

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, February 6, 2024  
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School  
6:15 p.m.**

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

Present: *Dennis Golding, Brianne Lavallee, Matt Mannarino, Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Darlene Anzalone, Geoffrey Allen, Diane Foss, and Jonathan Lavoie*

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Golding called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.

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

**i. Student Matter**

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Allen to enter Non-Public Session to discuss a student matter RSA 91-A: 3 II (C) at 6:15pm.*

*Voting: via roll call vote, all aye, motion carried.*

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board entered public session at 7:12pm.

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

*Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

WLCTA was moved up on the agenda with the Budget Committee's permission and joint session held right after. The agenda was continued as written after the joint session.

**IV. STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Principal Fuller recognized the following staff who were nominated for the Starfish Award and reviewed the reasons for their nominations, Ms. Ariel, Valerie Bemis, Sherry LeBlanc, and Megan Levesque. Principal Ronning recognized following staff who were nominated for the Starfish Award and reviewed the reasons for their nominations, Nancy Rykken, Mel Jones, Hannah Rudd, Cam Taber, Mandy Kovaliv, and Bill Comerford. The winners for December and January are Nancy Rykken, paraprofessional and Ms. Ariel, ABA therapist. Chairman Golding congratulated the winners.

**V. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no adjustments to the agenda requested.

**VI. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

**a. Reports**

**i. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent reviewed it was a short report; he shared information that he had not previously. Ms. Lavallee spoke of being excited that the Artist in Residence is coming back. She questioned if administration tracks teacher PD or teachers track their own. Superintendent confirms teachers track their own in Vector software and we work closely with them. Ms. Lavallee asked if they are on target to get them done on time. Superintendent voiced it is amazing what can be done when you are close to the deadline. As an example, he spoke of having 4 certifications himself that he has to have PD for and he may be missing some and has to look closely at it. We help teachers in that way, they are all on track the thing that takes more time is the teachers that are not certified. We have to work actively with them and he gave a shout-out to Ms. Fowler, who is really the middle person between the SAU and the DOE. This was never her job but apparently, it was. She helps teachers navigate the DOE, because it can be very complicated. If you click on the Bureau of Credentialing, it is complicated. Every state is complicated when it comes to certification and Ms. Fowler does a good job reassuring our young teachers and beginner teachers that it's going be ok, you are not going to lose your job because you can't navigate the DOE site. She walked quite a few teachers through the process, particularly this year. Ms. Lavallee asked if we have a number who are finishing this year. Superintendent responded we can

walk you through it, the last couple of years has been really difficult, as we don't have the number of applicants we once had. One of the things we talked about with the CBA is recruitment and how we can get applicants and one way to do that is through the salary schedule. He is confident when they see the CBA and compare us with our smaller class sizes and community he thinks we will look good in terms of recruitment and competitiveness. He spoke of the challenges and how they correlate to our scores. He spoke of being excited about the work done on this CBA and he has never been more positive, this is the best he has seen. Ms. Lavallee spoke of speaking to a number of parents who are also excited about it, they appreciate our teachers and she hopes they all show up at district meeting. Superintendent voiced in a private business you know how important it is to hire good staff and hold on to them, we are the same way. We want to recruit the best, work with them and commit long-term to our kids. The mood in the district is positive, he got good feedback at the MS, HS and FRES, have you seen the turnout at the game tonight, it is standing room only. We had to pull out the other set of bleachers; it is exciting to have that sense of community. He is meeting with Mr. Comerford tomorrow and the 6 interns for lunch to talk about their experience, and if they are getting the support and challenge they need and talk about their professional goals. His ulterior motive is recruiting but part of it is supporting them as colleagues too. He is excited about the meeting with them and working with them throughout the spring.

#### **ii. Student School Board Report**

Ms. Hamilton's report is submitted as written. Ms. Lavallee asked if during the student meetings was there any discussion about an SRO position; she would love to hear feedback from the students on what they think the benefits would or wouldn't be. She would like to hear what the students think about it. A question was raised regarding the field trip to Milford CTE for grades 9-11 that went to Milford and had only 8 students participating; do we have anything like that for ConVal or Mascenic. Assistant Principal Gosselin responded that Milford puts that on and they pay for transport but the answer is yes we do.

