

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, March 7, 2023  
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School  
6:30 p.m.**

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

Present: *Brianne Lavallee, Alex LoVerme (6:38pm), Dennis Golding, Geoffrey Allen, Matt Mannarino (6:36pm), Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Charlie Post, and Darlene Anzalone*

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Lavallee called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**II. 6:30PM NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (C)**

- i. Hearing
- ii. Review Nonpublic Minutes

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Golding and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to enter Non-Public Session for a Board Hearing and to review the non-public minutes, RSA 91-A: 3 II (C) at 6:30pm.*

*Voting: via roll call vote, five ayes, one abstention from Vice Chair Lavallee, motion carried.*

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board entered public session at 7:05pm.

*A MOTION was made to seal the non-public session minutes by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Mr. Golding.*

*Voting: via roll call vote, seven ayes; one abstention from Vice Chair Lavallee, motion carried.*

Vice Chair Lavallee called the public session to order at 7:05pm.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**IV. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no adjustments requested.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

*A MOTION was made to increase the time limit to 5 minutes per person by Mr. Mannarino and SECONDED by Mr. Golding.*

*Voting: six ayes; one nay from Mr. Post and one abstention from Vice Chair Lavallee, motion carried.*

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

There was no public comment.

**VI. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

**a. Reports**

**i. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent informed the group a sprinkler popped today at WLC, fire alarms went off and we had a fire evacuation. Water was on the floor and gym stage. He thanked Ms. Bird and Mr. Erb for their work with this today. We have Servpro drying the floor; the Fire Chief was here for almost 4 hours getting the fire alarm off. We have one section of damage, unclear how much. The equipment will remain here overnight to the dry floor and we will work with Primex to see what kind of damage and cost is if any for repairs. Mr. Erb is present to speak about the 3 estimates for the roof at LCS. Mr. Erb provided the 3 estimates; Prime Roofing Corp. \$86,995, Adam Vaillancourt, LLC \$73,279 and Conde Roofing & Construction LLC \$59,659. He notes Prime Roofing is highest quote. Mr. Erb reviewed Adam Vaillancourt's estimate started at \$81,421, he provided a school discount of \$8,142 bringing it down to \$73,279. There are extras we will have done not included in that amount such as taking down the chimney that is not being used and some re-lead work to be done on the other chimney and on the new section, the ridge cap was

installed wrong and needs to be replaced; these extras (\$2,225) would bring the cost to \$75,504. He reviewed Conde starts at \$59,659, there is an upgrade for 30-year shingles of \$5,800 and they came in at \$1,600 for the same extras as Adam Vaillancourt for total of \$67,059. There is a difference of about \$8,000 between the two estimates. He confirms they both quoted the same job. A question was raised if he knows the cost difference between a 30 and 50-year shingle. Mr. Erb believes it is about \$25 a square (it will take about 330 bundles of shingles). Mr. Erb was asked for his recommendation. Mr. Erb responded he knows both groups, all three have worked for Adam Vaillancourt and he believes they are equal in workmanship. Ms. LaPlante was asked if we have the funds for Conde of \$67,059 if this is approved. Ms. LaPlante responded the funds would come from the operating budget using unspent funds per the Board's motion on February 7. Once the Board gives the Ok, we would start as soon as the schedule allows us to. Back on February 7, she estimated we would have about \$500,000 at the end of the year in unspent funds she is still comfortable with that estimate and believes we have the funds to make the needed repairs. Mr. Erb was asked if one of these quotes is approved, how soon could they start. Mr. Erb does not know he had the quotes ready for the last meeting if it was brought up and at that time, they were able to do it over February vacation in about 2 days. At this point, he assumes sometime in the next few weeks. It was noted the shingles are not "apples to apples", if the other company has 50-year shingles there is about a \$400 difference. It was noted Adam Vaillancourt's work and reputation is very good. It was noted the Conde quote indicates it is only good for 30 days. Mr. Erb responded we are at about 2.5 weeks right now. Discussion continued reviewing the quotes including question if the Conde shingles are a 30 or 50-year warranty. It was noted Adam Vaillancourt's workmanship is warrantied for 5 years and Conde workmanship warranty is for as long as the homeowner lives in the home (assuming as long as the district owns the schools). A question was raised if we see the (Cooperative) district's relationship dissolving in the next 5 years. If not a warranty longer than 5 years is preferred. A question was raised if there is other work that needs to be done. Mr. Erb confirms the siding does but has not gotten any quotes for that yet. The quotes are listed to replace any plywood if needed; Adam Vaillancourt's estimate is \$120 a sheet he believes and Conde's is \$85. That is about all that might pop up, if they need to replace a sheet here or there.

