

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School
6:30 p.m.**

The videoconferencing link was published several places including on the meeting agenda.

Present: *Alex LoVerme, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Mark Legere, Brianne Lavallee, Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Charlie Post, Matt Mannarino, and Paul White, Participating online: Jim Kofalt (6:35pm), Superintendent Bryan Lane, Business Administrator Rob Mullin, Principals Peter Weaver (remote) and Bob LaRoche, Director of Student Support Services Ned Pratt, Technology Director Mark Kline, and Clerk Kristina Fowler*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Lane called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS

a. Elections

i. School Board Chairman

A MOTION was made by Mr. Legere and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to nominate Mr. LoVerme as School Board Chair.

Voting: all ayes, one abstention from Mr. LoVerme, motion carried.

ii. School Board Vice Chairman

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to nominate Mr. Post as School Board Vice Chair.**

*A MOTION was made by Mr. White and SECONDED by Mr. Legere to nominate Ms. Lavallee as School Board Vice Chair. ***

**Voting: two ayes, five nays from Mr. White, Ms. Lavallee, Mr. Legere, Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Mr. Mannarino, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion failed.*

***Voting: four ayes, two nays from Mr. Vanderhoof and Mr. Post, two abstentions from Ms. Lavallee and Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

b. Appointments

i. Treasurer

Superintendent voiced that Ms. Cindy Marzella would like to continue as School District Treasurer. Superintendent has spoken with her regarding reports coming to the Board on a monthly basis and he asks the Board if this is what they would like to see. Consensus is they would like to see the Treasurer Reports on a monthly basis. No objection was heard for Ms. Marzella to continue as Treasurer.

ii. School District Clerk

Superintendent reported Ms. Mary Jane Ryan; current School District Clerk has decided to resign from the position. He reports the position will be advertised. Candidates will be brought to the Board. Applicants do not have to work for the district but they can; this is a stipend position.

iii. Committees

Superintendent reported that historically this has been deferred to the next meeting. It was noted there is no need for a negotiations committee for the coming year as there are no collective bargaining agreements to be negotiated. Chairman LoVerme asks the Board to keep in mind; Ms. LeBlanc needs to be replaced on the committees she was involved with. In addition, to review the lists to determine if all the committees are still needed, as some have not been meeting. By consensus, this was deferred to the next meeting.

IV. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Superintendent Lane reported the following adjustments, under letters/information, a document regarding HB 206, a new custodian has been hired for LCS, and clarified for nonpublic that personnel matters will be discussed as well as reviewing applicants for the superintendent position.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Mr. White to accept the adjustments to the agenda.

63 *Voting: Via roll call vote, seven ayes, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, and no vote heard from Mr. Kofalt, motion*
64 *carried.*

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66 **V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

67 The public comment section of the agenda was read. Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the
68 meeting asking if they wanted to comment. There was no public comment.

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70 **VI. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

71 **a. Reports**

72 **i. Superintendent's Report**

73 Superintendent gave an overview of his report, which included the staff registrations for COVID vaccinations on March 27 and
74 28 for the 1st shot. He is told by public health that they cannot say specifically which vaccine will be received but they are
75 saying it is not the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine. The location will be in Merrimack, exact location not known. A link
76 will be sent to sign up for an appointment. Substitutes, coaches and all staff throughout the district are eligible. We should have
77 vaccinations completed by spring break. He thanked public health and Patty Crooker specifically. He will follow up with
78 additional information as it becomes available. He thanked Mr. Erb and the facilities crew at WLC along with Mr. Kline for
79 making the district meeting as successful as it was. He has been working with Ms. Spurrell to digitally create employee
80 contracts. A draft of the 2021-2022 calendar is included this evening; no vote is needed tonight. He has heard back from the
81 WLCTA regarding the calendar and will bring that information to the next meeting. He received a letter from the conservation
82 commission wanting to know if he could write a letter in support to build a footbridge over the creek in Wilton. This would
83 give children better access to the library, they would not have to cross the street in front of the Police Station while walking to
84 school and with the Board's permission, he will write it. In order to receive grant funds for this they need support for it. It
85 would not cost the district any money. Mr. Vanderhoof expressed that he feels this is a town issue and does not support the
86 request. Superintendent confirms it is not on school property and we have no liability. This is a pedestrian walkway. Mr.
87 Vanderhoof adds that this a Wilton issue, not a Lyndeborough issue and not a school district issue. Discussion was had
88 including support for it as parents; it can be congested in that area, it would prevent crossing the street in front of the bridge and
89 it would provide safe passage walking to and from school. Concern was raised that it is not a school issue and should not be
90 involved. Superintendent read the letter of request from Jennifer Beck, Wilton Economic Development Team. Further
91 discussion was had including that it is outside the scope for the school district. Superintendent reports about 40-50 students
92 walk. If you live within a mile of school, the district does not have to provide transportation. Some students from FRES go that
93 way and may have to cross the street. He confirmed he would not be speaking on his behalf but the districts if he wrote the
94 letter. There was interest voiced for additional information including where the funds would be coming from. Concern was
95 expressed that they are not hearing both sides of the issue; they should be fully aware of the information. Superintendent will
96 notify Ms. Beck that the Board does not have enough information to write a letter of support at this time. It is suggested Ms.
97 Beck should contract the PTO and parents.

