

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School
6:30 p.m.**

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

Present: *Jim Kofalt, Brianne Lavalley, Alex LoVerme (6:48pm), Dennis Golding, Matt Mannarino (6:35pm), Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Charlie Post, Darlene Anzalone (online) and School Board Student Representatives Hannah Hamilton and Grayson Riendeau*

Superintendent Peter Weaver, Business Administrator Kristie LaPlante, Principal Sarah Edmunds and Associate Principal Bridgette Fuller, Assistant Principal Katie Gosselin, Director of Student Support Services Ned Pratt, Technology Director Nicholas Buroker, Curriculum Coordinator Samantha Dignan, and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

New Student School Board Representatives were welcomed, Grayson Riendeau 10th grade and Hannah Hamilton 8th grade and are seated with the Board. They introduced themselves, Gray is very involved in music and Hannah is involved in dance, music and theatre.

III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Post voiced point of order. He had done several requests to fill the vacant position for Lyndeborough and it was rejected by the chair 3 times. According to policy BEDB, Agenda Preparation, "every board member has the right to place items on the agenda". He voiced it is not on the agenda despite their request. He also voiced policy BEDB states "items placed on the agenda should be received by the Superintendent at least 7 days prior to the meeting", the policy states "should" not "shall" or "will" or "must" so that is a guideline that is why you declined it. Chairman Kofalt spoke to provide context, the request was that a vote be taken at this meeting to fill the board vacancy. Both school board policy and state law say that the Board shall fill the vacancy. He thinks it has been practice when we are fairly close to the election that the Board defers that until the election but nevertheless it does say "shall fill the vacancy" so we will fill the vacancy. The request came after the agenda had been published, it was not within the 7 days; it had come after the agenda was published. Under the circumstances, it could be appropriate to bring an agenda item as an adjustment to the agenda. The reason he did not want to have that vote taken tonight is because this is one of those items that requires notice to the community, it requires the notification inviting people to express interest which is how we have done it in the past by sending a letter or email to the Superintendent, we can collect letters of interest from the community, people who may be interested in serving in that role and give them an opportunity to make a case before the Board if they are interested in filling the vacancy. Mr. Post asked the Chairman to show him where it is in the statute or policy if that is the case. Chairman Kofalt responded, no I can't and Mr. Post voiced because it doesn't exist. Chairman Kofalt expressed he thinks it is consistent with an open and transparent process that we give adequate notice to the public if we are going to be taking a vote on filling a vacancy and there may be people out there interested in filling the vacancy. Mr. Post voiced we had that opportunity to do that when we asked for it to be added to the agenda as soon as it was published. You failed to add it despite the fact that it says every board member has the right to put an item on the agenda. Chairman Kofalt responded and I acquiesced to putting it on the next agenda, which is January 24. Mr. Post voiced "you didn't acquiesce you told us your terms". He also pointed out policy BCA, School Board Member Ethics, "recognize that no individual member has authority to speak or act for the Board except as specifically designated by Board action". The discussion continued including, it says you have the right, you don't have the right to add it to the agenda after the agenda has been published, our policy says we post the agenda 7 days in advance. Discussion also included, it is not factual and it says "should" it doesn't say "shall". Mr. Post voiced that he would think as a Legislator you would know the difference between shall and should. Chairman Kofalt asked Mr. Post, I take it you are requesting an adjustment to the agenda at this point. Mr. Post responded I am.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Post and SECONDED by Ms. Anzalone to add a vote on a replacement for the vacancy.

Mr. Post pointed out that this should be a Lyndeborough only vote because it only applies to Lyndeborough members. Chairman Kofalt clarified this is a vote on an adjustment to the agenda; it is not a vote on filling a vacancy which is a Lyndeborough vote. Mr. Post responded that it is a motion for a vote to replace the Lyndeborough member. Chairman Kofalt understands the adjustment to the agenda is to add an item to the agenda to take a vote fill a vacancy and that vote should be taken by Lyndeborough members of the Board.

