

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, September 14, 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 (6:42pm), Brianne Lavallee, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Dennis Golding, Matt Mannarino, Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Jim Kofalt, and Charlie Post*

*Superintendent Peter Weaver, Business Administrator Kristie LaPlante, Principals Sarah Edmunds and Kathleen Chenette, Assistant Principal Katie Gosselin, Director of Student Support Services Ned Pratt, Technology Director Jonathan Bouley, Curriculum Coordinator Emily Stefanich, and Clerk Kristina Fowler*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Ms. Lavallee called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Superintendent reported the following adjustments, addition of 2<sup>nd</sup> public comment as it was overlooked, a nonpublic session for a personnel matter, an appointment of a social studies teacher, an additional resignation and additional approval of minutes for September 7, 2021. Mr. Post requested to add a discussion of purchasing a media/meeting system.

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

*Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Ms. Andrea Petrone, Co-President of the WLCTA was present and voiced that the school year is off to a great start. Teachers are working on building communities. They met with the HS and MS. She informed the Board that the teachers took a survey regarding mask mandates. Twenty-eight teachers that are in the association took the survey. Fifty-seven percent, who took it would prefer mandatory masks at all times. Sixty-four percent agreed with the Back to School Plan and optional mask use however if there was an increase of cases and clusters they would be ok having masks on. Fifty-four percent are comfortable with a 3-foot distance no matter what at all times. She thanked the Board for all they do. She invited the members to come into the classrooms, just contact her to make arrangements. She expressed they would love to work together as a team.

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

Mr. Adam Lavallee spoke about the meeting minutes that are up for approval tonight. Reading the minutes it has become clear that certain Board members, specifically Mr. Post and Mr. Vanderhoof are putting personal politics ahead of their duty. Both are on record opposing our COVID plan but both also confirmed they had not prepared ahead by reviewing the Dept. of Health guidelines. How can an unbiased board member make an important decision without preparation unless their opinion is based on political belief? There was no alternative plan proposed I can only assume your desire was to have no plan. He listened to you waste time debating the use of certain vocabulary written by an attorney. It would be nice if the board would do what they are elected to do, address each issue based on facts and not a political agenda. He expressed his serious disappointment in the aggressive and condescending way you speak to other board members. You are setting an example for the community and you really need to do a better job the way you treat other people does not invite open discussion.

**V. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

**a. Reports**

**i. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent gave an overview of his report, which included expressing appreciation for Jessica Searles and Melissa Bronson of "Frost This", for donating cupcakes and cookies to all the schools for staff. It was very thoughtful and generous and he wanted to recognize them in a formal way. He has a certificate of appreciation, which will be dropped off to their bakery in

Wilton. He will be hosting a community meeting next Monday for those interested in helping to liven up and repair the LCS playground. Things on the “to do list” are moving the fence and incorporating the climbing wall inside the fence. Fresh wood chips will be delivered and need to be spread. The playground has a couple of play sinks, which need to be sanded and stained. The bottom of LCS building and the side need to be scraped and painted. He plans to have the work completed on Saturday October 9. If it turns out this is a bad day for folks, the Saturday can be changed. The meeting on Monday is to see who is interested in helping and put a plan together. He hopes the community will turn out and give back to LCS. He spoke of having terrific meetings with the 2 town administrators, Paul Branscombe in Wilton and Russ Boland in Lyndeborough. The things they focused on is the idea of a partnership. We need to build an intentional effort on both sides. We made a commitment to each other that we would pursue that anytime our paths will cross. In the Lyndeborough Town Hall, there is an amazing upstairs, like a tiny gym, which holds civil war artifacts. He is hoping the Board retreat can be held there. It’s a great way to connect to Lyndeborough and a different space to hold a retreat. We also spoke of voting and the steep stairs at the Lyndeborough old town hall, which was built in probably the 18<sup>th</sup> century. He is questioning if we could access LCS for voting, there is a different entrance to go in and out of, it is a good space with bathrooms. He hopes we can move forward with the things he spoke of. He informed the Board of a piping issue at WLC in the old part of the building, which is made of cast iron. The plumber has come out twice to unclog the pipes and there is real concern if there is a leak or we need to do more serious flushing of the system. He is giving a heads up that we may need to talk about it down the road and may be obtain an estimate if needed. He confirmed the meeting on Monday for LCS is open to everyone and it was suggested he let the community know not just parents. Ms. Lavallee thanked all the volunteers, it was great “Frost This” came in and the wall that was built for the Hall of Fame is beautiful. Good job everyone. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke that the Facilities Committee is meeting tomorrow night and can discuss the WLC pipe issue.