98 **• HOUSE BILL 206**

99 Superintendent informed the Board he is providing information regarding HB 206; he is not advocating one way or another. It
100 is his understanding of the language of the bill that if we have negotiations for CBA's while the Board caucuses that is a private
101 meeting and not subject to the right to know law. Right now as it stands, negotiations is not subject to the right to know law.
102 This bill would make both party discussions at the table be required to have minutes taken and have public records available. It
103 was expressed there is a large movement that the public wants to see what happens with negotiations. It is becoming a public
104 meeting because it is public money. It was suggested there is no reason a member of the Board cannot take minutes. A question
105 was raised what the Superintendent meant by writing "it may limit the Board's ability to negotiate things beyond salary".
106 Superintendent explained that sometimes things come up relating to grievances that may or may not be an issue. It has not
107 happened in this district but it may limit the Board from having a conversation that is in public session. Mr. Post spoke in
108 support of the bill and noted people should consider it. Superintendent voiced he is not taking a stand. Mr. Post noted he is.

109
110 A question was raised if the Superintendent knew about how many people signed up to get the COVID vaccine. Superintendent
111 responded looking at the emails he received, it appears out of the 120-130 staff there are about 15-20 who have already
112 received it or are in process, about 7-10 who are either hesitant or would not give a reason and about 96 or so who are on the
113 list. A question was raised if the information was provided to all staff including the SAU staff. Superintendent confirms it was
114 as well as custodians, food service staff. He reached out to substitutes today.

115
116 It was noted there have been some changes taking place on the state level and the Board may need to look at the Back to School
117 Protocol. Superintendent believes the time for quarantining after traveling outside of the state has been modified.
118 Superintendent asks if the committee can look at this or have a discussion at the next board meeting in order to allow enough
119 time to modify it by spring break if needed. Ms. Lavallee explained that the travel restriction was changed if you are 2 weeks
120 out from your 2nd vaccination, you would not need to quarantine. In addition, people who had a confirmed positive test within
121 90 days and recovered do not need to quarantine due to travel. The "travel out of state restrictions" will change from
122 requirement to recommendation, which will mean we have some leeway to look at it and decide what is best for our district.
123 She would like to have the nurses weigh in and send it back to the committee; our number one goal is to keep the schools open.
124 The other thing we will need to be thinking about regarding vaccinations is what that will it look like in the fall. She is

recommending we look at some of the non-educational parts for the fall and revisit the protocol. Mr. Vanderhoof noted it was specifically listed in the MOA and therefore would need the approval of the bargaining units.

ii. Director of Student Support Services Report

Mr. Pratt spoke about CHAT meetings (Child Assistance Team). These meetings run at WLC bi-weekly with administration, teachers and guidance staff who get together and review every student. For some, this is a quick check-in and others it is a longer discussion and some students may come up more frequently. A running record is kept of the meetings in order to refer back. This springboards to interactions with outside providers with parent permission, to connect the schools, counseling, mental health, physicians, nurses etc. It has been going on for a while, its personalized education. Ms. Kovaliv started this when she came aboard and has continued to do these with support from Principal Weaver and Ms. Edmunds. From the SPED perspective, this is really a pre-referral process; this is where we do the work; does a student have a need. This is such an important piece of work that happens twice a week. Mr. Post expressed it is really what we are looking for in a small community school. He thinks it is great and a window into something the Board never sees. Mr. Pratt spoke that when the approval was given for the RISE program's secondary level one of the things we said we would do is to get the kids out more into the community, getting internships etc. and then COVID hit. We did get out doing a few things but we were really looking for a good idea that was impactful for the students. He was approached by a couple staff members (Tracy Girouard and Ashley Ansara) informing him that Ms. Girouard's husband has a business making dog biscuits and was willing to share with us the production and profits of the business. We thought this was an amazing way to work with the kids; there is counting, language development, and sales. He brought a sample; cost will be \$10 per bag. They will start out small and sell them at WLC then move on to advertise on the website. They will see how things go and may be able to get the kids out to do some marketing in some of the local stores. He spoke that part of his job is dealing with some of the real problems that special education brings but having scenarios like this and being able to see it is amazing. He thanked the Girouard's and Ms. Ansara and the community for buying these for our kids. He added the biscuits come in different flavors too. A question was raised if there was a link where they could be purchased online. Mr. Pratt responded they would start out small at WLC and then move to the website but not yet. They will be available next week at WLC. A question was raised if this was in coordination with the company that makes them. Mr. Pratt confirms that Mr. Girouard is providing the grains for us (made with spent grains) and Ms. Girouard is providing materials; profit is split 70/30 or 60/40. In the RISE room, we have an oven and dishwasher. We use silicone molds and a dehydrator. A question was raised if there is anything they need for material or equipment. Mr. Pratt responds not at this time. A question was raised if there were different shapes that could be made such as a fox or W. Mr. Pratt confirms the shape is driven by the silicone molds they have but certainly something to look at. Mr. Vanderhoof commented he thinks it is a great idea. He questioned if there was any liability issues with this if they are purchased and something happens to a dog. Mr. Pratt responded that they were concerned about that too. Mr. Girouard has so much liability from him, his wife works in the RISE program so we have the quality control, but he will get a legal opinion if they wish. Mr. Vanderhoof suggested reaching out to Primex to be sure we are not liable for something. Ms. Lavallee commented she loves this idea and if you are looking for an opportunity for them to sell those hands on, FRES PTO is having a plant/garden sale on May 9 and she is willing to donate a table. Mr. Pratt will speak with staff and get back to her. A question was raised if there were any health code requirements. Mr. Pratt responded he would be checking with the attorney and Primex to be sure we are all set. They are made with all natural products. It was asked if this was the only production plant or do they have others. Mr. Pratt responded this is the only one now.

