

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 2, 2021
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School-Media Room
6:30 p.m.**

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

Present: *Alex LoVerme, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Mark Legere, Brianne Lavalley, and Paul White, Participating remotely: Carol LeBlanc, Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Charlie Post (6:35PM) and Jim Kofalt (6:35PM)*

Superintendent Bryan Lane, Business Administrator Rob Mullin, Principals Peter Weaver and Bob LaRoche, Director of Student Support Services Ned Pratt, Technology Director Mark Kline, and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman LoVerme called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

II. 6:45PM EMERGENCY MEETING

No emergency meeting was needed.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

IV. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Superintendent reported the Chairman asked to discuss a possible lighting project for the district.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Legere and SECONDED by Mr. Vanderhoof to accept the adjustments to the agenda. Voting: Via roll call vote, six ayes, three abstentions from Mr. Post, Mr. Kofalt and Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.

V. 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.

There was no public comment.

VI. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

a. Reports

i. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent gave an overview of his report which included completing the draft presentation and going over the sound piece for district meeting. The computer can be plugged into the the sound system so voices will be heard over the loud speaker. We have six working mics, which is plenty. He is working with Mr. Erb and the custodial staff to make sure the room is set up appropriately. The procedure for the meeting is posted on the website and has been distributed. He has been working with the Superintendent Search Committee and has provided the applications to the Chair of the committee. The committee will meet on Thursday. Recertification for teachers has been completed for all but one teacher; the teacher is working with his supervisor. The nomination list should be coming to the Board the first meeting in April. . He informed the Board his intention to post internally for the RTI coordinator position at FRES. Previously that position was used for a remote teacher. It is his understanding and he believes the Boards that there will be no need for a remote teacher in the fall. The RTI program has been successful for students in the past. He spoke of NHSBA notices regarding some bills going through legislature. Senate Bill 130 was discussed today. The bill revolves around a freedom Savings Account for students. The intent of the law is for the state to provide funding of about \$3,700-\$8,400 for homeschool or private school students. There has been no alternative revenue stream to pay for that and not have it come out of public schools. He wanted to be sure that the Board was aware of this.

Mr. Legere asked if the Board could get a copy of the resumes of those who applied for the position of Superintendent. Mr. Post asked if a discussion could be had regarding that: Mr. Legere agreed.

It was brought up that student correspondence was received regarding graduation. Superintendent informed the Board he had received an additional email that indicated students wanted to go back to the Milford Drive-In for graduation. He noted that this email was from a different source than the first one who requested not to have it held at the Milford Drive-In. Right now, there are two concepts. Principal Weaver and others will work on this and determine what direction to go in. It may be beneficial to hold it on a Saturday as opposed to a Friday night and be able to expand on what was done last year. Last year's graduation was done nicely but they have learned some things that can be done differently. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

A question was raised if the RTI coordinator position was in the budget. Superintendent confirmed it is along with the additional 3rd grade teaching position.

A discussion was had regarding holding a future discussion on NHSBA as they are essentially acting as a lobbyist organization. Discussion included we should not use taxpayer funds on lobbyist groups and should not pay membership fees to NHSBA. Mr. Kofalt clarified a provision of the bill allows parents to tuition their children to other public school districts and could benefit parents from Milford who wanted their kids to be full time in person when they were remote. He thinks this is an important factor to keep in mind and it is important to have the discussion. Superintendent agrees the intent of the law is to create school choice, which could include the possibility of attending other public schools. The funds could go toward the tuition and parents would have to make up the difference of the tuition, not the schools. Mr. Post expressed concern that they lobbied very hard against this bill and he has concern with them using our membership, which is paid for with taxpayer funds to lobby against some of the taxpayers. Perhaps there is a firewall between the two organizations but they claim to be working on behalf of the school district. He knows there are many deliverables from the NHSBA but they have become very political and interjected themselves on a serious issue. He does not want his taxpayer dollars to go there and many other people do not as well.