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63 Ms. Lavallee spoke in regard to the agenda item; she would like to see everyone in the community who has the opportunity in
64 Lyndeborough to have the time to produce a letter of intent. She would like to speak to precedent, back in 2021 when we had a
65 board member resign, that took place on July 1, the next time it was discussed was at the July 13 meeting, where Mr. LoVerme
66 notified the public that there was opening and asked for letters of intent. At the next meeting, we discussed the letters of intent.
67 There were some concerns over the fact that we did not receive those letters until that meeting raised by board members. There
68 was a request by another board member Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, to have the candidates come in and speak to the Board so the
69 members who would be voting had time to review the candidates, make an educated decision and move forward with that. She
70 feels it is appropriate for us to follow that same procedure and should not move forward without proper notice to the public. We
71 want to be 100% transparent and want the public to have the opportunity to participate in the democratic process and in order to
72 do that she feels we need to give them notice, allow them to bring themselves forward and then have a vote. Ms. Cloutier-
73 Cabral agrees and would like to post so we can invite members of Lyndeborough community to come forward if they want to
74 be part of representing Lyndeborough. She does not know if we had enough time for people in Lyndeborough to realize this
75 was a posting. She would really like to see more representation come forward. Mr. Post wanted to make clear this is a different
76 situation and precedent is not applicable in policies. He questions Ms. Lavallee if she can point to him where it says we have to
77 follow precedent in a policy. She responded she feels she does not need to point it out in a policy, she thinks he knows it is not
78 in a policy and she is not going to engage in a back and forth about this. She made her point, that was her point, that is her
79 opinion, and she is allowed to have her opinion. Mr. Post continued; the issue is Lyndeborough is a smaller town; there is a
80 bigger percentage of Wilton board members on the Board. We are losing the voice for Lyndeborough to speak, we have very
81 weighty issues coming up and it is quite a bit different with the short notice. He thinks with the votes carried it will leave
82 Lyndeborough out of things. He doesn't think the rule was followed even though they asked to have it added to the agenda,
83 refers to policy BEDB, it was refused, that would have allowed time to give notice had that been accepted. He thinks this point,
84 if this Board is not going to follow rules how do you expect the students and staff to follow the rules. He suggests you approve
85 this and we get this done tonight and not leave the Lyndeborough voters wondering why Wilton is not allowing them to vote.
86 Mr. Mannarino spoke noting he would not have a vote on the person appointed, as he is a Wilton resident but regardless of how
87 we got here the vote was not on the agenda so the public does not have notice. His question is if you motion is approved tonight
88 and a person is appointed what would your response be to a member of the community of Lyndeborough who says if I had
89 known about that I would have liked to have been considered. Mr. Post responded he would say call the Chair, Mr. Kofalt and
90 ask him why he refused to put it on the agenda so you could have had notice. Chairman Kofalt voiced taking exception to the
91 statement being made over and over again that he refused to put it on the agenda. The agenda had already been published. He
92 does not know of any circumstance in which we have gone back and adjusted the agenda that has already been published. He is
93 not refusing to put it on the agenda; it will be on the next agenda, which is January 24th. Mr. Post commented, and we add that
94 person and then slow walk it to the next one so they wouldn't be at this meeting, they wouldn't be at the next meeting, it would
95 be the 3rd one. Mr. Post stated you did reject it; you did refuse to add it to the agenda. This topic continued, Mr. Post expressing
96 that the Chairman is slow walking this whole process and Chairman Kofalt disagreeing. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke in the
97 interest of civility, respectfully; we were not made aware of the vacancy until after the public portion of the meeting at the last
98 board meeting. It would have been difficult to publish this in a wide range way to Lyndeborough or district in general. There
99 are people in Lyndeborough who would have interest in this she believes and in fairness; this is our very next board meeting
100 following the meeting where our Lyndeborough representative resigned. It would be appropriate at this meeting to announce
101 there is a vacancy and allow people at least those 2 weeks in between this meeting and the next. Mr. Post asked Ms. Cloutier-
102 Cabral, what would you say to Lyndeborough members who say we will not get a vote tonight or any decision we make at the
103 next meeting will not have the full impact of the Lyndeborough opinion. She responded that she would say looking at the public
104 that is here tonight, she only sees one Lyndeborough resident in the public. She asked if there were others, and it was noted
105 there is one online, Ms. Gauthier. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral does not know if this is enough to be fair. Mr. Post voiced frustration, the
106 topic continued to be discussed, and Ms. Cloutier-Cabral voiced why she felt the appointment should not take place tonight in
107 order to provide others the opportunity to voice interest. Mr. Post asked if she would agree to not take any substantive votes
108 tonight. She responded I would say we could not take substantive votes that we should publicize that we have an opening. We
109 should publicize that we have an opening and give an opportunity to every Lyndeborough resident that has interest in this
110 vacancy and that should start right now. Ms. Lavallee wanted to state for the record that she is a Lyndeborough resident and she
111 also represents residents of Lyndeborough and there are residents of Lyndeborough that she knows could potentially be
112 interested in this. She also wanted to state that as a representative of Lyndeborough, in order for her to make a decision about
113 anything she needs to have the information in front of her in a timely fashion. She has not received any letter of interest from
114 anybody, does not have a specific name of someone who has come forward, in fairness to others members of the Board and if
115 we are all treating each other with the same respect that we want to be treated, she would expect that if you were to make a
116 decision about something, she would expect you would have the information and she does not have the information. She is a
117 Lyndeborough resident and a Lyndeborough representative. She does not feel prepared to be able make a decision. Mr. Post
118 voiced we have a candidate here tonight that would speak so you can get the information. Ms. Lavallee feels it is inappropriate
119 for her to make a decision right now on a candidate that she had no prior information on. She will lean back on the comments
120 from Mr. Post and Mr. Vanderhoof from a meeting on August 10, you both felt you needed more time and information because
121 we were given those letters that night and comments were made that it wasn't enough time to make a decision. We should all
122 hold ourselves to the same expectation, as that was the expectation when we needed to make a decision before, she is requesting
123 that she receive the same courtesy of having enough time to review the information and she wants the same courtesy to the

residents of Lyndeborough to come forward if they would like. That is all she is asking that we apply the practice consistently and that we don't change the rules and change the practice based on personal feelings. Mr. Post asked her to read the minutes she referenced. She did not and welcomed him to go back and read them; she noted it was a discussion with Mr. Vanderhoof saying he just received the letters now. Mr. Post commented there was an issue with some of the things Ms. Lavallee said at the last meeting, and questioned how we know it is accurate. Ms. Lavallee voiced frustration and would like to move on. Chairman Kofalt asked if there was further discussion and reviewed the motion is an adjustment to the agenda to add a vote by the Lyndeborough Board members to fill the vacancy on the Board. The roll call vote started before Ms. Anzalone could comment. The vote was stopped and would be restarted after her comments (no change in those votes). Ms. Anzalone spoke part of the concern is, and notes she was on the email with Mr. Post and she asked for it to be added to the agenda, the concern that was expressed by the Chairman was that she was not going to be at the meeting but she did say right away it was important and she could call in because it was important and wanted to be sure the Lyndeborough residents got appropriate representation on the Board. She thinks there should have been plenty of time to add this to the agenda, and put an updated agenda out there. She is not sure why we can't add stuff after the fact and we should take a vote on it.

Voting: Via roll call vote, four nays from Mr. Mannarino, Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Ms. Lavallee, and Mr. Golding, two ayes, one abstention from Mr. LoVerme, motion failed.

Ms. Anzalone had asked Chairman Kofalt to vote after the motion had failed 4-2-1, he voted nay, making the final vote 5-2-1.

Ms. Anzalone requested an adjustment to the agenda to move up the approval of the minutes, as she will not be able to attend the full meeting.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Anzalone and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to make an adjustment to the agenda to move up the approval of the minutes before Board Correspondence.

Voting: via roll call vote, six ayes, one nay from Mr. LoVerme; motion carried.

• APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms. Anzalone spoke that she wanted to correct something that was presented at the last meeting; this is not necessarily an adjustment to the minutes. She voiced that at the last meeting, when talking about the IJL policy, when it was voted down to add this to the agenda, it was presented the policy had already been discussed at the Policy Committee meeting when Mr. Vanderhoof and Ms. Anzalone had both been present. She wanted it to be corrected that she was not part of the Policy Committee meeting, by that point in time she had moved to the Negotiation Committee. Ms. Fowler questioned if there was an adjustment to the minutes. Chairman Kofalt asked Ms. Anzalone if there was a specific adjustment or clarification, Ms. Anzalone wanted to the minutes. Ms. Anzalone voiced line 482/483. Chairman Kofalt asks what change she proposes. Ms. Lavallee voiced that she was speaking during that and she did say that and we cannot adjust that but it was her intention to correct it during the school board member comments tonight. The minutes reflect what was said. It should reflect her mistake and the public should know she made that mistake but is not sure if the correction can be in these minutes. Chairman Kofalt asked if we could add a parenthetical comment reflecting that it was incorrect. Ms. Lavallee expressed she would like to correct that comment regarding Ms. Anzalone. Ms. Lavallee recalled her being present but after researching it, it was discussed just after Ms. Anzalone's resignation from the committee. She apologized for the error. The minutes will reflect a parenthetical comment of correction as requested added to the end of that sentence. Ms. Lavallee read what she was going to during school board member comments, which is "I would like to correct my comment regarding Mrs. Anzalone's participation in Policy Committee's review of IHAM. She had recalled her being present during this discussion but after researching it, I realized it was discussed just after Ms. Anzalone's resignation. I apologize for my error in memory". It was suggested the parenthetical comment in the minutes to read at the end of the sentence ending in "opt-out policy on line 483 "The statement was inaccurate and later corrected to indicate Ms. Anzalone was not present at the meeting". This was acceptable. Chairman Kofalt corrected line 233 adding "would" in between you and not.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. LoVerme to approve the minutes of December 20, 2022 as amended.