iii. Director of Technology's Report

Mr. Kline shared what they are doing to take care of devices for the classrooms and staff. Over the past 2 years, they have updated 35 for staff and 150 for students. Over the summer, he will purchase additional units; the number of devices purchased will depend on the prices they receive. Prices have soared this year due to demand. He expects to get at least 2 dozen laptops for staff and at least 150 Chromebooks for students based on the budget that was passed. We have about 110 staff that have devices. If we were able to get a few more that would allow us to get closer to maintaining a replacement cycle. The 6th grade will have new Chromebooks, we will finally be able to achieve the replacement cycle in 2 more years. They tend to receive more "treatments" because they go home with them. It is a good reason for a shorter replacement cycle. We will need to look at desktop computers at some point. The ones that are left are in the computer lab, innovation lab and library. They do not get much use because all the students have Chromebooks but there may be some classes that will require them. At this time, they are still good and we will not look at replacing any in the immediate future. In many of the classrooms, the projectors need replacing. The plan is to purchase 14 more projectors or panels this summer depending on price. Those have stayed steady as opposed to the laptop prices. There are about 60 classrooms in all the buildings that make use of the projector or panel. We have a ways to go before we get all those replaced. A question was raised why we are not providing a sleeve or protective case for the Chromebooks; it is probably not that expensive to add this. Mr. Kline responded that has not been used here in the past to the best of his knowledge. His experience in another district is the kids tend not use them even though they are issued. If staff is behind doing this, it is something we can look at. He had hoped to purchase a plastic case that snaps on but the need for more devices put that on hold. A question was raised from a damage perspective, does he think adding something would help or is it more cosmetic. Mr. Kline responded it is more cosmetic; the damage we see is from computers falling and damage is mostly in the corners or from being crushed but it does not happen a lot. Nothing soft will prevent that kind of damage. If you are keeping the devices for 4 years, cosmetic damage is something to consider. A question was raised regarding what we are doing for 1st graders. Mr. Kline responded we were looking into purchasing iPads for them but there was some discussion on whether they wanted Chromebooks. He has not had time to explore this but they will need to be replaced one way or another. They have been using iPads and are probably beyond their useful life. It was noted it seems different for the students who have iPads and those who have Chromebooks; things seem easier to get to on a Chromebook. Mr. Kline adds it is something that will be discussed. Mr. Vanderhoof spoke of a meeting with the teachers and the Budget Committee that happened about 2 years ago where the

classroom teachers said they hardly ever use those devices and they were not an effective tool but more of a hassle to get the kids to use them. He thinks it should be a topic for the technology committee to discuss if we want to continue to use them. Mr. Legere expressed if you are looking at a replacement would there be a thought to replace them with Chrome based tablets; they would more familiar when they get their Chromebook. Mr. Kline responded he does not think there is too much difference from moving from tablet to Chromebook and will look into it. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral suggested that perhaps the strategic planning committee should look at it. Mr. Kline added if we are comparing an iPad that is 8 years old to a new one that is not a fair comparison. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral notes they would want him to consult on the matter. A brief discussion was had regarding the desktops and what is needed moving forward. Mr. Kline confirms the computer lab has about 20; the innovation lab has about 18 and are not being used at this time. He would not recommend replacing both of those unless something changes in the curriculum. There could be some specific engineering class and likely would have limited enrollment. In the library there are about 9 and are used by students periodically. Students cannot print from the Chromebooks and have to print from the library computers. He doesn't think there is any reason to change that and does not recommend adding more printing options. He adds it would be a discussion with Mr. Weaver to be involved in as where the curriculum is going. Superintendent added that the more we get into Project Lead the Way, the Chromebooks are not sufficient to handle that. Instead of sending students to Milford if we can do those classes here and not spend the funds for tuition at \$2,000 a student. If we bought a machine that allows them to stay, we would make up the cost in a year and save on the tuition. Mr. Kane, Mr. Weaver and Mr. Tyler would determine that level of need; there may be a number of them needed and will probably be sufficient down the road. A question was raised if we are looking at buying discounted, rebuilt ones to have for back up and board members at meetings. Mr. Kline reported we have an additional 50 for the 6th graders and we have a dozen or so that can be used as loaners. We have some and could be available to the school board; they are older of course but they pretty much work the same with some cosmetic issues. Mr. Kofalt questioned if it is a software issue or processor issue. Superintendent responded it is a combination of things, could be software, but if we are going to get into CAD/CAM (computer aided design and manufacturing) it mostly likely is a power issue to be able to handle the output. A question was raised if 3-D printers are being used. Mr. Kline responded that the ones we have here do not work well but he has noticed some more have been purchased and thinks they have been used but that is out of his realm. Superintendent adds it will be included in the Principals Report next month.