Ms. Lavallee voiced that she thought the future of the curriculum coordinator and plan would be discussed. Superintendent responded that he has all the curriculum documents and is reviewing them. The next meeting he will bring it to the new Board. Ms. Lavallee added it had been discussed a couple of meetings ago that there was a need for a clear and concise plan, one that would be completed for a few years so the Board can follow along. She notes, in order for us as a Board to do our due diligence we need to know the plan in order to assess if it is being done. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral agreed; we want to have goals and make sure things are working the way they are supposed.

ii. Business Administrator's Report

Mr. Mullin read his report that included the Business Office currently working with Tyler Technologies, the software provider of Infinite Visions, to ensure the full use of its capabilities in serving district staff with human resource and payroll needs. Tyler offers an employee self-service portal for Invite Vision users which allows staff to update their personal information, request time off, enter time sheets, and view tax information. This conversation we have been having for the past few months that we are looking to streamline our processes in the office and lessen the load in certain positions, and allow people to take on different responsibilities. Winter has returned and the maintenance staff has kept our buildings safe and looking great inside and out. He voiced appreciation. Mr. Erb is pleased with the work the new snow removal company has done, Mr. Chris Carter of Carter Plowing. He spoke of this year being challenging for many and over the past couple of months it has been hard to get the manifests signed. He notes we need to ensure our policies are being adhered to properly. He would like to start a conversation of how to get the manifests signed on a timelier basis. He is not trying to single anyone out or blame anyone as both Ms. Lavallee and Ms. Cloutier-Cabral have worked hard with the business office to accomplish this and he thanked them for finding ways to get them signed. He would like an alternative plan in place to ensure the bills go out in a timely manner. Two signatures are needed unless it will be a late bill or a dire need. He is bringing it to their attention to think of options.

iii. Principals' Reports

Principal Weaver reported Mr. Andrew Tyler has been nominated for NH Teacher of the Year. He spoke positively about Mr. Tyler who is a wonderful teacher one who has many accolades. He hopes he wins. Principal Weaver gave a shout out to the PTO; they organized a pop-up, online, spirit apparel fundraiser and got enough donations to purchase student t-shirts for the entire graduating class of 42 students. He informed the Board that about 65% of the graduating class is planning to go to college. He is not sure if that is a high or low number for this district but it's a great place to start. He reported some of the colleges they are going to, University of Purdue, University of CT, and

Nashua Community College. He adds, they can go anywhere they want and we can provide the education for them. He has been working with Mr. Miller to get the “Athletic Hall of Fame” up and running. He believes every school should find ways to connect with the community. There is a large population of our community that is involved with sports. He is excited to get it up and running in the spring and to determine what it will look like, how will we get nominations, the induction ceremony, etc. He wants to formalize all of that with the Board and he asks them to be prepared, as he will likely ask them to be represented in the planning, getting people inducted and attendance to the ceremony. He would like this to be an annual celebration. He wants to look at nominees whether from 1954 or the student pitcher that won the State Championship a couple of years ago. It will happen soon, April or May and will need to determine who will be on the committee. Ms. Lavalley spoke regarding the nomination of Mr. Tyler, she heard one of Mr. Tyler’s classes and she is glad to hear he has been nominated for NH Teacher of the Year. He is a great teacher who loves his job and the students. She praised seniors for working so hard to get where they are going and she is looking forward to the Hall of Fame.

A question was raised if there has been any direction from the NHIAA regarding what the baseball season may look like. Principal Weaver spoke there has not; the NHIAA is evolving and how they view COVID and how communities are opening up more and more vaccinations are happening. It will be outdoors in the spring and may help normalize the season more. There is also some built in social distancing in the sport. Superintendent spoke as the Chairman of the NHIAA Tennis Committee, we will have girls to play and they looked at the tennis courts and they can use three courts safely. The NHIAA and his committee has created a set of protocols such as the coaches will wear masks, instead of the handshake at the end, rackets will be raised and they fully intend to have a full sports season.