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Golding and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to accept the bid/estimate from Conde Roofing & Construction at \$67,059.*

A question was raised how long Conde has been in business. Mr. Erb believes 3-4 years; he has known them for about 25 years. Mr. LoVerme notes his only concern is they have not been in business long and Adam Vaillancourt will be for many years. Mr. Allen noted the 50-year warranty he believes is an additional warranty the company purchases on our behalf.

*Voting: six ayes; one nay from Mr. LoVerme and one abstention from Vice Chair Lavallee, motion carried.*

Vice Chair Lavallee commented pending the results of the election outcome, she had spoken with the Superintendent previously about reinvigorating the Strategic Planning Committee to look at the use of the 3 buildings and the administration make up in the 3 buildings. She hopes the Superintendent nudges the Board along in getting that done.

## **ii. Principal's Report**

Associate Principal Fuller reported Hannah Taylor our Spelling Bee winner made it to the next level, Regional Finalist Competition happening on March 25. Today we had 6 first responders join us and serve FRES students breakfast, thanks to Tammy Smith for organizing that. Today, LCS staff set dates for Kindergarten screening, Kindergarten Welcome Day and Information Night. A question was raised if she could give examples of the areas of concern for safety on the bus. Associate Principal Fuller responded it is mostly getting out of their seats, roughhousing and being loud over the railroad tracks. She was asked how the day went when the bus driver came in. She replied it was good and things improved for a little bit but you have to continue to reteach and reinforce. She has rode the bus once and gets on sometimes at the end of the day to give a brief talk. A question was raised if there were any mistakes made during the lockdown or did anyone miss a lock. Associate Principal Fuller responded it is a learning process; there are a lot of doors at FRES that need to be locked. We need to look at our EOP and compare that to the plan, is it to get to the nearest room that locks or is it to first look around and shut all the doors. In cases like the specials, such as the gym, it can lead to other sections of the building and we need to tighten those areas up. She has not received the report yet.

Principal Edmunds reported spirit week was great, February was busy, we had Biotrek things happening, it was amazing; students Kevin Lachance, Naomi Bozarth and Lily Gibson presented their idea "Bees Knees" and won and will go onto the statewide competition. The bathroom committee had their first meeting on February 2; we did a tour and talked about things we are doing and set up another meeting for March 24. We are getting ready for PSAT and SAT. We added a lot of things this year to help prepare the kids for these types of tests and are hoping it pays off. We will continue until testing day. She spoke of being thankful for Superintendent Weaver, Mr. Pratt, and Assistant Principal Gosselin for assisting her while she has been out for a death in the family. She voiced appreciation and thanks to have a supportive colleagues, they are amazing including everyone at WLC. Vice Chair Lavallee thanked her for attending and for all WLC for inviting her in for spirit week and participating in the talent show.