b. Letters/Information

i. Update Board Member Contact List

Members were asked to provide any changes in demographics to Ms. Fowler by the end of the night. The more information that can be provided in order for us to reach members the better.

ii. MS-22

The MS-22 is complete and ready for Board signature.

iii. Update on Graduation

Principal Weaver provided an update regarding graduation. They met today for a formal meeting, the class president, vice president and class advisors. The venue is now the most critical issue; they agreed to prioritize the drive-in as the venue but the issue is the rain date although the Superintendent is able to schedule Sunday as a rain date. Students want to have it on Saturday June 5. He is aware that traditionally it has been held on a Friday evening indoors. He is hoping the Board will think about Saturday. A formal presentation will be given at the first meeting in April. There is excitement about planning and the goal is to normalize graduation as much as possible. The 43 graduates have lost quite a bit since last March such as prom and basic senior activities such as the yearbook. He said they talked about pomp and circumstances, the rose ceremony and honoring that tradition, putting immediate family and graduates up front. Spaces would be assigned to families. A question was raised regarding what challenges they are having with the yearbook. Principal Weaver spoke that they didn't have a winter carnival or spring fling or festival and photos are lacking. They have put a committee together to look at having a spring fling before April break to celebrate their culture etc. They want to make things memorable so students can look back on them, and hopes it will help to build a yearbook. They are going to meet next Tuesday at the drive-in and really look at the space and see if this is the venue to go with. The students are also looking for indoor venues and if it were possible, they would certainly look at it. They will come to the Board the first meeting in April and give a presentation.

VII. FY 2020-2021 YTD REPORTS

Reports were provided to the Board for review. Superintendent voiced the fund balance currently looks to be \$1,029,588.49. There are encumbrances still being looked at; it is a changing situation with SPED. A student has moved out and another student may need additional services. Regarding revenue it looks like we are in a deficit but that is because we do not receive it all at once but as the school year moves along. Mr. Mullin added regarding food service, an updated version was emailed showing revenue increases of \$10,000. He continues to go through some of the revenues that are not showing. He is going through bank accounts to make sure he captures all of them. He updated quite a few today, and this will be reflected for the next month's update. He adds the MS-22 is available and asks all to sign it who have not. It is the last document to be uploaded to the DRA for this fiscal year and he will get that in this week. He will still need to do work on the appropriations for the first half of the next school year with the towns.

VIII. 2021-2022 DRAFT SCHOOL CALENDAR

A draft of the proposed 2021-22 school district calendar was provided. It includes 176 school days (increase of 2 days) and 9 professional days (increase of 3 PD days). Our goal is to have 5 days prior to the start of school as PD. The first day is an administrative day when the new Superintendent will meet with the staff and Union meetings take place. There will be 2 days

for working on curriculum, 1 full day for teams to meet with the new curriculum coordinator and talk about where the needs are in the development of the curriculum. A schedule is needed so the Board can follow the progress throughout the school year. Teachers will have 1 full day to set up their rooms. The first day of school is August 31. There are 2 early release days to be used for curriculum development and time for review with the curriculum coordinator. He does not think it will all be done within one school year but the curriculum coordinator will identify the most important pieces to develop first. He would like to have the summary documents first so the public would see what the expectations are. With this schedule, the last day of school with 5 snow days would be June 17, which is comparable to most districts. Without any snow days, school would end on June 10. He is getting feedback from the teachers. He gave them a breakdown of when and what the days would be used for. There is also a curriculum committee involved to be sure the days are used effectively. Both early release days will be used for STAR 360 “number crunching” to see where students are and determine need. Parent/teacher conference day will be a workday for teachers without students; the day will start at 1pm and end at 8pm. Teachers will schedule time for parents to come in; evening appointments will be available for those who need it. Dinner will be built into the schedule. He confirms it is a teacher work day, not a school day for students and is counted as a PD day as it always has. New teacher orientation days are not part of the CBA. Mentors will come for the 2nd day of new teacher orientation. A question was raised why not start school on Aug. 30. He responded that it is doable however; it is a bit of an adjustment for students to come for 5 days right off. They acclimate a little better starting the week with fewer days. A question was raised if the start days will be staggered as it was this year. He confirms all students would start on the same day and that was done primarily because students were not in school from March to June. That was to acclimate them back. We are up to almost 80% of our kids in school daily so it is not needed. He has not heard from Principals if it is something they wanted to do. There will be 2 PD days for subject area work. A question was raised if the new 6th graders will be able to come up to WLC for orientation. Superintendent responded that happens the week prior and could be done on a day between the 24th and 27th; it is handled by administration.