Principal Weaver spoke that there are two graduating seniors entering the military as well as his son. It is important to recognize that and an incredible sacrifice and courageous decision. A question was raised if it is feasible that the senior class could graduate at the school as by June we may be a better position as far as the state goes. Principal Weaver spoke there was conversation today and some emails with students and advisors; we have to make some early decisions and we have to assume the worst. Venues are limited and in terms of the drive-in, it will be a competitive process to get a spot to graduate on that weekend. The earliest we can commit and commit the funds the better; we will need to have staging and sounds system etc. If Milford is doing a graduation, he believes they traditionally do it on a Saturday, could we share the cost of the stage, and chair rentals etc. if we do it back-to-back graduations since the equipment is set up already. It is a possibility.

Principal LaRoche spoke that FRES is back in session after February vacation and teachers have picked up where they left off. Student assignments for 21-22 school year are in the final approval stage. State testing begins soon and they are starting to prepare for this and prepare the students. They will be using the March staff meeting for professional development planning about PowerSchool and Read across America. Some anecdotal reports from the teachers suggest they are teaching successfully, students are meeting the benchmarks and they are comparing that to non-COVID years and children are advancing as we hoped they would. We rely heavily on their long-term substitutes, if we can give serious consideration to keeping them until the end of year it will be a big help to the school; people are out and the substitute list is short. These are certified teachers and the curriculum is a higher level. Looking at the future of FRES one of the focused areas is preparing for the next few years. He reports, we do not do this here, but in some districts you look at demographics and students entering school, you look at ages of the children born into families in the towns to see what enrollment may look like. We will not go that far but we can see that we will have 13-15 additional students coming into FRES and the year following at least 9-10. The grade levels are growing a little each year, we have some classes at 37 or 41, and we will be looking at over 50 in at least three of the classes. It is something we want to keep an eye on and be prepared for. It looks like FRES could handle 15 classrooms. Other programs are also increasing in need, the RISE program will likely expand and we will use two classrooms for this. He submitted a lengthy vision statement, correcting a couple of typos. A question was raised when the agreement ends with the long-term substitutes and if we have reached a limit. Superintendent confirms it ends on Friday, we have two long-term substitutes and we have not reached a limit; it will not be a Union issue. A question was raised how many weeks are left and what would be the cost. Superintendent confirms approximately 14 weeks; cost is somewhere around \$15,000-\$16,000 and we do have those funds remaining in the substitute account. The reason we have funds available is that we were able to pay for some of the substitutes with COVID funds; we can do that again as long as we show it is appropriate. We have another round of funding that we could tap into, about \$3000,000, and can be spent up until September 2023. That funding could be used for (examples) more water bottle filling stations or adjustments to the ventilation system. He confirms the substitutes are deployed to all three schools. He confirms there has not been a day when they have not been needed. If we do not extend it, we will look

at the substitute list as best we can but there is no guarantee they are available on a consistent basis. He confirms one long-term substitute has expressed interest in staying; he has not spoken with the other. Even if we did not have the COVID funds that dollar figure still exists in the substitute account with the understanding that there is only one maternity leave at this time. He confirms COVID funds cannot be used for maternity leave. He confirms of the \$300,000, nothing has been designated at this time; Mr. Mullin is gathering items to be brought to the Board for consideration of expenditures. He confirms you need to use the COVID funds within the allotted time; these are funds coming from the Federal Government not the State. A question was raised if we have any funds available from the original grant. Mr. Mullin confirms we are getting close to designating the entire amount and there is about \$5,000-\$10,000 left but that is not an exact figure as items are coming in. He confirms within the current substitute line for all schools, that there is approximately \$52,000 remaining. A question was raised if it would be appropriate to bring up a proposal now. Superintendent advised it would be better under action items if the Chair agrees. Chair agrees. Principal LaRoche was thanked for bringing this up and that he had some great recommendations for improving performance of staff and students and some cost savings. A question was raised, in regard to some of the recommendations, are there things the Strategic Planning Committee would look at as some are extensive and involve multiple schools. Superintendent responded Principal LaRoche did a great job putting this together and his vision statement of how he sees FRES. The Strategic Planning Committee with Principal LaRoche could discuss it, provide further details, and make a recommendation to the Board as far as long-term funding and whatever considerations there are for the future. Ms. Lavallee notes she specifically likes the part where it seems to bring all three schools together as a district and it would be great to see across the district, streamlined processes. Principal LaRoche responded they have started those discussions with WLC.