Assistant Principal Gosselin reported Spencer Gibson, Senior in the stock market class won for the state. He was surprised today with the news and he has a banner and everything, it was a big deal. They came to the school to present the award to him. She gave kudos to Ms. Wentworth, math teacher who made sure the project happened. We had amazing contributions to the contest

and amazing work from Spencer. We held a scholarship day; it is a lot of work to apply for scholarships. Ms. Morshed, Ms. Kovaliv and Ms. Coffey assisted students; it was all hands on deck and we had a lot completed. Spring sports is starting the 20<sup>th</sup> for the HS and the 27<sup>th</sup> for MS. We are still looking for a MS boys' baseball coach. Sports information night was last night. Ms. Dignan, Ms. Edmunds and I started to look at "longitudinal" data for the group and that will be an additional component we have not seen yet. A suggestion was made she reach out to the WJAA for a baseball coach. She will do this.

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

Ms. Dignan reported for PD day March 14, we will have a half day of iReady coming in and we will be splitting the groups differently. We found so many reports that are K-8 that differ from 9-12 therefore; we will be splitting faculty this way and get different tailored instructional practices. We started district wide SAS preparations looking at manuals, getting teachers information and working on tentative schedules for spring assessments.

### **iv. WLCTA Report**

Ms. Becky Hawkes reported there are a lot of exciting things happening: the HS Robotics Team qualified to go to States at NHTI in Concord, MS student-led parent conferences are coming up at the end of this month, WLC Dance team moved onto Regional Competition and scored first place in the hip-hop and jazz divisions. LCS held Pancakes and Pajamas breakfast on the Friday before break, which was a great time. WLC had Spirit Week; students at LCS loved watching the tree come down. LCS and FRES celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> and 120<sup>th</sup> school day. HS girls' basketball team made it into playoffs, FRES spring concerts are coming up in April and May. The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are performing on April 13<sup>th</sup> and Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be May 11. For the 20 educators participating in the LETRS course we are a quarter of the way through our 2-year commitment. LETRS stands for Language essentials for teaching and reading and spelling and 6 FRES teachers have also signed up for Best Practices-Building a Data Culture which is a 2 credit course put on through the DOE run through SNU. Spencer Gibson was already mentioned and how exciting it was and the stock market class. On Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> the Red Cross is holding a drive at WLC, which is a senior project for Zoey Hall. Anyone in the community can come, 2:45pm -6pm at WLC in the gym. It also is the same night as the meet and greet principal candidates for WLC. A question was raised if we knew when the state competition for robotics is. Ms. Edmunds responded it has already happened, they did well and had she been here this week they were going to come to the meeting to show their robot. They will come to an upcoming meeting.