## **ii. Principals’ Reports**

Ms. Chenette spoke of being the proud principal of FRES. She has submitted 2 reports thus far and questions if they contain the content the Board is looking for. She can adjust as needed. She questioned how much of the report the Board wants her to talk about or should she just give any new information. It was suggested that generally it is better to not hear a repeat of what they read. She spoke of the importance being in the classroom providing positive feedback to the students and teachers. She is leaving notes for the teachers about things she noticed and things she wonders about to push their thinking a little bit about something they are doing in the classroom. Spending time in the classroom is one of her greatest joys of her job. They have finished the “Heggerty Assessments” which assesses the chronological awareness of young children and which has a direct correlation to how well they read in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. STAR assessments window is open and will be finished by the end of next Friday. Staff will meet every 6 weeks to review the data and treatment plans for students who need intervention or enrichment to mediate gaps. Staff is spending a tremendous amount of building community. It is an overarching theme for adults and children; working on what are their hopes and dreams for children to set academic goals for themselves, they will be tracking this. In grade 1, they are developing social emotional skills, being a good friend and understanding expectations. In 3<sup>rd</sup> grade they are rocking and rolling following expectations and working to be respectful and mindful of others while in the hall; being respectful of others learning. We are building communities and kids see others in their grade as if they are all in their class. Students are coming to the library to browse or check out books. There have been over 530 books checked out since the start of school. The art teacher is working on community projects. They are learning how to do art projects together and everyone has a part in their development. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are in Google Classrooms already. She shared some pictures. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade is focused on kindness and different ways to pay it forward. Finally, we have worked out a plan to support kids who are out for extended times due to isolation or quarantine. There are 5 people who are not assigned to classrooms who will work with students. We have a live link and we are available to support anyone who jumps on and support students with assignments or any issue accessing what they are doing. The participating staff is Ms. Valarie Bemis, Ms. Bridgette Fuller, Amy Gelineau (school counselor) and Principal Chenette. Mr. Post thanked Principal Chenette for sharing the photos and voiced if feels like we are getting off to a positive reset at FRES and he is happy to hear the great report. Principal Chenette expressed FRES is a place I would want my child at, it’s a great place. Mr. Post asked if there was anything, the Board could do for support. She commented, an afterschool chess club! Ms. Lavallee spoke that she loves the direction of FRES and all the positivity; it’s great for the kids. Excellent job working on obtaining more resources for remote students. She feels it is an area the Board overlooked and appreciates Principal Chenette taking the initiative to help the children. Principal Chenette responded she appreciates the accolades but it’s the staff and parents who are doing the work.

Principal Edmunds publically thanked Ms. Linda Draper who cooked the entire breakfast for a teachers meeting and opening day. She gave a tour to the new teachers of the community and without her knowledge; it would not have been as good. She is the best administrative assistant! Principal Edmunds thanked “Frost This” for the donated snacks. She spoke of the beautiful Athletic Hall of Fame, which was an idea of the Superintendent, and Mark Bausha ran with it. With the help of Dan Holt of Eastern Wood Products and Arthur Deschenes they completed the work. Mr. Bausha is such an asset to the WLC community. She spoke of leaving one day and found him painting something that he wasn’t asked to do, he just did it because he wanted it to look nicer. He also helped to paint the new and improved weight room. He was awarded a certificate of appreciation and a round of applause. Students had Friday Fun day after the first week of school with outside activities. They are planning for homecoming for October 1, planning pep rallies splitting up the MS and HS for distancing. They are planning a home coming dance; fun stuff is being planned which has not happened in a year and a half. She spoke of Mr. Andrew Tyler who is a semifinalist for NH Teacher of the Year. Tomorrow is his next step in the process where he gives a speech to a panel; wish him good luck. She spoke of the “Warrior Block” which is done through project-based learning based on competencies. It is hands on