Superintendent/Principal Lane informed the group that parent kindergarten orientation would be held remotely March 3 at 4:30PM; a link is posted on the website. The meeting will be recorded and posted on the website for parents who are not able to attend. It will include the presentation from each of the kindergarten teachers, school nurse and administrative assistant. There will a chance for questions at the end. Kindergarten registration will start on March 10; it will be drive up. We will be outside taking information, getting documents prepared. This gives us a good start on registration for the fall and provides an idea of what enrollment may be. We can trouble shoot things like missing information, or shot records. LCS celebrated 100 school days with the pancakes and pajamas day, which is a tradition at the school. We had a late arrival on that day and had had pancakes after lunch. He thanked the classroom aids for helping. A question was raised regarding not being able to find a custodian for LCS and has there been any thought to this if it is not filled for the beginning of next year. Superintendent responded he wanted to get past the budget and look at options. We have someone from WLC come to LCS on Mondays to clean and a cleaning service comes in the other days. It would be advisable to have someone there during the day. He reports although he does not mind doing it, he gets to see the kids, but it would be better to have someone on a regular basis. A question was raised if this could be impacted because the position was cut back. Superintendent responded it is a possibility but if you talk to people in that field, those jobs are hard to fill whether part-time or full-time. A request was made to get the cost to use the cleaning service for the school year so they can properly look at what they are getting for service vs. the costs and if it is better to go in a different route. Superintendent agrees. He informed members that Aimee Gelineau, School Counselor will start to come to LCS each Thursday to start working with kids.

b. Letters/Information

i. Board Request

Superintendent provided information on student transfers as requested from a board member. He notes there were not any big changes for LCS. He provided a list of where the students moved. When a student transfers to another school, we receive a request from the new school for their records. A question was raised if there is any way we could make an optional questionnaire that is sent out to parents when they move so that we could gather some feedback regarding the motivation; some anecdotal feedback has been that some people move to obtain better educational opportunities for their children. Superintendent notes generally when someone has moved we find out after the fact, this does not mean we cannot reach out as we have their email addresses. He can create a survey for this. Ms. Lavallee asked him to do this. A question was raised regarding if the Superintendent knew how many home building permits were in the two towns. Superintendent does not. It was noted there are quite a few coming up in Wilton and that is a potential for increased enrollment. Superintendent agrees and notes it also creates the potential for impact fees. It was noted that impact fees were discussed a couple of years back. Superintendent responded that we took the money. A question was raised if there is any available to us or if we had checked lately. Superintendent responded it is a 7-year rotational cycle and you generally want to wait until you have about 3 or 4 years because the paperwork is not worth it. It would be at the end of 2022-23 when you would want the business administrator to inquire if there are any impact fees out there and what they would be. Mr. Post confirmed that Lyndeborough does not have impact fees.