Voting: Voting via roll call vote, six ayes; one abstention from Mr. Mannarino, motion carried.

It was noted there are nonpublic minutes to approve. Chairman Kofalt reviewed this is to approve nonpublic minutes. Mr. Post added and the resignation of a board member. Chairman Kofalt agreed.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Golding and SECONDED by Ms. Lavallee to approve the nonpublic minutes of December 20, 2022 as written.

Voting: Via roll call vote, five ayes; one nay from Mr. Post, one abstention from Mr. Mannarino, motion carried.

IV. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

a. Reports

i. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent welcomed the student representatives. He informed the group that there is a process in place for the principal vacancy and the process we put in place is so everyone can understand the timeline. We posted this about 3 weeks ago; it closes January 20. That week, administration and WLC Leadership team will review the applications, currently we have 10, and the following week we would like to have the process in place and would like to have a student group meet the finalists and then all of our faculty will do a meet and greet and ask questions. Further we will have a community meet and greet, school board and community; anyone who can attend can meet the finalists in the evening probably here in the cafeteria. He thanked Ms. Gosselin for the process and wanted to make it all-inclusive as much as possible. At all of those stages, we will have an opportunity for people to make comments and to take a vote who they recommend is the next principal. A question was asked about the ALICE training and what is the estimated timetable to extend the training to everyone else. Superintendent noted Ms. LaPlante attended the training and can add to that as well. He explained the team met this week to start draft a timeline. Our initial goal was to have a simulation at the end of the school year and that may be too ambitious. The goal is to have the teachers complete e-learning in the spring. The goal for the actual practice and implementation is we are looking to front load the PD days in the school calendar where we can focus on ALICE training and when the students come in, we can jump into that timeline and have a more inclusive simulation with law enforcement. Ms. LaPlante thanked the Board for allowing her to attend the training. It was by far one of the best PD experiences she has had. She is excited to work with the other trainers and the police department to start rolling it out to our schools.

The Budget Committee has joined the group. Superintendent informed the groups on January 24 we will move the meeting to the library at WLC due to a basketball game and we may do this for future meetings.

Chairman Kofalt made the announcement there was a discussion about filling the Board vacancy and we invite members of the public who are interested in filling the vacancy on the Board. It has to be a Lyndeborough resident. We would ask a letter of interest be submitted to the Superintendent or to Ms. Fowler at the Superintendent's office. The intention is that will be on the next agenda on January 24 and the Lyndeborough members will be voting.

The meeting moved to the joint session discussion on FY 23-24 and came back to correspondence once that session was ended.

ii. Principal's Report

Principal Edmunds reported we are happy to have the student representatives here, the student body voted for them on December 19. On December 15, some of our MS students went to a Leadership Conference and came back raring to go to start an anti-bullying campaign. The students led discussions, she was proud of them, and the student leadership advisor is. We have library guidelines listed in the report and wanted to make sure we are doing what we should. We have teachers working with iReady and aligning curriculum to make sure we are ready for testing. She is interested in seeing how we did fall from winter. Mr. Post thanked her for including the library guidelines. He questioned if the first bullet on the report was reversed, she agreed it would be restricted to HS. He thanked her for putting it together. Principal Edmunds confirmed there will some new furniture coming in as well.

Hannah Hamilton reported that at WLC during the winter holidays we had a lot of celebrations including secret Santa's, holiday parties and the holiday concert. We had lots of basketball games.

Gray Riendeau reported the drama club started and tryouts will be on the 6th and 7th, there are more kids auditioning this year, the program is growing well. Basketball is going well and we are planning for a pep rally for the end of January and another "Fun Friday". Fun Friday has set activities at the end of the day like a "brain break" done typically at end of months and is sure that there is a lot of the school population looking forward to February break.

Associate Principal Fuller reported that at LCS we had an active shooter tabletop discussion with law enforcement and the fire department. We have had some bus concerns and we have Steve's School Bus coming to do an assembly with all the kids at FRES and LCS. We have started the data collection cycle. All FRES grades have had 1 testing session they are not all completed but have started. Today she met with the volunteers for the ESSER tutoring program. We have a tentative start date of January 30. Culture and Climate is going well and she has visited all the classrooms. Mr. Post asked if there was anything the Board could do to help with the bus issue. Principal Fuller does not think so, it is being addressed, and it is a classroom on wheels and are making sure all the kids are safe.

iii. Curriculum Coordinator's Report

Ms. Dignan reported we are in full swing for iReady diagnostic assessment. The 4th and 5th grade are working on completing testing. Fifth grade is done with math and almost reading. The rest of the grade levels have started at least one session. She spoke of the iReady goals k-8 for students, the first one is annual growth goal, what you would expect you should gain in 1 year and then a stretch goal, which is very ambitious to be met by the end of the year. Looking at some data, in math, 24% of students at FRES who finished testing are meeting their goal for ending the year and 3% are meeting the stretch growth goal for the year. The progress is phenomenal! In reading, 43% are meeting the annual goal and 23% are meeting the stretch goal. It was noted that having the detail of the curriculum process was helpful. Ms. Dignan noted most of this was done last year and polished up for this year. She confirms the HS is finishing testing on the 18th and 19th of this month and kindergarten's testing window is February. It is best to wait until we have everyone completed. Superintendent noted we should have more to report

the first meeting in February and can compare the 2 data points. A question was raised how we communicate to parents about the importance of the testing and that the data is used to make decisions even at the Board level. Is there something we can do to get that message out to parents so that they can talk to their children about giving it their best effort? Ms. Dignan confirms we send paper letters home and send messages through SwiftReach. She feels there is some messaging out there about this and will continue to relay the same message that we need the data to be representative of what we are achieving. We will add that specific messaging in. A question was raised if we have much of a nonparticipation rate. Ms. Dignan responded not for iReady, there are a few that it is not developmentally appropriate for them. A question was raised does it still count as zero if a student from our district does not take the test. She confirms that is for state testing not iReady.