for the kids and they are really liking it. She notes seeing vast improvement and is pleased and thankful to the teachers who took that on in their coarse load. The mentors are working hard with the new teachers to be sure they are doing all they are supposed to and are feeling good about being at WLC. She added open campus at lunch to senior privileges; with a permission slip, they can leave grab lunch and come back as long as they are on time. It is going well. The robotics club is in full swing. It is bigger this year with 17 kids in the MS team alone. The homecoming pep rally will include the robotics team and dance team. Dungeons and Dragons club and sports are going well. The boys won 3 and tied 1 and the girls have lost 2 but are playing really hard. She thanked the lunchroom staff; a couple of times when they have been understaffed, they pull it together and are so pleasant to be around. In general, everyone in this building is pleasant and happy; it's a real positive start to the school year. Mr. Mannarino echoed the comments about Mr. Tyler. His son participates and is excited the most for this activity and is sure he would write a letter of recommendation for him as Teacher of the Year. Ms. Lavallee spoke a couple of years ago there was not enough funding for the dance team to go to a competition. Principal Edmunds expressed they are planning to do fund raising this year. Ms. Lavallee asked for the cost. Principal Edmunds noted it was the cost for the bus that is the biggest cost otherwise, they pay their way. She will get the details of the cost and provide that to Ms. Lavallee. Chairman commented he is hearing good things about the start to this school year. It is great the students can go out for lunch but he is not in favor of the junior privileges but the kids are happy.

### **iii. Curriculum Coordinator's Report**

Ms. Stefanich spoke about the mentor and teacher workshop days. It was flawless and full of energy and they are inspired to create a curriculum guide. A clear document will be put together in terms of assessment with no differences across the areas. We have been selected for NEAP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) testing through the DOE. It will be February 10 for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders. We submit a roster of students and they pick some students to take either US History or Civics. We don't get the data back, it goes to the federal level and we get it through the National Report Card. Students do have the opportunity to opt in or out and will get the forms when we meet with the representatives in December. A question was raised if it is percentage of students selected. Ms. Stefanich responded it doesn't say specifically it is when they reach their roster for that group. We will find out more in October who has been selected. They bring everything to us including the iPads. It is a 2-hour test and once we determine how many students we will make adjustments to schedules accordingly.

### **b. Letters/Information**

#### **i. Board Stipend Form**

Stipend forms were given to Board members to fill out and return to Ms. LaPlante by October 1. A brief discussion was had regarding donating it back to the district. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Ms. Lavallee and Chairman LoVerme asked theirs to be donated to the dance team. Superintendent Weaver commented that is terrific, it will pay for a trip to a competition.

#### **ii. Enrollment**

Superintendent reviewed the first day enrollment which was 574, just one less than last year at opening day. He noted we are 15 below the end of last year. There is nothing spectacular to point out, we have a bubble in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade but otherwise it is pretty well distributed. Kindergarten is down 17 students from last year. He wonders if that typically changes throughout the year. That is where we want to increase enrollment as it allows to shape the learning throughout the system. It was noted 9<sup>th</sup> grade is down. Superintendent spoke that he has spoken to some parents who transferred to ConVal, one was for the football program. We are looking for reasons to motivate kids, that was the best path for them, and he supports it. There are some things we cannot offer as a small district. He spoke of the art teacher Emily Hall at WLC who is working with digital animation and has a green screen. He has not heard of this in our region and if we get it up and running, he questions why we could not tuition students to the program. It will take years to develop it but it would be great; Ms. Hall is already an expert at it and has kids working with it. To extend that he is hoping they will do an animated children's book and present it to the kindergarten students. There are many connections there and he is excited we can support teachers like Ms. Hall to be innovated and creative with kids. If we get a football program, he wants to be the first to coach it. Mr. Post commented in terms of enrollment, we are one district that is level, most are declining.

## **VIII. ACTION ITEMS**

### **a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting**

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to approve the minutes of August 24, 2021 as written.*

*Voting: six ayes; two abstentions from Mr. Golding and Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to approve the nonpublic minutes of August 24, 2021 as written.*

*Voting: six ayes; two abstentions from Mr. Golding and Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Golding to approve the workshop minutes of September 7, 2021 as written.*

*Voting: six ayes; two abstentions from Mr. Kofalt and Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

Amendments to the emergency meeting of Sept. 7, 2021 were noted and will be corrected in the draft.