VII. FINAL DISTRICT MEETING DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

Superintendent provided a draft presentation and script for review. He has done a dry run of all the technical pieces and he is confident we will be able to do what we need to do. The script is in his words and the Board can make any changes they wish, or modify it in any way. A suggestion was made on slides 2 and 3, to add to the first sentence "in year one is" and possible add year two and three as additional lines. Superintendent spoke that the only issue is that putting it in these terms, the apportionment, the formula, and tax rate can change and it may be a misnomer to do that. He believes that if you look at the teachers' contract, he believes the cost estimates by percentage are included in slides seven and eight but not the dollar figure. It was decided it will not include those changes however the wording "in year one" will be added. Superintendent notes he can do an estimate if the Board requests. Mr. Vanderhoof noted year one was kind of what the Board was asking, it is the next two years they believe that are problematic, too expensive and would create issues for the district. Superintendent notes slide 5 has the annual estimated costs. Superintendent notes this gives a breakdown of what it means. Mr. Vanderhoof asked for slides, 18, 19, 22, 23, if these could be condensed/combined, as we have presented the same type of figures on all of these. Superintendent will do this and will need to change the wording a bit to make it fit. He adds regarding the script, you are the presenter this gives you a starting point but it is yours to present and you can choose to add or take away dialog or text. He has requested if there are presentations from other bodies that they make it known as soon as possible. Mr. Kofalt noted the slides as he recalls, normally include a figure of what is the tax increase for Wilton is based on a certain home valuation and what is the tax increase for Lyndeborough based on a particular home valuation. He does not recall seeing it broken down by month and questioned if it is new. Superintendent responded it was in the script last year but not on the slide. A question was raised if there was a particular reason why it was done. Superintendent responded it basically describes something so that it is more real to a person; it is not required. It was suggested that it seems like an effort to minimize the numbers and would be more in favor of comparing apples to apples and doing it the way we have always done. Superintendent responded that it is at the discretion of the Board. There was support voiced for it to be removed from the slides. Mr. Kofalt believes we are better off doing what we have always done. There was no objection to remove the monthly breakdown from the slides. It will still include the annual cost. Mr. Vanderhoof spoke that he would like to see a comparison on slide 5 of what the Board was offering vs. what is being brought forward as they are close but the teachers did not present the numbers to the Board that they presented to the Fact Finder. It is important for everyone to understand the Board wants a contract, that they would very much like to have a contract that worked for both the district and the teachers and there was an effort to get there. These numbers are not that far off, but they never saw the teachers final offer, they never offered it to them they waited until the last minutes and offered it to the Fact Finder and this is noted in the Fact Finder's Report so the Board never had consideration of these numbers before it went to the Fact Finder. He does not think this is bargaining in good faith but it is how it was. He believes this may come up. If it had been in the last part of negotiating, face to face they may have come to an agreement. He does not want the public to think they are so close and the Board was just being stubborn. What the Board was negotiating with and what they were asking of the Board is not what is representative of what they see here. Superintendent questions how he wants that on the slides. Mr. Vanderhoof responded he does not know if the Board wants it on there but he wants to see what it looks like. On slide 5, you have year one, two and three of what this represents and if you put in another column of what was offered by the Board, a step increase etc. Superintendent notes you will find it is almost equal to the numbers in year one, slight increase in the second year and slight decrease in year three. A brief discussion was had regarding adding this or not. Ms. Lavalley spoke that it is her personal opinion that when we present to the towns, we are just presenting what happened and what the result was for them to make a decision. She feels those details although understandable and she understands why he would want those known but she does not feel it is necessarily relevant on making a decision on the final number. It is information they would take into account if they were judging the job they did but we are not asking them to do that, we are asking them to vote on a number. She does not think adding extra information to the slide is necessary. Mr. Post asked where the public would get that information if the Board does not provide it; you want a well-informed voter so they need to know the background on how we got there. It was brought up at the budget hearing that exact same issue that Mr. Vanderhoof mentioned. Ms. Lavalley questioned if it was discussed and were the details disclosed at the meeting. Mr. Vanderhoof responded we answered the question, he is unsure if it was satisfied. Ms. Lavalley notes it is part of the public record then. Mr. Vanderhoof notes as a school board, per what we voted for, we are asking the public to vote against this and reject a number, a contract and everything that goes with the teacher contract. We would like to have a contract but we do not feel it is in the best interest of the district because other things will take a hit. That is why we need to make clear years two and three because this is how the budget creeps up, we run into situations like last year, and we will have to start making cuts in personnel, facilities and books and all the things that cut last year because it got too high too quickly. Ms. Lavalley clarifies she is not saying we don't discuss it or disclose the information but when you are giving a concise

presentation you are talking about adding more information to the slide, she doesn't know how beneficial it will be for the same reason we took information out of the other slides. Superintendent suggests the Chairman can add dialog in after slide 5 and speak to it any way he would like. Chairman LoVerme asked for the exact dollar figures; Superintendent will get that to him. A comment was made by Mr. Golding that he agrees with Ms. Lavallee and he notes the Fact Finder's Report is on the website. Ms. LeBlanc feels that the Board has decided not to vote in favor of this and believes the Board will be asked to defend their reasoning for the decision and answer questioned people may have as to why they did not agree with it. It will be important to give all the facts to make it clear that it was a reasonable choice as far as the Board is concerned to not vote for this and defend those reasons.