IX. CURRICULUM COORDINATOR

Superintendent reported, thanks to the good work of the teachers and administration he provided a summary of where we are in terms of curriculum and what still needs to be done. FRES has a little less detail as they don’t have as many subject areas but there is still a lot of work that needs to be done in both buildings. This is a map so the curriculum coordinator candidates can know where we are, what is needed and what the expectations are. A question was raised if there is a plan to assign priorities to these things and to do a certain number of them yearly with an easy outline to follow. Superintendent responded as a matter of sequencing, if the scope and sequence is not in place it needs to be before the units are created. It depends on the subject area and what is being taught. They are all in different various stages. He notes the math department at the HS seem to have the materials in place already. If the scope and sequence is in place then the units will be needed. He recommends creating a Gantt chart, as there will be things happening at the same time in different departments. He cannot say that there is one specific pathway as there are different needs that is why the curriculum coordinator will come in August and develop the plan you are speaking about. Ms. Lavalley spoke that what she was specifically asking for is what the reasonable timeline would be. She reviewed what the Superintendent said, that the month of August would be spent determining what the goal is and she thinks the Board all agrees the goal is, what Mr. Post had spoken of at a previous meeting; to have a fully integrated curriculum district wide. She adds, the curriculum coordinator will come and map out how to accomplish it and in how many years and who is responsible for each area. Superintendent agrees with that. Ms. Lavalley added once that is in motion we would continue with renewals of updating it with a timeline. Every few years we should work on a different area so we are not always working on the same one. Superintendent added it would also help not funding one area all the time. He feels most likely it should be the same type/style of schedule for curriculum as the one we have for technology. The level of transition caused them to fall further behind getting us to where we are now but if a plan is in place it would happen regardless of who is here. The one thing that he thinks should be a priority in the first 4-5 months is the scope documents that describe what the curriculum is so the public can see this. Ms. Lavalley agreed and feels this will give us the framework to set goals and follow the progress. Superintendent adds he feels it is very doable; it will be the coordinators job to do it. A question was raised how FRES is set up to come to the MS. Principal LaRoche spoke that it is a different curriculum and there needs to be a “crossover bridge” which we are working on. We have to say it is a K-12 curriculum and look at the progression. It is a lot of work digging into it, having scopes match up with the framework. A question was raised if the framework will be done by the time school opens in the fall. Principal LaRoche expressed he thought that would be tough depending on when the new curriculum coordinator starts, what their theory is and approach as well as the new Superintendent. He believes it is a process that will happen between now and next year. A question was raised when do students pick their classes. Ms. Edmunds responded they have completed their selections on March 11 and the process of building the master schedule has started. It was noted it would be good to know the courses and what the enrollment is. Ms. Edmunds responded the Program of Studies is on the website and the numbers for those classes they will have shortly. Superintendent will bring that back to the Board. A question was raised when NEASC did their review, didn’t they see there was a bunch of missing units or did they not go that deep into that. Superintendent responded generally they do not go that deep into it and generally what they are looking at is the self-study and that says this is where we are and where we are not. At that point they come to us and agree or not, and tell us what we need to work on. Curriculum is one of

those areas they said we need to work on but did not go into specifics like units but there was evidence that the curriculum documents were not where we wanted them to be and they agreed with us.

X. SCHOOL BOARD CONDUCT

Chairman LoVerme voiced that at the beginning of a new term; we like to go over school board conduct. One thing he learned in a webinar is when we get emails do not hit reply all; we only reply to the Superintendent. Once you include 5 board members, it becomes a quorum and minutes need to be taken. If 5 people comment on social media; it now becomes a quorum and minutes need to be taken. We need to be cautious about what we post on social media. Nonpublic sessions cannot be shared with anyone outside of that room; not our wives/husbands, children, or a principal it all has to be discussed within the scope of the meeting. Attendance to meetings during COVID, has allowed for online situations but we went back to school and told the teachers they have to come back and that is our expectation; we should meet their expectation and be present for the meetings. We have to lead by example and attend unless it is due to a COVID situation. The staff is in school, facing all sorts of things. They did a great job; support staff and administration have all "hit it out of the park". We should be at these meetings unless you are on a business trip and that has not been happening (due to COVID). We have public online, which is great, but the drawback is that we do not have anyone come to the meeting. That is the groundwork for our meetings.