## **VII. FINAL DISTRICT MEETING PREPARATION**

The Board was provided the draft slides. Ms. LaPlante reported the presentation is complete except for slide 12. The Facilities Committee did not meet as scheduled therefore it is not finalized. She confirms this is draft and not made available to the public yet. Discussion was had including how the tax rate impact looks. Mr. Post responded they look good, he had a question on slide 2, which was explained. Ms. LaPlante reported making outreach to both communities to find out the median house values. Lyndeborough is just shy of \$310,000 and Wilton she did not hear back from. In the big picture to help understand it she used "ballpark figures" of \$300,000 as a placeholder and point of reference if your house falls at, below or above to help determine how it will affect your personal property taxes which was increased from the historical \$250,000 that had been used. She confirms the CIP is still in draft form. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral noted the committee could not meet last week, as there was not a quorum. We need to present it the way we are looking at it and say what is going on with it. We have had to move things forward, backward which happens every year, and we are working to have a document that includes historical data so that people can see what we did. We will need to plan for things like the roof. When we looked at it in 2021, it was hard to follow and took a year to put together what we have now and are still working on it. Where we are at is where we are at and that is what we will present. Vice Chair Lavallee noted for slide 12, we need to think of how to present it to the taxpayers so they can understand as much as possible. Mr. Post commented he thinks the list is robust and with the addition of the maintenance plan, it is informative and includes what the major expenses are. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral agrees so much of what has been on the plan has been what should be routine maintenance. We are showing now what is routine maintenance and what is a project like the windows, roof etc. Mr. Allen requested to be on the Facilities Committee as a board member or community member next year. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral responded we need and love more community members to come as it helps us. She notes we need to figure out what is a priority and when so many things need attention, it is difficult to determine. Mr. Post and Ms. Cloutier-Cabral will work on the slide; Ms. LaPlante will send it out to the Board for feedback. Ms. LaPlante questioned when she would have this as last year it became contentious because it was not posted until the day before district meeting and we are trying to be conscientious about that. Response, it will be ready on Friday to post. It was asked if it could be sooner and could the board committee members meet after this meeting. Mr. Post noted we need 24 hours to post it. Discussion was had regarding when to meet. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral commented she will absorb the fuss but cannot do it sooner than Thursday. A question was raised if we could post the presentation with a notation on that slide that it is being worked on. Ms. LaPlante spoke that she understands the position of the Facilities Committee and can take the document we have now, put it on the slide indicating it is a draft and do another slide to outline the work in progress and send it out for feedback. It is not likely anything will change on the CIP in this short amount time. Ms. LaPlante asked if this was acceptable to the committee and Board. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral is OK with this and no objection was heard. Ms. LaPlante added she will draft it and send it out, if it is OK it will be final version and posted and if not let her know what changes need to be made. A straw poll was started to make sure everyone is ok with that plan; there was no objection heard. It was expressed that the committee will meet on Thursday, March 9 at 7:30pm. Ms. LaPlante will post the slides and a meeting will be held for review. Mr. Post confirms Ms. LaPlante will create a slide showing 2 parts, it was noted on the last draft of the CIP there were still issues in the parking lot, those should be removed. Mr. Post reviewed, you have the CIP and maintenance plan and remove the parking lot stuff and post that. Committee will hold a meeting this Thursday at 7:30pm.

186 **VIII. ACTION ITEMS**

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

188 *A MOTION was made by Mr. Golding and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to approve the minutes of February 21, 2023 as*  
189 *written.*

190 *Voting: seven ayes; one abstention from Vice Chair Lavallee, motion carried.*  
191

192 **IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

193 **i. Facilities**

194 Ms. Cloutier-Cabral informed the group that there was no quorum to hold the meeting and will meet this Thursday at 7:30pm.  
195

196 **X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

197 The public comment section of the agenda was read.  
198

199 Mr. John Lavoie voiced at the last meeting the Superintendent said he would conduct an exit interview. He questioned if this  
200 ever happened. Superintendent responded the exit interview template was attached to his report in the board packet. Mr. Lavoie  
201 was provided a copy.  
202

203 Mr. Allen informed the public the packet is available to anyone on the website.  
204

205 Mr. John Vanderhoof spoke regarding the CIP. He asked how it is viewed, is it a CIP used as a guide for anticipating projects  
206 and completing projects or is it just something you are using to raise money, just throwing stuff up there to say we need more  
207 money and throw up more stuff and we need money. It seems like the only thing you are using it for is a mechanism to ask  
208 people for money as opposed to using it as a mechanism to create a schedule and plan for stuff. He notes he doesn't have a copy  
209 of the presentation but if you are using the CIP he saw previously vs. what was up there last year, the only thing you have on it to  
210 be done is the windows which was not on there before and there is well over \$100,000 of projects that was supposed to be done  
211 and some are not on there anymore. He doesn't know the purpose of the CIP other than to say look we need money that is what it  
212 seems like you are using it for. He suggests taking a long hard look at what you have and how to present it and how you will  
213 explain, why the locker rooms are not being done and the boiler is being paid through other sources.  
214

215 Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.  
216

217 Ms. Melanie Jones thanked everyone for the support of the girls on the dance team last week. They set up a "go fund me" page  
218 and their goal is just shy of \$2,000 after a week. She expressed thanks.  
219

220 **XI. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

221 Mr. Golding commented he is glad we are finally getting something done with the LCS roof; it has been a long time coming. He  
222 is looking forward to the numbers Ms. Dignan will be presenting this spring.  
223