Discussion was had regarding the meeting protocol. Ms. Lavallee has heard a lot of feedback that there are number of people concerned about COVID. There is one main entrance for all citizens and questions if we can have two separate entrances for those who are masked and those who are not. Superintendent responds that we can do that if the Board wishes. He clarifies that there will be dividers down the hall so people know where to go and when people check in there are only two people who do the checklist and everyone will have to go to the same point at one point. They will all come to one place for the Supervisors of the Checklist. We can ask people to wear a mask and take it off if they are going into the main unmasked room. Concern was raised that we need to make accommodations for all people that want to attend and are making accommodations for those not wearing a mask; we need to make accommodations for those who don't feel comfortable being around unmasked wearers so they are not in any close proximity to those who don't want to wear a mask. She believes when it was discussed before there would be two separate entrances so the masked and unmasked wearers where not together. Superintendent responded that because of the logistics of the check-in procedure that is where we have an issue. We could ask anyone who wants to enter without a mask should wear a mask while they enter and check-in. They can take it off after that point and we can provide them if needed. If there was an issue with an individual who did not want to do this he will have them come in an alternate entrance, he does not think there will be too many people of that nature. They will not need to wear it long and if there is a person who has a specific concern we need to meet it, he would work with them. A question was raised if there will be signs. Superintendent responded he has a plan. Mr. White spoke regarding the statewide mask mandate from the governor, he believes it says you do not have to wear a mask if the seats are 6 feet apart but you do if you are moving about the building or venue you are required to wear a mask. He believes it is covered by the mandate. Mr. Kofalt disagrees and notes there are exceptions. He thinks the proposed plan works well and he applauds the plan to make sure everyone is well served. We cannot absolutely insist that people wear a mask even for a short time, some people cant and may have traumatic experiences associated with that. He thinks if we can do what the Superintendent suggests to deal with them on a one to one basis and have them come through a separate entrance. The CDC guidance has said you need 10 minutes of exposure to be in danger. He does not think it is a danger for people to walk by each other as long as they are not lingering but in order for everyone to feel comfortable, he supports the plan proposed. Superintendent will be by the door and work with any individual to make sure we find an appropriate way to help them and they can attend and participate in the event.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Mr. Ledger to approve the minutes of February 16, 2021 as written.

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

A MOTION was made by Mr. Vanderhoof and SECONDED by Mr. Legere to approve the nonpublic minutes of February 16, 2021 as written.

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

• LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTES

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. White to extend the two long-term substitutes for the remainder of the school year.

Responding to a question, Superintendent confirms it will cost roughly \$15,000-\$16,000 and we will apply to the Federal Government to furnish those funds.