Ms. Anzalone exited the meeting.

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

a. FY 2023-2024 Budget

Chairman Kofalt informed members of the Budget Committee Hannah and Gray are here this evening as student representatives.

Present: *Jeff Jones, Leslie Browne Adam Lavallee, Bill Ryan, Lisa Post, Caitlin Maki, Geoff Allen, and Jennifer Bernet*

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 7:06pm and welcomed the student representatives.

i. Presentation-Kitchen Equipment

Ms. LaPlante informed the group we do not have the presentation for this evening and intend to present it on January 24 with graphics.

ii. Prior Follow Up

Ms. LaPlante asked Principal Edmunds to speak to the makerspace equipment she provided Ms. LaPlante a few weeks ago. Principal Edmunds reviewed it includes raspberry pie kits, Lego walls, classroom materials, expansion packs and module kits. We are trying to have a class on hardware to make use of that makerspace. We currently use the PLTW Vex upgrade kits, but are looking to get newer ones. Principal Edmunds spoke about the raspberry kits being a nice addition to the curriculum. Ms. LaPlante confirms this is a funding request for FY 24; we do not have funds established for it now. It was noted that when the Budget Committee met with staff they said they submitted a proposal for that project and did not hear back. Ms. LaPlante thinks it was put into the Title Grant funds and doesn't know the status of it being put in. Superintendent spoke about it being important for us to assess the materials we have currently and use those effectively. He wants to be sure we use the items we already have in the makerspace. We have been able to plug in 5 desktops that enables to use things like Photoshop etc. He really wants us to understand and use what we have and there are materials and technology we are not using well or consistently. We have sufficient technology to have a dynamic makerspace. He is ok with waiting until FY 23-24 school year. It is a work in progress he wants to be careful about allocating funds to it now so that we don't have items waiting as we already have items not unboxed yet that we have purchased. A question was raised if these items are in the budget. Ms. LaPlante responded that justifies their increase for funding in FY 24, this budget we are building. Ms. Browne commented she was under the impression there were grants for this sort of thing. Superintendent confirmed there are but when we switched curriculum coordinators, some of that language was possibly misunderstood. Our grant allocation has reduced this year because we share our allocation with High Mowing and they have incorporated the other school and the formula is inclusive of all of their students K-12. Now that they have more students, which means the percentage of the grant they receive is higher than it was before. There are a number of factors. The grant money is so low compared to last year if we allocate it to technology we need to be sure it is what we need and we use it in an effective way for our students. He is not sure we will have enough to purchase all of it through grants next year, some of it but not sure about all of it. It was noted there are robotics grants that this district has made very good use of that and it could potentially serve a double purpose in the club setting and curriculum setting. Superintendent notes we received 2 grants totaling almost \$9,000 and a \$1,000 donation. He was asked to talk about some of the equipment that is not being used. Superintendent spoke we have not used it consistently, he would like to see a dynamic course in makerspace where student rotate through different technology stations and they design a project they are interested in using the new technology that they learn. We have a news program and green screen that we have not been able to use as much as we would like. We have had an afterschool program for it; he would like to see this as part of makerspace and certainly robotics. Principal Edmunds spoke of students working to create a portfolio where they can test out of computer science credits and can instead take things like robotics and hardware and photography class. Even if it is not a makerspace class, we have added more electives that use that space. Superintendent spoke we have things like Photoshop, silk-screening, a cricket machine where they can make shirts and stickers. We need to come up with a good vision for the space. He spoke of wanting to have teachers sign-out the makerspace for their classes to do certain projects. We want those for students and whatever we can purchase we will but also want to use what we have. We have a CNC machine in shop class but we have not had a chance to

use it and again, how would we incorporate it into the space or a different space and make it part of the makerspace program. He confirms in Economics we have things such as students participating in the stock market but it is pretty low tech at least this is his experience. It is not something they had thought about and the teacher may have some ideas for it. Principal Edmunds noted in Art they have done things, made, and sold t-shirts (for example). A question was raised if we are using the 3-D printers. Principal Edmunds confirms yes, when they work. They use them in robotics to build pieces. Chairman Jones asked the Superintendent regarding what we are looking at today, are you in support of keeping these particular things in the budget. Superintendent confirms he is, he sees it being embedded next year but doesn't think it makes sense to purchase for this year. He would like it to be more explicit in a makerspace curriculum. The Lego Board is a bit different and kids could jump into that without a curriculum. He confirms he is not motivated to write an activity in the title grant to purchase all of this for this year.

iii. Final Draft-Prep for Public Hearing

Ms. LaPlante confirms the budget that went out with the School Board and Budget Committee Packet had no changes from the prior meeting. She has a verbal change however, she was able to work with the bus company vendor to discuss contracts for the coming year and we will be receiving a \$15,000 credit on our bill for next year. We can reduce that by \$15,000. Appreciation was voiced. All the changes highlighted in lavender that were discussed at the December meeting are still in a state of flux waiting for a formal yes or no. Chairman Jones spoke that the Budget Committee met today to start to talk about a presentation on the budget. Some of the key things they will hit on are inflation, the transportation budget, energy and will redo a revenue slide and show trending on the operating budget over the last 5 years. He asked the Budget Committee and School Board if there is anything else they want to cover. Ms. LaPlante asked when could we start looking at buttoning down the budget, as she will need appropriate time to do the legwork and her piece. She realizes there is a \$15,000 adjustment today so that will change things but is it feasible we can look to the 24th to lock up what we are proposing for next year. Chairman Jones confirms yes. Ms. LaPlante confirms the public hearing is February 9. Mr. Allen commented that the only caveat to that is since we have not had all the proposals and budgets submitted to him that he could not guarantee he would be all set on the 24th if we have not seen the budget we are supposed to be presenting tonight. Ms. LaPlante will send out the revised budget with the \$15,000 reduction in transportation. It does have the archived tabs that shows the history as far as what was presented as far as those original presentations and explanations.