183 *A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to approve the emergency/special meeting minutes*  
184 *of September 7, 2021 as amended.*

185  
186 Mr. Vanderhoof asked for clarification on the application of the vote. He wondered why FRES had the entire school masked and  
187 LCS did not and both had clusters. He reviewed various lines of the minutes where the Superintendent indicated it would be a  
188 full school. He notes it says there was ample discussion about it being a full school. Superintendent spoke that when we  
189 discussed targeted mask use he thought he had the approval to do a classroom or a full school. With FRES we were hit with 4  
190 positives all at once, had the emergency meeting that Tuesday. He didn't believe we could apply it to one class or one grade at  
191 the time. It was so sudden it took us by surprise. With LCS (the team) had been able to talk through it. Could we just mask the  
192 first grade if it occurred again, are we able to physically do it and what changes would we have to make. He prefers to start at a  
193 low level and work up. At LCS, we have 3 kindergarten classes and a small preschool class, all spread out. He met with the team  
194 and we thought we could rearrange lunches and without compromising the other kindergarten classes and preschool. We decided  
195 to mask one class and the SAU. He worried about the SAU, all of us potentially becoming positive and what would we do. We  
196 have one of those students back from the masked classroom and the dynamic is already changing. He could have interpreted that  
197 the intent was for the whole school, (all schools); he asks to be able to work our way up to that if needed. He can understand the  
198 misunderstanding as it was asked when does it begin when does it end etc. Some direction would be good for him to clear it up.  
199 Chairman LoVerme commented if it is a cluster in the class, start with the class. They are all together all day long but the 1<sup>st</sup>  
200 grade is not near the 4<sup>th</sup> grade etc. They are somewhat separate and don't eat lunch together. He does not see a need to mask the  
201 whole school at once. If there is a cluster on each floor that may be different. He thinks the SAU is far enough away from the  
202 classrooms that they don't have to mask. He wants to see us focus on one targeted area. If we do the whole group down there we  
203 have to do the whole group up here. Superintendent spoke that we have had some good experiences as an administrative team  
204 and conversations on what to do if it happens next. He does not recall any clusters last year. Professionally, if we can limit to the  
205 classroom and keep kids safe and in the classroom that is the approach he would like to take, if it is not possible for safety  
206 reasons then that is different. There is a higher vaccination rate at the HS than the elementary school and that changes the  
207 dynamic. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral wants to empower the Superintendent to make decisions like he described and did with LCS just  
208 keep the Board notified and ask for help if needed. It seems like he is working through it to see that things happen in a safe way.  
209 She wants him to make those calls as he sees fit and keep the Board informed. Mr. Vanderhoof feels the approach was  
210 inconsistent; it was clear in the minutes that targeted meant the whole building, not a class. He doesn't advocate anyone to be  
211 forced to wear a mask if they don't want to but he wants it consistent. Superintendent spoke that he needs to ask more clarifying  
212 questions to be sure he is confident of what to do and be sure what he is hearing is what is wanted. This is a good example, as his  
213 understanding was different. We want the same thing but how the decision was applied was different, there was a lot of energy  
214 and it could have been spent on something else. He wants direction whether it's a vote or however you want to go about it, he  
215 wants to be sure he is applying the matrix in the right way. It sounds like from Chairman and Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, you want him  
216 to look at the lowest level first with keeping kids safe and in person learning; work up to most restrictive, (the most permissive to  
217 most restrictive). Ms. Lavallee agrees and spoke that she supports the decision the Superintendent made, that was her  
218 interpretation. There is a lot of conversation and it is important for us to consider all those factors so we are not masking when  
219 we don't need to but do when we do need to. She thought the Superintendent would apply matrix based on the information at  
220 hand as in what the cluster looks like in the school and what the physical set up is in the school and the possibility of treating it.  
221 Mr. Mannarino noted agreement with Ms. Lavallee as it was his understanding as well and supports it. Mr. Kofalt spoke that if  
222 you polled the members on what was voted on at the August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, he believes you may get different answers. He is not  
223 trying to rehash the vote but there is a need for us to have some precision on what we are voting on. It is important for us to be  
224 acting based on an actual written draft of what we are voting on. Mr. Golding spoke as the newest member noting we have a vote  
225 to accept the minutes of Sept. 7, while he agrees with Mr. Vanderhoof he thought it was the entire school, it has nothing to do  
226 with the minutes. As it concerns the minutes, he does not believe it is the appropriate time to have the discussion. Mr.  
227 Vanderhoof noted he has an email from the Chair saying we would address it when we approved the minutes. Mr. Post expressed  
228 in most meetings we get advance minutes and prior to attending that meeting, he had nothing. Normally we would get some  
229 documents. He spoke that Ms. Lavallee had held up several charts the board could not see and he wants those included in the  
230 minutes because it was the basis of what was said. One was results and pie graphs of the survey taken, another was a chart from  
231 the Dept. of Health and they need to be included in the minutes. He also thinks we fumbled around for hour and the best we  
232 could come up with was a poorly written motion and it is clear we all have different opinions of what it says. He read the motion  
233 from Sept. 7. He questions what does it mean, we accept some it, a line of it, it is not clear. Referring to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party document that  
234 was not part of the minutes nor was it available to the members of the public. The meeting was held too soon, if it's withheld or  
235 not available it was not appropriate and leads to problems down the road. We were ill prepared. Ms. Lavallee spoke that the  
236 toolkit was put out in August 2021. It gave the Board an entire month to read it that is our job in her opinion to provide ourselves  
237 with information. Not only is it online but a community member requested all board members take the time to read it. She  
238 assumed all members did their due diligence in reviewing the toolkit; it was referenced many times at board meetings. Mr. Post  
239 feels it should have been sent out. This discussion continued. Mr. Post voiced disappointment and asked what information did  
240 the Chair and Vice Chair have. Ms. Lavallee knew there was an emergency meeting regarding a cluster. Chairman knew there  
241 was a cluster in first grade and possibly a parent and because the cluster was so quick before it got out of hand, he felt we should  
242 meet as a Board; we went from 3-10 in a week and needed to be prepared on how to manage the clusters. Mr. Post expressed the  
243 Vice Chair is criticizing us for not reviewing a toolkit for what was being talked about at a meeting. Discussion continued on the  
244 matter. Ms. Lavallee will send Ms. Fowler pages from the toolkit that were referred to (page 5 and 6) to attach to the minutes.