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

340 • **LED LIGHTING**

341 Mr. Vanderhoof spoke that a couple years back a presentation was given to the Board regarding LED lighting. Mr.
342 Boette has said many times, there are companies out there that can switch you over at a minimal cost and take the
343 savings from the project over a period of years as payment. He has sent a few emails regarding a specific company
344 and asks if the Board would approve a walk-through for the company in order for them to come forward with a
345 proposal to the Facilities Committee or the Board; the sooner the better. It is believed to be Chris Balch who
346 presented to the School Board previously and spoke of associated cost with realized savings over time. It is believed
347 that what was included in the CIP for LED lighting was for WLC and came from the previous presentation. Mr.
348 Vanderhoof reports there is no cost for the company to do the walkthrough. Discussion was had that in some cases it
349 does not end up being a great deal but there is no harm in having the walkthrough. Concern was raised that we
350 should do the math to determine if it a good deal. It was also discussed that we put funds into the capital reserve each
351 year on the same principle if we find it is worth it we could potentially come out significantly ahead. We should look
352 at some of the energy savings programs available such as NH Saves. Mr. Kofalt informed the group that the House
353 did pass legislation and if it passes the Senate and Governor's desk that would exempt school districts from the
354 upcharge of carbon offset fees. He spoke of what happened in Windham with a similar situation; he encourages the
355 group to look at it closely. He suggested tapping into some of the folks on the Wilton Energy Committee. Discussion
356 continued with concern expressed. Mr. Legere reviewed his experience with similar situations. He reviewed three
357 options he has seen, wholesale change out of all the light fixtures which was the "Cadillac" version with everything
358 brand new, changing out parts of the fixtures and do LED's, and the last option of changing out bulbs to LED bulbs;
359 this is the cheaper way to do it. He would like to see a bulb only proposal in the option. Mr. Vanderhoof clarified he
360 is not advocating for anything, he is just presenting the information he received. It was not known if the Wilton
361 Energy Committee is still in effect. It is listed on the town's website. Mr. Kofalt agreed that various options should
362 be looked at. It was noted if they are in effect; it may be beneficial for someone from that committee to be at the
363 walkthrough. It was suggested that Mr. Erb or others be closely involved since they deal with those systems on a
364 regular basis and make sure they are participating in the process. Superintendent confirmed no motion is needed;
365 there is no cost to the district. It appears there is a consensus to approve the walkthrough and have a presentation to
366 the Board at a future meeting. No objection was heard. Ms. Lavallee offered to reach out to the town office and see
367 what they have to offer.

368 **IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

369 **i. Superintendent Search Committee**

370 Mr. Post reported they have 10 applications from the online site and 2 additional applications that are pending from
371 outside of that site. He has had a couple of conversations with folks and we have a robust pool of applicants. There
372 are four from NH, rest are from New England and outside of the area and as far away as Colorado, Pennsylvania and
373 New Jersey. The committee will meet on Thursday to go through them and there may be an additional meeting
374 where they discuss the applicant's names and that is preferred to be done outside of public session since it is a job
375 application; they have to work out the details of this. He has sent out thank you emails to the applicants and let them
376 know the applications were received. The agenda on Thursday will include setting up community meetings,
377 stakeholder meetings (staff, current administrators) and will move forward from there. He feels there is a good pool
378 and we have good options going forward. A question was raised if it was discussed what the specific vision for the
379 district was and what initial conversations took place; have the applicants asked questions about the district yet. Mr.
380 Post clarified no; it has mostly been helping to navigate the site for those outside of the current school district world.
381 A question was raised when we could start talking about the vision for the district. Mr. Post responded his plan was
382 to bring a proposal to the Board on what their recommendations are. They need to be sensitive regarding the
383 applications and would probably sort through them and bring the top tier candidates and options forward; it would
384 need to be in an executive meeting. A question was raised how would they be whittled down and would the Board be
385 able to see them before that was done. Mr. Post clarified some would be obvious to the committee regarding which
386 would go move forward. The committee would share their work. He added it's the sensitivity of it and not letting the
387 applicants supervisors know they are looking for a job. If they lose their job because we disclose this, it would be a
388 problem.

389 **ii. Short-term Strategic Planning Committee**

390 Mr. White reported the committee has not meet since the last board meeting. He is hoping to have a meeting this
391 coming week to talk about summer programs. Chairman LoVerme expressed he is excited about the tutoring and he
392 thanked Principal Weaver and the committee. Mr. White expressed that there is interest in the programs. It was noted
393 the committee has done great work.