iv. Warrants

Ms. LaPlante reviewed she has the draft warrant as it stands, there are no numbers listed as they have not been finalized yet. Once the Budget Committee gives her the operating budget, this can be added. We do not have a final number for the CBA and are working on this. We added a procedural article #6 if the voters defeat the CBA we need to have the opportunity to renegotiate. Article 7 is for Building, Equipment & Roadways Capital Reserve, she knows there is a number that the Facilities Committee has discussed of \$190,000 but that is not on there, as it has not been finalized. Special Education Capital Reserve, there has been discussion adding zero dollars because we have \$298,800 in that account and the goal all along has been \$300,000. There has been discussion about the tennis courts and we have gone back to the 3 vendors to make sure the prices they gave us are still valid and we are not looking at any sharp increases for July 2023. One thing that has been discussed in depth the need to replace a boiler at WLC. We are finalizing this and have gone to back to the vendor doing boiler #1 and asked for quotes on boiler #2 and #3. The plan is to fund one through a warrant article and possibly fund the other through ESSER because we can tie that back to air quality and increase impact on the boilers. That is an overview of the warrant, as it currently exists. Ms. Browne questions why it was decided to do the boiler as a warrant because if it is voted down you cannot use funds to replace it and thinks it should be an item in the budget if it needs to be done. There was discussion about this. Ms. LaPlante noted it was what was discussed at the Facilities Committee meeting, there were 2 ways to fund it and one was with a warrant and one with ESSER. She confirms Ms. Browne is correct. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke that we do not have accurate numbers for the boiler and felt it could be put in as a warrant, explain it, highlight the need. She has faith it would pass. A question was raised why it is not on the CIP. She confirmed it needs to be done sooner than later, it needed to be replaced in the 1980's. We have had it as part of the CIP and it has not been replaced thus far. It was noted that is not due to the taxpayers saying no. A question was raised what the efficiency gain would be from the old boiler to a new boiler and there should be some return on that. Ms. LaPlante agreed noting we don't have the actual numbers. Mr. Ryan confirms that in 1969 it was put in. It was noted the vendor could tell us that efficiency gain. Mr. Lavallee noted if you could show that we will cut our consumption by 10% a year that is a concept most can grasp. Ms. Post supports it in the budget not as a warrant. Mr. Ryan voiced having it in a warrant article is a little scary and he gave the example of the roof. We have just as much ability to sell it in the budget as we do in a warrant. Ms. LaPlante voiced the Budget Committee can put it in the budget that they recommend. We can use \$100,000 as a placeholder per boiler. We are waiting for final numbers for it and Mr. Erb will follow up tomorrow. Mr. Lavallee asked for some data on the efficiency. Ms. LaPlante confirms the boiler we are replacing is \$85,000 and the others (2) are \$100,000, estimated and those two need to be done together due to how they are situated. Ms. LaPlante confirms if we take out the \$15,000 adjustment for the bus contract credit the budget will be at 4.89%. Chairman Jones noted by adding in the \$100,000 for the boiler that adds to that. Ms. LaPlante confirms there could be supply chain issues and we may not want to reduce the oil

budget. Ms. Post questioned she thought if we encumber the funds and there is a supply chain issue we would still be able to cover that. Ms. LaPlante clarifies that she was referring to oil savings.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Ryan and SECONDED by Mr. Lavallee to put \$100,000 in the FY 24 budget toward a boiler.

Ms. Browne questioned if there was a presentation to come up with this warrant. She feels the proper place for the boiler is in the budget but notes we don't even know if that is the right number. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke that they discussed it at the Facilities Committee; the boilers have been on here since the 1980's. We can highlight it and put a presentation together; the hope is that by highlighting it the people will see the need for it where ever it is. Mr. Allen echoes the sentiment that it should be a budget issue and shouldn't be in a warrant. He intends to vote no on the motion as he would like to see a presentation on what we are getting, what is the cost, what is the savings, so we can give the taxpayers accurate information. If it has been talked about for 30 years, why is it not part of the CIP? If you had it on the CIP we could have had the money in there already and have less impact on the taxpayers. The vendor should know the cost, lifespan etc. Now we go back to the CIP discussion, why is there not a CRF attached to it. He reviewed how the CIP should work. A question was raised to amend the motion to move it the budget instead of the warrant. Mr. Post noted there is a misunderstanding, we didn't vote on this warrant, it is just proposed. A question was raised, can we just all agree to remove it. Ms. Browne suggested waiting until Mr. Erb gets back to them with quotes and data before we add any money to the budget. Mr. Ryan was asked if he wanted to withdraw his motion. Mr. Ryan responded he does not need to withdraw his motion, it will not go anywhere, won't be voted on. Chairman Jones was concerned about putting another \$100,000 into the budget; he knows how hard administration worked to get it down under 5% and now we are looking at moving it 6%. He would prefer to have it in the CIP (Building, Equipment & Roadways) warrant as that is what we have always done and the number will be broken out so we can speak to it and be thoughtful about it. Ms. Post noted if we put in a warrant and it doesn't pass and something happens to the boiler we can still go to the public and ask for funding but that means it has failed. It was noted it should have been replaced in the past. Chairman Jones voiced if we add \$100,000 to the Building, Equipment & Roadways Capital Reserve it is not earmarked for the boiler so that gives us some flexibility to fund it out of the budget if we had to. Ms. LaPlante pointed out that is doable but then you are looking at a warrant for \$290,000 (\$100,000 assumption placeholder for boiler). The risk of putting it as a standalone warrant is no means no and you can't spend it out of the capital reserve or the budget. Your safest bet is the budget or the capital reserve. The students were asked how much they like heat in the building on a scale from 1-10. Gray responded warmth is nice. Mr. Post brought up that putting it in the CIP is what the public has been complaining about it is just a pass through. He thinks if we had a hard number, we would feel better about it and we need it ASAP. It was noted that parents should be concerned about the vandalism in the bathroom and that their children are being destructive to the toilets. It was determined they will wait for a presentation on the 24th and more solid numbers to make a decision. Mr. Post suggested that we should pull the SPED article. It was noted that is a Board decision. A question was raised if we need a warrant to continue it. Ms. LaPlante confirms we don't need a warrant to keep the SPED capital reserve nor do we need to add funds to it. The next meeting is January 24 and the warrant will be finalized.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Mr. Jonathan Vanderhoof, Lyndeborough, spoke about the boiler. He believes there is a mechanism to use the unexpended fund balance and it seems like it is a critical need. He spoke regarding the requested adjustment to the agenda, he points out a Lyndeborough resident made the motion and a Lyndeborough resident seconded it, 2/3 of the Lyndeborough delegation voted to make this happen tonight 4 of the 5 with 1 abstention of the Wilton delegation voted to not allow it. The Chairman referenced the law and policy, which would be policy BBBE says you shall do this. It should have been on the agenda and you knew that already given you commented on it and he doesn't understand why anyone had to request it and the fact you denied it and it is disrespectful and feels intentional. In regard to the additional documents the Board receives, they should be made available to the public either at the door or on the website so that the public can follow along.