Ms. Lavallee spoke that it was hard at times to get the SAU to sign the manifests during the time the office is open. Prior to the meeting tonight, it was discussed having the manifests brought to the biweekly meetings and possibly coming a half hour before the meeting to have them signed. It would be beneficial for everyone to see them. Chairman LoVerme added he signed manifests a couple of times this year and was amazed at the size of some of the checks. He caught a couple of things that were wrong and he sent them back. It makes things easier if the SAU has them signed timely. He asks that it be started at the next meeting. Superintendent noted a representative from administration at the SAU will be here early as long as there is a schedule of who can come on which date. A reminder can be sent out on those dates and an alternate would need to be found if you could not come. Manifests will be put on the tables in the cafeteria.

Superintendent questioned members if once the pandemic is over if they wanted to continue with remote access for the public. We have the equipment now and it is not a problem but if you have concerns about not having physical bodies in the room not providing remote access may help. A brief discussion was had regarding this. Support was voiced to continue having remote access. Superintendent commented we started this because of the situation we are in, there was talk about the video portion and we may want to ask the public if the video is necessary or is the audio enough. Audio may be sufficient. There have been complaints regarding how the Town of Wilton has theirs and some larger towns have community public television. Chairman LoVerme suggested board members get Chromebooks so that everyone would be on camera. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral questioned if the session can be made available after. Superintendent responded we do record the session and can look to see if we can put it on the website. It was noted sometimes students remotely attend the meetings. Mr. Post supports continuing. Mr. Kofalt suggested checking with the Town of Wilton who has a streaming system in place with audio/video. Mr. Lavallee commented via chat, that if we keep these meetings online he would donate a video conferencing set up. Mr. Vanderhoof commented that agrees with the format keeping it online but there is a time for public comment and he thinks reading comments off the chats is something we need to come up with a policy around so everyone can see it. He does not think we need Board members reading through comments especially when we offer multiple times for them to comment. Chairman LoVerme responds we can have that protocol in place moving forward. It was suggested to give it to the policy committee. It was further suggested that the Superintendent could read them at the beginning of public comment. It was noted it can be distracting and suggested it perhaps be disabled until it is time for public comment. If there is an audio issue, they can raise their hand. Superintendent notes this is new to him, he will work on it with Mr. Kline.

XI. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

A MOTION was made by Mr. White and SECONDED by Ms. Lavallee to approve the minutes of March 2, 2021 as written. Voting: Via roll call vote, seven ayes, two abstention from Mr. Mannarino and Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. White to approve the nonpublic minutes of March 2, 2021 as written.

Voting: Via roll call vote, seven ayes, two abstentions from Mr. Mannarino and Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

b. Approve School Board Meeting Dates

Superintendent spoke that in the past the Board has wanted to rotate through the buildings. If the equipment was in one place, it would easier. The library at FRES does not support it and at LCS we may be able to set up there but there would be no place for the public. He suggests having the meetings at WLC for the foreseeable future. Superintendent noted in the past the Board has not scheduled a meeting in July, you might want to schedule one or be available for a meeting if you need one to approve staff. A brief discussion was had including support expressed to have a meeting in July and a suggestion was made to have it remote. Superintendent responded regarding a remote meeting that it depends on if there is an emergency order in place from the Governor concerning public meetings. If he takes away the ability to meet without an emergency, you cannot plan one in advance if the pandemic is over. Planning it in advance is not an emergency. It was noted all meetings need a quorum present and all the emergency meeting does is allow us to not fulfill the physical quorum requirement. Looking in March, the Board has

typically met on the Tuesday prior to district meeting which this year falls on a school vacation week unless vacation week was changed. Due to a previous warrant article, the date for district meeting cannot be changed. Superintendent suggested approving the dates as is and changes can be made as necessary throughout the year with enough notice. This was agreed to do and the location of all the meetings will be WLC.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to approve the school board meeting dates for 2021-2022 with all locations to be at WLC.

Voting: Via roll call vote, eight ayes, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. Superintendent Search Committee

Mr. Post noted there is a nonpublic session tonight to discuss individual candidates.