245  
246 *\*Ms. Lavallee TABLES her motion and will be resubmitted to the Board, Mr. Mannarino SECONDS.*  
247

248 Clarification was asked for regarding the matrix. The Superintendent was the one who first referenced the matrix (see line 31 in  
249 minutes of 9/7/21), where did you first see the matrix for clarification he was asked. Superintendent spoke his wife told him to  
250 review it and read it word for word. He did and read it when Ms. Lavoie compelled us to be sure we were familiar with it. He  
251 thinks he apologized to the Board at the last meeting as he should have included it and didn't, he dropped it on everyone and felt  
252 we needed to take action at that meeting. If he had printed it and handed it out it would have been a more informed discussion.  
253 Mr. Post spoke that he brought it up because many parents. They expressed a lot of documents were not available to the public  
254 and hoped they would have been. It was clarified by Ms. Lavallee we are tabling this so that we can include them.  
255

256 *\*Voting: six ayes; one nay from Mr. Vanderhoof and one abstain from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*  
257

258 Superintendent asked for clarification about the matrix; does he have the authority to make masking as less as possible and work  
259 it up? Mr. Vanderhoof responded it needs to be consistent, if you will just do one building then they all have to be the same, they  
260 would all have to be the building. Superintendent spoke that we will look at decisions individually. We will make the best  
261 decision for the kids. We will be careful when making that.  
262