224 Mr. Allen gave shouts outs and congratulations to the Biotrek students, they did an awesome job and Spencer as well, Assistant  
225 Principal Gosselin, he appreciates her always being available, listening and going above and beyond to help the community and  
226 congratulated Librarian, Ms. Wiley for being selected (to present at the 2023 NH School Library Media Association's annual  
227 conference).  
228

229 Ms. Anzalone reported the bathroom committee met, took a tour and her impression is it is older school and a lot is just standard  
230 stuff because it is an older school. We talked about options of looking at vape detectors, we are going to pursue that to see if it  
231 addresses some of the vaping issues and having it there would be a deterrent, they have been addressing some discipline issues  
232 and she thanked them for that.  
233

234 Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke regarding the CIP. It is a document that says we need money, it is not hard to look to find where we  
235 need money, we need updates in all the schools, repairs need to be made and we are trying to make it something you can follow.  
236 Every year she has been on the Board things are bumped up because there is an immediate need or things that were never on it  
237 become an immediate need, and arguments can be made whether it should or should not happen. A great place for those  
238 discussions is at the Facilities Committee meetings, she encourages everyone come. We are trying to do our best and make the  
239 needed repairs. We can ask for money on the CIP, warrants or through the general fund. She likes warrants because what you  
240 vote to do has to be done. If you vote not to do that then the town doesn't want that. There are lots of ways to do it, this is the  
241 CIP, we are working on it, and this is where we are. These are things we need to look at on a regular basis things like the roof,  
242 the roads, the grounds, we are trying to separate some of those things and some things have come off like the cafeteria; we are  
243 not sure what the original intent was. The cafeteria has sustained and there are other things falling apart so it does not make  
244 sense when those things will look good for a while. She notes she is not genius on the CIP and does not know how to make it so

that everyone loves it but we are working on something and that is where we are at with it. We do need money and that is what the document says, how we are going to raise it; we do need to raise it with that document and we do need to raise it one way or another.

Mr. Post spoke that this is his last regular board meeting, he started 7 years ago on this Board. When he decided to run, we had just moved to town, looked at the school district and saw we had among the lowest scores in the state and among the highest cost per pupil in the state. The two metrics that seemed most important to him were to provide support for students and work on scores, and spent a lot of time doing that over the years hiring curriculum coordinators, supporting staff and teachers and addressing those issues. Improvements were made, scores increased, things got quite a bit better from 7 years ago and then we took a step back from COVID and other issues. At the beginning of the year he was full of optimism for how we were going to do this year as a school board, it was pretty clear the pandemic was behind us, we had a lot to address in terms of how we would address learning loss and putting the whole model back together. It started out OK, the Board got sideways during that period instead of addressing those primary issues, addressed political issues, which served to divide the community, served to upset people, it did not serve the district well, he doesn't intend to rehash that now. He reminds the Board there are different members of the community, different people who belong in the community, and different people who are taxpayers, pay for, and support the schools and different parents who have a series of values. We are all elected that sit up here and we represent certain people who voted for us and when as the Board did this year, dismissed items that had been added to the agenda, refused to let board members to speak about certain topics you are dismissing the voters that voted for them, that voted for us. That's a real miss, it is not what we are here to do, we are not here to just force through on narrow votes we are here to build a consensus, build a community here to manage and build the school district and bring the communities together. Dividing the two communities, which happened, it's a cooperative school district between Lyndeborough and Wilton. At these last few meetings it was unnecessary and uncalled for and as you look forward to next year, he will be sitting in the audience at most of the meetings. He encourages the Board to find consensus and find ways everyone can at least meet at some common ground, we expect staff and students to do it, and the administration to do it and the school board should do it. He thanked all of Lyndeborough and the greater community that supported him and looks forward to a more productive School Board year next year. He was thanked for his service.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Golding and SECONDED by Mr. LoVerme to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:12pm.  
Voting: seven ayes; one abstention from Vice Chair Lavallee, motion carried.*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kristina Fowler*