forward to say we want to eliminate teachers in this area. He questions if the Superintendent and Principal were involved and wonders who is responsible and behind this recommendation. Mr. Vanderhoof responds by saying we are trying to provide an opportunity for students to get more credit and more advanced classes. Mr. Bujak comments if class size was the driver we would already be there. Mr. Vanderhoof noted the "staff reductions fall within in the policies and all that has been set up with the guidelines" and that they have responsibilities both ways. He adds the committee had discussions with the Superintendent and this is what made sense to the committee. Mr. Bujak questions if MS students are obtaining HS credit, he does not believe having students able to opt out of high school at grade 11 is a good thing. The Facilities Committee, of which he is a member, does not send anything to the Board that does not have support within the buildings; it is problematic if it does not have the support of the Principal and Superintendent. He questions how the educators are involved. He adds these towns have a lot of history and suggests if the educators are not on Board you go back look at this again. He appreciates the work the committee is doing and trying to save money. He spoke each year he was on the Board he listened to the Budget Committee asking for a level budget and referenced the correlation to your home budget and asked they look at these issues and see if there is enough support. Mr. Post noted that enrollment is down. Mr. Bujak adds that your objective is to improve student performance and he doesn't know of any study that says you can improve performance if you reduce staff. He believes students should be educated until grade 12 and suggests to increase the requirements. The staff is in the buildings and the cost is here, letting them leave early and get more credits doesn't make sense.

Ms. Laura Bujak, teacher, spoke and encouraged the Board to look at the developmental age of the students and their emotional state. There is another aspect to this that she wants to be considered as it is not just curriculum; you would have two less teachers to watch students. Chairman Dailey responded that the goal of the subcommittee is to do a "deep dive" into the information and that no decisions are made only their recommendations. All constituencies will be heard from. Mr. Vanderhoof commented "we are not eliminating a position, there is still potential and it doesn't mean we are starting to throw people out of the building; there is more information that will be out and will be in the board packet". We needed to make a decision in light of the other things on our plate he said. Mr. Post noted the subcommittee meetings are all public and can be attended.

XVII. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Vanderhoof spoke of attending the funding forum in Keene which was informative with a lot of great information however his concern was regarding the "opinion portion" and how the information is evaluated and believes it sends people down a certain road. If the vote were retaken now (to be in support of the forum), he would vote against it but would attend again. Regardless of which side you are on, he thinks its bad practice for the Board to sponsor or recommend things and would be in favor of such a policy. Mr. Post is in agreement.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Ms. Fisk to adjourn the Board meeting at 10:02pm.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Fowler