### 263 • MEDIA SYSTEM

264 Mr. Post had requested to speak about purchasing a media system. At the last meeting where we discussed masks and at the  
265 regular meetings prior and for the budget/town, people couldn't hear in the back. He wants an upgraded system and to empower  
266 the Superintendent and Technology Director to purchase a system and use ESSER funds because so many online and present  
267 can't hear. Better speakers, mics, and a screen so we can show documents and record it. It was noted there is a screen in the  
268 cafeteria. It was noted a TV or screen can be used but not sure which is cheaper. Superintendent spoke that he did meet with Mr.  
269 Bouley to see what kinds of systems we would need; it has been an ongoing issue. Mr. Bouley spoke that we are trying to  
270 accomplish a hybrid system, the biggest cost is a specialized mixer that allows all to be plugged in, have mics, speakers etc. We  
271 don't do that now because it would create a lot of feedback. An analog digital mixer is the biggest cost. He confirms it's a new  
272 concept; this is a relatively new set up than he has seen. He believes based on what he has seen in other schools the cost is about  
273 \$5,200. It was noted we need the ability to hook up the PA into it; we may have people in multiple rooms during town meeting  
274 plus folks online. Mr. Bouley gave a few more details including it's a network system and you can add onto it, cameras, remote  
275 speakers etc. Ms. LaPlante believes we can use ESSER funds for this. Mr. Bouley estimates the cost for a camera is about \$300-  
276 \$500 for a conference like lens camera that we can plug in. Chairman expressed he does not want to piece it together; he wants it  
277 done right and provide a total cost. Superintendent will meet with Mr. Bouley at a couple of schools to discuss and ask the Board  
278 to unfreeze the ESSER funds, to get it to the state. It was noted it would be great to have this before district meeting and not have  
279 to deal with feedback. A question was raised if there is a warranty or subscription cost. Mr. Bouley responds you can add on a  
280 warranty but most come with a 1-year manufacturer warranty or a 3<sup>rd</sup> party can offer additional years. The product does not  
281 require subscriptions we could use zoom or something like that. Chairman LoVerme asked that it can be returned if it doesn't  
282 work for us. A discussion was had regarding the ESSER funds being frozen. Chairman LoVerme confirmed anything spent  
283 needs Board approval, we have less money than thought. Some things were not properly accounted for last year. We want to get  
284 a handle on spending before we move forward. Ms. LaPlante spoke to this noting we are in a good place now. Funds were spent  
285 against the general fund; she has backtracked and removed them out of the general fund so they are now ESSER expenses. It  
286 appears we had less money than thought. Expenses were not factored into the larger picture of what is available and were not  
287 provided to the state. She had asked the Chairman and Mr. Kofalt (Chair of Finance Committee) if we could put the brakes on it  
288 until she can be sure we are using the money to best serve students and taxpayers. She will have a full report on September 28  
289 and tell you what we have and discuss some of the projects that had been discussed. It was noted to be sure the public gets the  
290 same report, she agreed. It was asked that it be online and on the screen and have copies to hand out. A question was raised if  
291 that is why we have not closed out our years books. She indicated it is one of the reasons. She spoke that only has ESSER 2 to  
292 move out of the general fund and she needs to figure out the summer programs that were committed and make sure they are  
293 appropriately calculated and anything additional is accounted for in FY2021. FY 2021 will be closed out in the coming weeks  
294 and she wants to be sure we have accurate expenses reported; we are not overpaying and have an accurate fund balance. It is  
295 doing the due diligence to be sure it is done accurately. It is just one of the things she had encountered. Mr. Post thanked her and  
296 expressed he has complete confidence in her. A question was raised if it looks like we may come up short, haven't spent it all or  
297 have to return some. She spoke about ESSER funds (there are 3 different pots of money) and confirmed no; each has a staggered  
298 expiration date, it appears ESSER 1, and 2 are completely committed or spent. That leaves us \$450,000 in ESSER 3, which  
299 sounds like a lot, it is but seeing how ESSER 1 and 2 went, we want to prevent that when you have all these projects to approve.  
300 She adds it was not done in negligence. She confirms we spent money from the general fund that should have been spent from  
301 ESSER funds. We are increasing the money that is going back to the town because we are drawing on the grant money. Between  
302 all the grants that were required for reimbursement that had not been submitted along the way and with ESSER funds the district  
303 will over the next 3-6 months will receive an influx of about \$400,000-\$500,000. She confirms we came into federal compliance  
304 with the federal money and are coming into compliance on the FY19 grant audit that we were in jeopardy of having to return.  
305 She is aware of everything that has to be submitted and will have it by Sept. 30; she has spoken to Mr. Pratt to be sure any  
306 remaining will be recommitted. She spoke to directly with the reimbursement person at the DOE to get all the reimbursements

done. We will not be missing any of the deadlines with these projects. Mr. Kofalt echoed what Mr. Post said; adding she had a steep hill to climb, has been a star performer, and they appreciate what she has been doing, great job! Mr. Post asked Mr. Bouley to give a “good and better” proposal up to \$10,000 for the media system.