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

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Browne to adjourn the Budget Committee session.
Voting: seven ayes, one nay from Mr. Allen; motion carried.*

VII. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

See above.

b. ESSER Funding Request

This was not discussed.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

420 **i. Facilities Committee**

421 Ms. Cloutier-Cabral reviewed the committee met January 4 and has been working on the plan and getting it up on the website.
422 There are some water fountains that are not working properly and Mr. Erb is working on getting quotes. Some teachers have
423 been complaining of a gas smell like propane and air quality. It is a smell not related to gas but whatever it is, we are working
424 on it. That is not the biggest of our problems; we took a tour of the locker rooms, which have been in need of repair for a long
425 time. She doesn't have the words to describe the need there. We will put a presentation together to show the facilities need
426 attention. It is hard to discern which part needs more attention. She encourages anyone to attend a Facilities Committee meeting
427 and take a tour. Part of the problem has been vandalism. We don't have anyone in the locker rooms and kids are plugging up
428 the toilets. We invited other teams in to use the facilities and change and it can be shameful. We want our kids to be proud; it is
429 not the majority of kids who are acting out and we are not able to be everywhere at all times and need to keep in mind the safety
430 and hygiene besides the boiler and making things more efficient. We will pull together a presentation for district meeting
431 whether in the budget or not they need attention. We also want to introduce a subcommittee to the Board for folks to look at
432 some of these projects, such as roadways, boilers, fountains; the Facilities Committee cannot do it all. We want to work
433 together as a community. Mr. Post noted when he looked at the locker rooms he was horrified. There is a vandalism problem, if
434 we can have a subcommittee to say we don't need these things anymore etc. the sooner the better. A question was raised why
435 did we allow them to get so bad, you would think the gym teachers could do walkthrough multiple times a day and lock them in
436 between classes. Superintendent spoke that we talked about it; the issue is consistency because kids use it and it is
437 unsupervised. It should be locked and unlocked only when supervised. It is beyond just clogging a toilet. Mr. Erb has had to fix
438 the toilet 3 times this year. The Facilities Committee needs to provide a good presentation and take photos, we do have a lot of
439 issues for the Facilities Committee and it is important to prioritize. When teams come in from out of district we want them to
440 have a clean place and for our kids too. We have work to do in both locker rooms.

441 **ii. Budget Liaison**

442 Mr. Post reviewed the committee met at 6pm and reviewed a presentation proposal. There was one slide they spent quite a bit
443 of time on which is the trend per pupil slide. They want to update this and find a better way to present it; there was some
444 thought to what is the increase over the last 7 years of the budget as a way to frame the budget. The other issue they had was
445 about the tax rate. The numbers are not accurate yet on here because they are waiting to do the budget number. He noted he
446 missed the last half hour because he had to come here and try to defend the Lyndeborough voters. Last week when I was in the
447 budget meeting there was a vote to take an item off the budget I had put on when I was out of the room.

448 **IX. BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION**

449 Ms. Cloutier-Cabral commented she appreciated the Budget Committee comments and feedback and that is something we will
450 look at and looks forward to when we can decide on a presentation about what we will present to the public and make some
451 decisions.
452

453 **X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

454 The public comment section of the agenda was read.
455

456
457 Mr. Jonathan Vanderhoof, Lyndeborough spoke he thinks it is clear based on the last 3-4 meetings that there are parents who
458 are not thrilled with the materials in the library. He thinks it is clear the policies the Board adopted are not well thought through.
459 He thinks that in situations like this it is something that needs more discussion not less. He thinks shutting down discussion
460 when a board member requests it is a bad thing and when a member of the public does even if it is the same person is a bad
461 thing. He sent an email on the 22nd of December well within the 7-day window to the Board and followed up when the agenda
462 went out and he finally got a response only 2 days before the meeting. He doesn't understand why you create policies that give
463 people opportunity to ask for discussion, ask for solutions and frankly provide solutions in their request and ask for a debate
464 and for you to vote on solutions and you refuse to have the discussion; that is not the way this is supposed to operate. You are
465 here to do the work! Not to say I don't like that person and I will make a motion to take that topic off the table and not allow
466 them to speak and not as a parent and you had the opportunity to put it back on the agenda, Mr. Chairman. The email was sent
467 to the whole Board, not just you, there was a plea to whole Board to speak on that. He assumes someone got the email given it
468 his request was addressed in the Principal Report. He doesn't know why it took over two and half weeks to get a response. He
469 is requesting it again to put policy IJL-Library Materials on the agenda and he expressed I will remind you again and he read
470 part of the agenda policy. He added just tonight during adjustments to the agenda, Ms. Lavallee, you said you want to be 100%
471 transparent and you also said respect, if I am asking you to make a decision that you have all the information you need. I think
472 it is only respectful if you are asking parents to make that decision that you provide them all the information they need. There is
473 no transparency in having it put in the principal report, it is only an illusion of transparency, there is nothing behind it. If I put
474 forward a request to see what are all the books you purchased this year are will I see them on the new book list, I doubt I will
475 get it and it is about trust, I don't trust the current administration, you guys can't even enforce a very liberal dress code. You
476 need to take up the issue, have a discussion about the issue and not vote to silence people when they come to you and ask you to
477 address those solutions. He provided a copy of his email to the Clerk to be included in the minutes.
478

Mr. Charlie Post, Lyndeborough spoke pursuant to policy BEDB-Agenda Preparation, that he wants that item on the agenda and is asking well in advance of the 7 days. Chairman Kofalt responded IJL will be placed on the agenda for the 24th. He noted he drafted an email that has not been sent yet in which he is requesting for the next agenda to include filling the vacancy at the beginning of the meeting and to have someone present to swear in the newly appointed member.