ii. Short-term Strategic Planning Committee

Mr. White reported the committee met on the 10th and discussed the progress of the tutoring program, summer program ideas and the communication process between the district and families with failing students. There are 6 students participating in tutoring at WLC; administration is confident that will increase in the coming weeks. Tutoring is offered in science, math, social studies and English. Most students are in-person learners and some have just come back from being remote learners. Administration is still trying to reach the students who have a critical need. FRES has 6 families taking advantage of the program which focuses on math and reading; these are all remote learners. Teachers at FRES are using 1 hour for prep time per week which does not affect the budget and was included in the time the Board approved for them. They are also hoping that the number of students will increase. Regarding LCS, the Superintendent was unable to provide feedback due to kindergarten registration that evening. Ms. MacPherson did not have adequate information to comment on the need for tutoring at LCS. Committee discussion included having a transition or reintroduction class for students coming back into school who may not need the academic piece but would need to focus on the social aspects. Principal LaRoche wants to offer summer school for all remote learners and include music, art, technology and library classes. At WLC, they would like to explore programs based on competency recovery plus a more intensive program for students in a critical spot. Depending on COVID and mandates, Principal Weaver had said they are trying to plan for Friday's to be activity days during the summer and focus on the social aspects like having cookouts and no academics. This is still being discussed. The committee wants to wait until May to make any recommendations or ask for funds or guidance. A concern was brought forward regarding WLC students missing classes. The concern is regarding a form letter that seemingly threatens police involvement. Both Principal Weaver and Ms. Edmunds are working on revising the letter. Ms. Edmunds spends time tracking down students and she knows many of their personal situations; she is doing her best to tread lightly. Police are used as a last resort or when it is appropriate. Both Principal Weaver and Ms. Edmunds thought a social worker would be a major asset to get the students to where they need to be in the current climate. The next thing for the committee is to focus on the summer program unless the Board objects. Mr. White asked for any objections to a presentation in May; none was heard. A question was raised if the Board will see a cost on all of this. Mr. White responded that is why we are waiting until May to get exact numbers; they will see if COVID funding could be used and plan to send out the presentation a week in advance of coming to the Board. The committee will be reaching out to the Superintendent to provide information. Mr. Vanderhoof expressed that May seems a little tight, and questioned if they will be looking to have multiple presentations or just one. Mr. White responded the committee wants a solid presentation; they will have one presentation and may have other ideas if the Board doesn't agree. Third quarter grades will be in by then and data crunched by then. They can decide on how many scenarios they will have at that point. A question was raised how students are remote learning. Superintendent responded he doesn't have a confirmed number but about 7-8 are coming back and he believes there is about 20%, 70-75 students. A question was raised regarding the lack of participation in the tutoring program and is it because students have to come into school. Mr. White responded there is no online option because if they are not participating in class then likely wouldn't participate in tutoring either. The groups are small, he believes and FRES is 1:1. It was suggested to offer an online option for those that are reluctant. Superintendent added that we could reach out to find out why students are not participating. Ms. Edmunds spoke that they are offering remote tutoring for students to join in the small groups. They just started to get the word out and including it in every communications they have. Attendance is going up each week but they are struggling to get a hold of some of the students who really need it. They are welcome to join online from 3pm-4pm with the tutors. Mr. White noted he was not aware they were offering an online option. Ms. Edmunds thought it was summer school that there was not an online option. There is one student taking advantage of this. A question was raised if summer school in this year's budget or next. Superintendent responded Summer Academy is in next year's budget starting in July and is separate from summer school. Extended School Year (ESY) is separate from Summer Academy and is a SPED program. The Summer Academy generally is for students from K-3rd grade. The budget does account for transportation. The question is if we can use COVID funds does that allow us to expand that. Unless it is required in order to matriculate, the likelihood of students wanting or being amenable is limited. At the HS level, competency recovery is specific because the DOE has deemed in 2012 that all grades for HS are competency based grades so as long as you can show mastery as determined by the student mastery assessment. Hypothetically, you don't have to do anything all year and take the 4 or 5 mastery assessments and pass them. If you pass the class and don't master the competency, competency recovery would have you come in for that one specific thing, get remediation, retake the mastery assessment, and be able to get credit for the class. It was noted that there are a number of teachers at this school who don't grade homework or provide any feedback to the students since the state moved to competencies. Superintendent responded that is not the norm. Mr. White confirmed that they wanted to do 2 separate programs to capture some of these students. One plan is if the student has a 50 or better they are probably missing some competencies and

they can “hone in” on the competency, take the test and pass. If they have a 0-50, they are probably missing more than just the competency and would be better having a more intensive program to get enough information and enough remedial learning to catch up to be where they need to and get the credit. Superintendent noted last year we did that with the 8th grade and they were successful. Mr. Post suggested regarding the form letter, rather than thinking about making a change or working on it instead just stop sending the letter starting tomorrow morning. He realizes that there is a legal obligation but we are not that kind of community where the first communication they get is threatening police action. The phone should be picked up and they should be called. He realizes at some point that needs to happen but the letter needs to be softened and use other means of communication. We are a small school district with small class sizes. There should be a softening of it. Both Principal Weaver and Ms. Edmunds had said that the letter needed to be revised. It was expressed parents should feel at ease even if the teacher does not teach that particular class, the teachers are doing a fantastic job bringing the students up to speed with tutoring. It was noted; the first email received from FRES regarding tutoring was sent on the 17th and asked for a response by the 19th. It felt like they needed a response right away and there was no follow up after that. Mr. White responded students could still enroll in the tutoring program. We were trying to get everything together and determine how many teachers we would need etc. but if you are interested in tutoring, contact the person who sent the email. It was suggested another email should go out to let folks know that it is still available for students. Mr. White responded that WLC teachers are telling students at the end of classes about the program.