#### **IX. POLICIES -1<sup>ST</sup> READ**

- i.** ACE Procedural Safeguards Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability
- ii.** AD Philosophy of the School District
- iii.** BDE Committees and Delegates
- iv.** KEC Policy on Reconsideration of Instructional Materials
- v.** KEC-R Reconsideration of Instructional Materials

Superintendent reviewed the highlighted areas are additional language and cross outs are deletions. He provided an overview of the policy changes. Board discussed suggested changes to the drafts. Policies KEC and KEC-R should use the same terms of the first paragraph “book or instructional material”, add “other” to the column on the right (says textbook, hardcover paperback, etc.). A question was raised regarding what the curriculum committee is and who is on it. Superintendent briefly addressed this. He has been working with Ms. Stefanich on it; it needs to be inclusive with a student, a board member, and teachers but not have it too big. It was noted it is great if it is written down and what the committee is. It was noted the policies refer to making complaints about curriculum or instructional material. It includes an appeal to the Board but a request was made that the Board be informed earlier in the process. It is suggested to have something in the policies saying the Board will be notified, not necessarily involved that early but the Board should be aware of it. It was suggested to add “website” as an option in the first column of instructional material. Policy ACE-in first paragraph change word from “additional” to “addition”.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to accept this as the first reading on policies, ACE, AD, BDE, KEC, and KEC-R.*

*Voting: seven ayes; one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

Policies to return with amendments for second reading.

#### **X. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **i. Facilities Committee**

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral reported the first meeting went well; they will meet tomorrow and have a tour with Principal Edmunds and Mr. Erb. Discussion will be had about things that need to be removed from the CIP because they have either been spent or reprioritized. We will look at maps and looking hard at the furnace, there a few things we will look at to bring forward.

##### **ii. Policy Committee**

Ms. Lavallee reported the committee meeting last week was cancelled. They meet twice a month and have started to review policies such as the ones done tonight. Most of the policies have not been reviewed since 2010. The committee is taking the time to read them, a lot have no changes and will document the committee reviewed them. Any that require amending will be discussed and brought to the Board. She attended a webinar on legislative changes and has follow up documents from that. At the next meeting we will talk about all the C policies and noting any revisions and move forward with those. We will discuss all policies that need to be changed and some are just recommendations and may not apply to us, some may need changing. Last year because of COVID there was not a policy committee meeting. She will try to find last year’s legislative update and will address them by required changes first. She confirmed that last month they reviewed all of the A and B policies, the additional ones that came up, curriculum ones and now the C policies. They have reviewed the C policies but have not discussed them yet due to the meeting being rescheduled.

#### **XI. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES**

- a. Resignation-Shawn Boyce-WLC Paraprofessional**
  - **Resignation-Hannah Weber-WLC Paraprofessional**
  - **Appointment-Ken Garnham-WLC HS Social Studies**

Superintendent reviewed the resignations and recommendation for appointment. Mr. Garnham will fill-in for 9 weeks, through October 29, which will allow us time to find the right candidate to fill the position. He will work at .60 FTE; we do not anticipate this to go beyond the 9 weeks. If there is a need, Mr. Garnham said he would consider another 9 weeks; he does not want to overcommit. He is the type of educator who can step in and make a difference with kids.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Mr. Post to appoint Mr. Ken Garnham, HS social studies teacher at .60 FTE for 9 weeks.*

*Voting: seven ayes; one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

#### **XII. BUDGET TIMELINE**

Ms. LaPlante reported working with Superintendent Weaver and Ms. Fowler. She reviewed the timeline noting the first full draft will be completed for the 2<sup>nd</sup> joint meeting. Because there is no CBA this year, she replaced that with a full budget review with all the budget partners to make sure we are all on the same page before starting to present it to the public. Ms. Fowler compiled the dates and deadlines and Ms. LaPlante is requesting to move forward with this schedule. No objection heard. She confirmed it includes the rough framework that she discussed with the Budget Committee. Mr. Kofalt spoke that his is aware the