Mr. Geoffrey Allen, Lyndeborough voiced that he does not want to get involved in whatever drama the School Board seems to have going on but he appreciates the job you do and that you show up happy or not to do that job. Having said that, he is a little confused and concerned. He was not here for the discussion that took place that Mr. Vanderhoof spoke of but it sounded like to him that Lyndeborough representatives wanted to fill a vacant open seat and the Wilton representatives voted through a procedural measure to take away the right to have a seated member on the Board. That is the way it sounded to him and is not sure why Wilton would vote on that at all. He wants to hear an explanation at some point how Wilton can deny me as a Lyndeborough voter representation on the Board when it seemed that the Lyndeborough representatives were ready to move forward with a Lyndeborough representative. Chairman Kofalt spoke; the RSA and the School Board policy say the School Board shall fill the vacancy. It doesn't specify a timeline. In the past, there have been school boards here, in this district that have chosen not to fill it as it is close to elections. If any member says yes, I want to fill it we should proceed with that. The issue he had is the request to add it to the agenda came after the agenda had already been published. We have a 7-day period we are supposed to post 7 days before the meeting. The request was to withdraw that agenda and repost a new agenda inside of that 7-day window. We can make adjustments to the agenda at a meeting that was brought up as a proposal at this meeting and it was voted down. The nature of this agenda item would be that we want to notify the public and invite interested parties to express their interest to send a letter to the Superintendent and be shared with the Board and hear from them in a school board meeting. In this case, talking about putting it on the agenda on a Thursday and voting on it on a Tuesday meeting, which is a shorter window than has been allowed in the past. He is still not sure why there is an urgency to fill it, the only vote we took tonight is to approve minutes. We can seat a new board member at the meeting at the 24th. If a members asks for an item to be added to the agenda we can add it to the agenda but we are not going to go back and edit an agenda we already posted pursuant to the 7-day rule. He is failing to see how this has been a denial of process. The last time we did this, he thinks there were 2-3 meetings or more from when we said; let's fill the vacancy before we actually filled the vacancy. The answer was not no, we can't talk about it, the answer is it makes sense to offer this information to the community and offer that opportunity express interest and to address the Board. He is not sure why you would take that approach and not sure why there is an urgency to take a different approach.

Mr. Charlie Post, Lyndeborough, commented as a member of the public he wants to refute what Chairman Kofalt said. All of that you said is not in a policy. Items placed on the agenda should be received at least 7 days before the meeting that is not a rule it is guideline. You mentioned several times it is a rule. You said you fail to see the urgency which is really concerning to me because the rough treatment that the majority of the Lyndeborough representatives on this board have gotten from this group over the last couple of months has caused quite a bit of trouble and you want a room full of people Tiffany, we will see what we can do for it.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke to Mr. Post, voicing I feel for you sentiment, I really do. She spoke of losing her first tooth in Lyndeborough. She voiced having a lot of family members over there; she comes from first generation of Lyndeborough residents and has family who know nothing of this. The member resigned in nonpublic so other residents did not have the opportunity. To my heart, I do not feel it would be fair when we have 4-5 people in the room. Mr. Post commented, it was published in the nonpublic minutes. If you want the citizens of Lyndeborough... and I appreciate that Ms. Lavallee is a resident, the 3 of us have had very rough treatment over the last 3 months. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral responded I don't know that is negligible and to treat all the residents... I don't think it's fair either.

Mr. Jonathan Vanderhoof, spoke the nonpublic minutes from the last meeting were not sealed they were public. You have no precedent the process of replacing a board member has been different every time, yes last time it was done the way you described. No member asked for a vote in any given meeting it is a different request this time, you have not done it the same way every time.

Ms. Lisa Post, Lyndeborough spoke of being really disappointed when someone leaves feeling bullied, not cared for, not being able to express their opinions and she find its difficult to mesh that with the fact that this representative went off the Board because of a conflict and she feels they did that to preserve themselves and this board. She is very concerned that the Wilton delegation chose to vote against having this put on the agenda tonight. She also knows when she was on the Budget Committee

as a secretary we only had 24 hours to post meetings. Can someone tell me when that changed? Sometimes we got things out late and as long as we posted before 24 hours, it was acceptable. If it was reversed and the Wilton delegation ran into that, you have a larger delegation; this takes away the ability for Lyndeborough to have accurate representation. You have someone willing to come forward and step in for a few weeks so when decisions are made especially during budget season. When you have someone in front of you capable, who is on the budget committee and following what is going on, I find it reprehensible that you would keep these folks from having the opportunity to vote on who they want to be on this committee. Chairman Kofalt responded and read from policy BEDE. Ms. Post asked when the Board changed going from a 24 hour notice to a 7 day notification and how many times has the Board changed during a board meeting and added someone in, took someone out, moved things around. She feels like it is a slight against Lyndeborough and expressed she is not trying to make this Wilton Lyndeborough but that is really what it is. Chairman Kofalt responded that the policy was last reviewed and approved on May 14, 2019. The only item of business left before that person will be seated and sworn in is the school board member comments. Ms. Post questioned if there is an RSA that posting meetings only need 24 hours. Chairman Kofalt responded we can set guidelines that are more stringent than that. Ms. Post questioned what is the reason for that because right now that is obstructing that the Lyndeborough group could not get someone to represent them when they want to and why was it not the Lyndeborough folks to vote to have it on tonight why did the Wilton delegation have the opportunity vote this down. Chairman Kofalt noted this is public comment, you asked why the policy is that way I don't know I was not on the Board at that time. Ms. Post voiced there is another representative from Lyndeborough, and we had 3 people who could have voted on it and they were denied, all 3 people right. Ms. Lavallee voiced I was not provided any information. The first time I heard of anybody coming forward was in your comment when you said it was someone from the Budget Committee. Prior to that the other board members did not include me in their email or discussion, I walked into the meeting tonight knowing it was a possibility it would be discussed, no identity of a person. I will speak again as a representative of Lyndeborough; I am from Lyndeborough and live there from the day I was born. I feel it is important for me to make a decision with information and I think it is a courtesy that I would extend to any board member up here. When it comes to the treatment of other members, I would ask that you treat them the same way. Ms. Post commented with that the consideration as a person coming here to be put forth, this could have been part of a discussion rather than just a vote to shut it down, it was a vote to shut it down, it is really a vote to shut it down. We could say I need more information and someone could have provided information. They decided not to hear it because they didn't want to hear it. I think it is a bad look for this school board; you talk about being transparent and caring for your community. Caring for your community is making sure they have representation, I feel this delegation, this group, this Board failed to act when there was an opportunity and yes it's sad a board member had to go off. We talk about bullying, talk about people being treated a certain way, and they have to leave for their own self-preservation. Everyone needs to realize that when someone leaves it is not because they are flippant, this person worked for this for years and I have worked with him a long time. I feel he was not taken seriously. I want to say for the record I am very disappointed.

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

Ms. Post read policy BEDA-Public Notification of Meetings.

XI. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke she likes and respects everyone here and appreciates the time we have worked together. Mr. Vanderhoof, we miss you on the Board and wish you were up here. I don't think we need West Side Story to happen between Wilton and Lyndeborough. She doesn't think it is not a lot to ask for 2 weeks. She doesn't even know who the person is and doesn't have a horse in the race. We are working for a common cause, it is semantics now; in 2 weeks you can bring forward your same candidate only maybe there may be others who are interested. She thinks it is fair right now to give people a little bit of time, we are all working hard, have jobs, taking care of kids or parents. Is it really a lot to ask for a little bit of time? Maybe I voted as a Wilton person and maybe shame on me but I care about my friends and relatives and I want them to have a horse in this race. We do things as a community don't we. Maybe we disagree. There are times I am exhausted and don't want to come in but I do and what I wanted didn't happen but I made that promise. I do represent Wilton and Lyndeborough because I represent SAU 63. She thanked the Curriculum Coordinator and Principals for their reports and students for coming in and Mr. Erb and his team to keep up with a huge endeavor cleaning our schools. I really do appreciate all of you even when we disagree about stuff.