XIII. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES

a. Resignation-Melissa Levesque-LCS Pre-school Teacher

Superintendent reviewed the resignation. Ms. Levesque will be leaving at the end of this year. He informed the Board that a custodian for LCS has been hired and is starting on March 29.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.

Mr. Adam Lavallee noted that his comments do not have to be actually read aloud. He expressed he be willing to donate an “OWL System”, creates a virtual conference room, works really well and costs about \$1,000. If the Board continues with the remote option, it would be a better solution going forward than a laptop. He requested that the Board consider investing in a civics program; there is a dangerous misunderstanding of how our government works at all levels, state, federal and local. We do not have to choose to continue with that, we can educate our community.

Principal LaRoche asked to meet with the Board privately during nonpublic. The Board approved the request.

Ms. Laura Gifford commented that she appreciates being able to hear the meetings online. She wanted to ask if the curriculum coordinator can coordinate with the nursing staff about programs. She further said that Mr. Pratt spoke about the child assessment team. She wants to find out if there is an assessment team for the Early Learning Center that would include the health office and have collaboration between all disciplines to be effective for all students and to help all families. She spoke of early childhood being a critical time for brain development. If there is exposure to stress it can be detrimental to their overall being. She is promoting a collaborative effort in being able to support families and children. Mr. Pratt addressed her comments noting he didn’t recall making a comment regarding that tonight. Ms. Gifford responded she thought he spoke of a child assessment team. Mr. Pratt noted that was at WLC. Ms. Gifford asked for consideration to be given to have that for the early learning center and to have a collaborative effort between the health office, guidance and teachers for families and students. Mr. Pratt responded he could discuss this with the Superintendent.

XV. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. White spoke that it has been an amazing first year and he is looking forward to a year that is more normal. He thinks everyone is doing a good job and is starting to see the kids who are falling behind be lifted up. He thanked all the teachers and the Board for putting it all in place.

Mr. Post spoke that it was a great privilege to read to Ms. Petrone’s class. He really enjoyed it. When she introduced him, she said that he was on the school board and they make all the decisions for what goes on in the schools. As all great teachers do, they challenge you and he thought about this. He paused afterward thinking, that is what we do and he would like to think we do a lot more and maybe we need to a better job communicating that. He thanked Ms. Petrone for the opportunity.

Ms. Lavallee agreed she loved being involved in Read Across America at FRES; she thanked everyone who helped to coordinate it. She had a great 1st year and thanked everyone for all the support. She hopes to see more student and community involvement and that the school board reaches out to the community. She has had some good conversations with community members after district meeting and is looking forward to the restrictions being lifted so we can have more events involving the community. She reached out to the town offices in Wilton as discussed at the last meeting and they do not have an energy

committee that meets anymore, it has been dissolved but there is interest in creating more open lines of communication with the offices if that is something you want to think about.

Mr. Vanderhoof requested that NHSBA membership be put on the agenda.

Mr. Legere welcomed new member Mr. Mannarino to the Board and welcomed back Mr. Vanderhoof and Chairman LoVerme. He would like to see the sports events online continue (home and away) as it was a nice opportunity to see the games and quite a few people logged in.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral commented she read to Ms. Sappet's class and was impressed with the student's engagement. It was great to be part of the school and part of the experience. She thanked them for the opportunity. She noted that everyone had great reports as always and is looking forward to buying dog biscuits. She cannot wait to see it all rolled out. She welcomed Mr. Mannarino, welcomed back Mr. Vanderhoof and Chairman LoVerme.

Mr. Mannarino thanked those who welcomed him in person and by email and thanked the voters for putting him in this position and voting for him. He is looking forward to working with everyone this coming year.

Mr. Kofalt also had the opportunity to read this week. He thanked who ever at the school thought of the idea to invite the Board to come in; he really enjoyed it. It was a great opportunity to work with the 4th grade class.

Chairman LoVerme welcomed Mr. Mannarino and is looking forward to the next few years. He was not able to read during Read Across America week. He would like to see all of the members have computers and would like to see the Board go paperless. He thinks that with technology it is time to get away from the use of paper. He thanked all for this year noting we have had a lot of adjusting to do. He is proud of everything that has gone on; we kept our doors open. He thanked administration, staff, and everyone.

XVI. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (C)

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. White to enter Non-Public Session to discuss personnel matters RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (B) (C) at 9:07pm.

Voting: Via roll call vote, all ayes, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board entered public session at 12:09pm.

A MOTION was made to seal the non-public session minutes by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. White.

Voting: Via roll call vote, all ayes, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. White and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to adjourn the Board meeting at 12:10pm.

Voting: Via roll call vote, all ayes, one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Fowler