Budget Committee recommends a zero based budget although he likes that it can be difficult especially the first time around. He asked for Ms. LaPlante's thoughts on this. She spoke that it is a great goal to have but is it sustainable. We have a great group that understands education vs. the value of a dollar. It will give us what the district needs. She is keeping her fingers crossed that it is not fruitless at the end. She hopes we will see good numbers from building administration but doesn't think it will be a zero based budget but a responsible based budget. The great thing is we have so many new players we can say what do you think your school needs. Some may say we can decrease in one area and add to another. She believes it will be responsible based. Superintendent added that he recalls a discussion about improving the narrative so that there is more clarity. It is not zero based but some clarity of what we are allocating it to if approved.

### **XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Ms. Caitlin Maki, Wilton questioned if there will be a remote option for the LCS renovation meeting on Monday if it is held before 5pm. She also spoke about addressing targeting mask mandate, and noted it mentions in the toolkit to contact DHHS. They have an investigation committee and you can reach out to them to help you apply it. She agrees it does not have to be the whole school if you can separate it.

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

### **XIV. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Kofalt requested to email the Board information on the arrangements for the LCS renovation meeting and how they can be involved. He cannot make the meeting. He spoke about the robotics team competing and questioned why we are not funding that out of the budget. It seems that we are funding transport for the athletic competitions and wants to explore this so it is done in the coming years and students can fully participate and compete.

Mr. Mannarino thanked Superintendent Weaver for all the contributions and specifically Principals Chenette and Edmunds as well. They have been doing great work and he is encouraged and looking forward to the rest of the year. Thank you.

Mr. Golding thanked the Board for allowing him to join for the rest of the year. It is quite entertaining learning as he goes and is trying to get up to speed.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral noted it is nice to have Mr. Golding here and feels like he has been here the whole time. The schools are doing a great job; she loves the reports, all the positivity and she is rooting for Mr. Tyler. She thanked Ms. Petrone and will take her up on the invitation to visit the classrooms. She loves this community and this is why she lives here and a lot of others too.

Mr. Vanderhoof requested to add an agenda item to vote on the proposed resolutions and determine who will be sent to cast the votes. Ms. Lavallee went last year. We are supposed to vote on each resolution and he doesn't know how many we have sent but we submitted a resolution and we should vote.

Ms. Lavallee agrees with Mr. Vanderhoof. We should go through the resolutions and decide whom to send. She like all reports today loved the positivity and community involvement we are seeing and loves the idea of community helping with hands on activities. She is looking forward to that and is attending a webinar on public comment tomorrow. After last week, she reached out to many community members. There was a lot of concern of how the meeting was run and confusion on how public comment works. She thinks it would be helpful to help the public on how public comment works and in particular to asking questions. She understand it can be frustrating when we don't answer and encourages all community to read the agenda ahead of time and if you have a question ask it in public comment. The Board may answer it in their deliberations and if it is still not answered, reach out to the Chair or Vice Chair. Tonight it was a good meeting.

Mr. Post agreed tonight was a good meeting. The last meeting we were not prepared, we should have waited a day. We notified the parents but not the community. It was an issue and people have an opinion on it. People were upset; he spoke to several upset people who felt they were not heard online or in person. They couldn't hear, board members argued with the public during public comment, we could have done a much better job. It was good to have the meeting but folks were frozen out and felt they were not heard. He thinks there will be push back on the Board and what we do; there is a lot of work to do and how we restore that. You may have your opinions but the last 5 years he has been on the Board, when controversial issue come up they will take action and they are in the position to do that now.

Chairman thanked the public and coming in and online. He spoke that if you don't want to speak in public, feel free to email him and he will read the questions or comments to put in the minutes and he has done this a few times. When we have 60 people online and no one comments you wonder why. He thanked the staff; it was a good meeting tonight, it was energetic. He thanked the Board and welcomed Mr. Golding. He informed members he will not be present for the next meeting.

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

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Golding to enter Non-Public Session to discuss personnel matters RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (B) (C) at 8:33pm.*  
*Voting: via roll call vote, seven ayes; one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board entered public session at 8:45pm.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:45pm.*  
*Voting: seven ayes; one abstention from Chairman LoVerme, motion carried.*

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Kristina Fowler*