Mr. LoVerme commented to Ms. Post the reason Wilton has more representation on the Board is because they have more students enrolled. He notes he doesn't know the other part of what she was speaking of because he was not here.

Ms. Lavallee voiced it was disappointing at the beginning of the meeting while students were present; it got off on a contentious note. She doesn't think it was the best example that could have been set. She spoke of 2 accusations because that is what they are, in regard to the statement that we will not address an issue that people asked. We have, we discussed policy IJL

extensively, and in committee extensively and for quite a few months, and at the Board level extensively. We change it at the Board level 2 times. We had the librarians come in. At a certain point we have to take action and move forward and addressing the library is just one small piece of it, we took a vote, the motion passed the policy was put in place. If we take time to continually, revisit an issue because the losing portion of the motion is unhappy with the way the motion went... I am sorry; I don't think that makes us an ineffective Board. That is not democracy; we don't vote and because we are unhappy with the vote, revisit it. About the bullying, there was bullying going on since the vote was taken in June from more than one perspective. There have been accusations made and names called and I am tired of it and I am tired of a picture being painted that I feel is not true and I am tired of trying to meet people half way when I feel they are unwilling to move from their position. When we voted again at the last meeting that was not to shut it down but to move on with other issues that are affecting us; talk about the budget, talk about the vandalism, the curriculum, the discipline issues, some of the other issues that are actually occurring in this district. It doesn't mean I don't respect someone else's opinion it does not mean that I don't value it, but it means I am trying to prioritize our time as a Board and administration.

Mr. Golding commented it was not his intention to deny a Lyndeborough resident a seat on the Board. His intention was going off what he knows from a prior example and has been through this process (himself). It was announced at one meeting on July 13 there was an opening, it was requested people who wanted a seat, send letters of intent, why they wanted to be a member to Superintendent Weaver and we will be notified of anything else. There was a meeting on August 10 I believe, it was requested we come to the Board and say why we wanted to say and then the Board would take a vote. I was online as I could not be present. I was asked questions by Lyndeborough residents why I wanted to be on the Board or about certain things about my letter. I honestly would like the same respect granted to me that I could ask a questions knowing I don't get a vote and I would like the public to have a chance to in fact look and see that they can come in. I love that someone was already sitting there ready but it was not before the 7 days and I only voted because it was an adjustment to the agenda and I need to hear more information, I would love to hear more information.

Ms. Lavallee exited the meeting.

Mr. Post voiced he has 34 years in corporate leadership leading people and large teams and one thing he learned is that leadership requires building a consensus. You have to build a consensus among a group. If you constantly dismiss the minority opinion... and Ms. Lavallee said, it was a vote; it was a very close vote twice. You have to bring everyone along or you end up in situations like this. If you want to draw the lines this is what you get. There were promises made. He believes Chairman Kofalt sent a letter to entire Board saying that he made a commitment to add it to the agenda also Ms. Lavallee told me that as well. When I was across the hall, it was taken off the agenda. You have to build consensus you have to work together or you will have a group that is going to pull itself apart which is what you have now. The fact that the Vice Chair didn't know anything about this; it is your responsibility as Chair to let her know. You have to recognize there are hard feelings and if you want to move forward positively build a consensus. That is how you win.

Mr. Mannarino commented he was happy to see Hannah and Grayson here participating. It was the high point of the meeting. He notes he voted against the motion not because he wanted to influence the process or delay that seat being filled and since he has heard there is potentially more than one person interested in the seat from Lyndeborough. Having one person here however it happened with less than adequate notice he wanted to be sure everyone had a chance to engage in that process and hopefully we will on the 24th.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to adjourn the Board meeting at 9:00pm. Voting: all aye; motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Fowler*

School board members and superintendent,

First let me apologize if this message has already been received I sent it yesterday but it appears to me that it did not go through.

I am writing as a concerned parent with a request according to your policy BEDH. This policy states "Requests to address the board on specific matters (i.e. a request to have a matter placed on the agenda) should be presented to the Superintendent no less than seven (7) days prior to the next Board meeting and must set forth specifics on the subject to be addressed. The determination whether to place the matter on the agenda will be made consistent with policy BEDB." With regard to policy BEDB it states "Any Board member, staff member, or citizen of the district may suggest items of business. The inclusion of items suggested by staff members, students, or citizens shall be at the discretion of the Board Chairperson."

The specifics of my request is to be allowed to propose a change to policy IJL-Library Materials. I feel that the policy lacks transparency with regard to library materials being provided to our students. I suggest that on the school websites there be a link below the library link found under the academics tab or within the library section of the site. This link would be labeled "New Books" once accessed the content would be a list of books that have been purchased or provided as new additions that academic year. If a book were purchased after March 1st that book should remain on the list for the following academic year. In addition all new classroom books should be purchased through the library's process and included in the list. This is an issue of transparency. In policy IJL it states "We affirm the responsibility and the right of all parents and guardians to guide their own children's use of the library and its resources and services." If the board is going to make a statement like that the appropriate tools should be provided in order for parents to make those decisions. Having a catalog that can be searched is a nice feature but is not as convenient as you may think. As a parent I don't have an extensive amount of time to research all the possible books and materials that may or may not be in the library. The addition of a "New Books" list as I am suggesting would affirm your commitment to the statements you have made in the policy and give parents the appropriate information to direct their students use of the library. I can further explain why I believe it should be an addition to the policy and not just something that is done if you allow me to speak to it.

I feel this is a reasonable and appropriate request. I was denied the opportunity to propose this change as a board member I am now asking as a parent to be able to speak to this. In addition I request to have my proposal brought up for a roll call vote to be adopted or rejected. If the board chairperson decides to deny my requests I feel I am entitled to a public explanation from the board chair as to why he will not let me speak to this. I am including board members because if the board chair agrees to add this to the agenda I believe there could be another motion to silence me and this topic. This is the same proposal I had wanted to have a discussion about at the previous meeting and the majority denied the ability for this to be presented. I would ask that all of you who voted to silence this topic reconsider and allow the proposal and any further discussion regarding it to happen as it should in an open transparent way.

I am looking forward to a response to my request,

Jonathan