394 **iii. Negotiations**

395 Chairman LoVerme reported there are no negotiations to report.

396
397 **X. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES**

398 There was none to report.
399

400 **XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

401 Chairman LoVerme noted for those online this is their turn to speak up and he would appreciate input or questions.

402 The public comment section of the agenda was read.

403 Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.
404

405 Ms. Lisa Post questioned when the slides would be released to the public for district meeting as the public wants to
406 see them and read them; the annual reports are out but the slides are more comprehensive. Superintendent responded
407 that he has some minor changes to make and will be sure to get those to the SAU before he leaves this evening; it can
408 be posted tomorrow. Ms. Post commented to the Board she thinks that they had a good year; it was a tough year for
409 them as well as for the staff. She appreciates all the efforts. She thinks everyone worked really well together between
410 the Budget Committee and the School Board this year. She is proud of the changes that were made this year.
411

412 **XII. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

413 Mr. Kofalt spoke regarding Ms. Deb Mortvedt's comment complimenting Superintendent Lane for his efforts around
414 these meetings and in general and to the people who put together the technology and make things works. It is tough
415 to make it work when you have a mixed audience of online and people in the room. What we have now is working
416 really, really well and it is due to the efforts of these folks and Mr. Kline.
417

418 Ms. Cloutier-Cabral thanked the PTO groups, they have been incredible and she has been seeing them everywhere.
419 They are doing so much and offering great products; she can't wait to see the spirit wear. She questioned if there is a
420 place where people can vote for Mr. Tyler as NH Teacher of the Year. Superintendent responded nominations are
421 made to the Edie Awards (Educational Awards for the State of NH). There is a select committee of teachers,
422 administrators, and community members statewide and those are the individuals who vote on the candidates. Ms.
423 Cloutier-Cabral adds we are cheering him on he does excellent work. She congratulated all of the seniors; we are
424 very proud of them. It is exciting that we have 65% going on to college, some going on to the military. For the 35%
425 not going, she would like to encourage them to consider the trades' field, as there is an increase needs for workers in
426 the trades field. Many companies will pay for their classes or reimburse for them. She thanked Mr. LaRoche for
427 sharing his vision and she looks forward to hearing more about that.
428

429 Ms. Lavallee echoed everything that Ms. Cloutier-Cabral said. She thinks we did a really, good job this year. She
430 was tempted to nominate our Board as School Board of the Year given the struggles schools have been going
431 through. Everyone really rose to the occasion and we set a good example of how we can go back to school fully in
432 person for students and staff. She thanked everyone for making that happen including the Board.
433

434 Mr. Legere spoke that this is the last regular meeting for this Board this year. It has been a great Board to work with
435 and seems like just yesterday we were working on the COVID protocol; it has gone so fast. Being that this is the last
436 meeting for Ms. LeBlanc and he thanked her. Ms. LeBlanc received a round of applause.
437

438 Chairman LoVerme commented that he and Ms. LeBlanc started on the Board at the same time 9 years ago. She has
439 been on many committees and he is not sure how many Board members she has seen come through. She has put
440 children and grandchildren through the school system. She has been around a while and he thanked her for the work
441 she has done for the district and the students. The ones who are in school now, the ones that have graduated and the
442 ones who have gone on to other businesses and the ones that are coming up. She has been a part of a big change in
443 our district. He feels he has seen changes for the positive and feels Ms. LeBlanc has been part of those changes. He
444 voiced appreciation for all she has done.
445

446 Ms. LeBlanc expressed, she did not expect this and voiced it has been her honor and privileged to be on the Board.
447 She has met some incredible people who have been sharing their skills and talents. We are blessed in the two
448 communities to have people willing to give up their time and do it so happily; everyone cooperates. That is such an
449 important feature. Everyone has his or her vote but its one vote. If you have cooperation with each other and
450 understand each other's opinions, you can go along way as a Board. You are a wonderful group of people and hopes
451 you continue to do the good work you are doing now. She thanked everyone.

452
453 **XIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (B) (C)**

454 *A MOTION was made by Ms. LeBlanc and SECONDED by Mr. Post to enter Non-Public Session to discuss*
455 *personnel matters RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (B) (C) at 8:23pm.*

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

457
458 **RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

459 The Board entered public session at 9:51pm.

460
461 **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

462 *A MOTION was made by Ms. LeBlanc and SECONDED by Mr. White to adjourn the Board meeting at 9:52pm.*

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

464
465 *Respectfully submitted,*

466 *Kristina Fowler*

467