#### **iii. Principal's Report**

Principal Fuller recognized 4 student teachers, Natalie Davidson in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Ms. Lemire's class, Patrick Dee in 4<sup>th</sup> grade Ms. Reid's class, Ms. Levesque has 2 interns, Kathryn Peterson and Kelsey Gregorio. Tutoring letters are going home tomorrow; we are inviting about 50 students' grades 1-5 and hoping to start on the 13<sup>th</sup>. WLCTA spoke of the CARES assembly. Ms. Lavallee commented she is excited to see CARES has been brought back; it is great to recognize these skills. Ms. Lavallee spoke of liking how the report cards are being sent out in small amounts to get feedback and tweak it. Principal Fuller spoke of PowerSchool being a bit of a beast when you get behind it but the teachers are embracing it, working hard to get it up, and running. A question was raised if she had a hard time getting teachers to sign up for tutoring. Principal Fuller responded, not at all, we even have a substitute!

Principal Ronning commended Mel Jones for the dance team's trip to Florida. It was amazing what we were able to go through. The date for National Honor Society and Junior Honor Society inductions has been moved to February 22 instead of February 14 as the students had other plans on Valentine's Day. He welcomes the Board to join them on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. He spoke of holding an SAT prep course on English for an hour and math for an hour in the afternoon and an evening session with food for students. Assistant Principal Gosselin spoke of student discipline. She corrected the report as it is from December not September. There are some decreases in some areas and the other category, which is typically bussing or athletics. She spoke of the vape detectors. First parents were notified by email and students have been spoken to about it. They are installed and fully functioning. Since we have been collecting data and spoke to the parents and we have seen a huge decline. We are excited about the technology in the bathrooms and keeping diligent records, she voiced appreciation for the tech department and maintenance department. She also appreciates the conversations with the students and parents who have been supportive. Ms. Lavallee spoke regarding remediation and likes where we are headed and appreciates you listed the feedback from the parents and students. Principal Ronning confirms as we move forward the remediation policy was changed last year and one of the big conversations we are having is about summative vs. assessment. Some assessments for example, mid-year you cannot remediate and we are moving in that direction. We want you to know that before you take the test, you can't take it over. We are moving in that direction to make sure all staff are on the same page. Ms. Lavallee voiced appreciation for the SAT prep course. She noticed Dartmouth is having that as a one requirement for entry and years ago, colleges were moving away from that. Principal Ronning responded in regard to the SAT prep, any possible way we can help students plan for advance learning, some may not want to go to college and do not take the test but if we can provide them with extra skills to make them successful that is what we want to do. Mr. Allen spoke regarding remediation and he has heard students approaching teachers about this and told you don't have to or are not allowed to. He has a counter to that, in his household it is about perseverance and what you learn even if they don't get a grade advancement he still encourages that they remediate even if it doesn't repair the grade. Assistant Principal Gosselin responded you don't have to fail to remediate anybody can remediate. Principal Ronning added, if you don't get it right this time you still want to get the skill base, here today, gone tomorrow or here today, here tomorrow.

#### **iv. WLCTA Report**

Ms. Morgan Kudlich, Elementary Music Teacher, reviewed the 2nd quarter is over and students have completed their Middle of Year I-ready testing. Teachers took time during the last few weeks to go over their data and formulate their plans going forward. Overall students are seeing consistent improvement and many have already exceeded their stretch goals for the year. On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, our district was visited by the musical group Recycled Percussion and treated to an amazing performance. Thank you to Mr. Weaver and our administrators for arranging such an incredible experience! Teachers had a PD day yesterday that focused on the breadth of tools and resources available to teachers through I-Ready, working on vertically aligned curriculum documents, lexile versus quantile measures, and CPR and concussion training. Many teachers continue to find Professional Development outside of the district as well throughout the year. Tutoring will hopefully be starting soon to help support students in Reading and Math, particularly the students who may not have reached their goal. We are really working to get as many kids as possible as far as possible. FRES started their CARES initiative and will be nominating and celebrating CARES Ambassadors each month through

the end of the year. We just had our cooperative assembly, CARES stands for, cooperation, assertion, responsibility, empathy, and self-control. You will see these words on their learning profiles. Each month students can be nominated by any us who exhibit these traits to be our CARES Ambassadors for the month. The next one will be assertion on the first Thursday of the month. Ms. Erin Rosana, High School Social Studies teacher, reviewed the HS completed Midterm/Final exams Jan 18-19. We did them a little differently this year and focused on rigor and tests were formatted and timed, reflecting SATs so that they are familiar with how to take a formal test. Overall, the kids did a good job and rose to the challenge with that. We had a quick turnaround for grades and semester 2 started Jan. 22. There are some exciting new things; there are some new courses that have not been taught before or in a few years. Mr. Kiliulis started a stock market class, some students have already begun investing in stocks, competing against other students in the country to build a stock portfolio, and right now Jonathan Crotty is #4 in the nation. We also started running Intro to Psychology, which has not run in about 5 years. Ms. Kudlich mentioned Recycled Percussion and professional development already. The Music and Art Departments are putting on our Winter Showcase on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. This is an event showcasing student talent in music along with visual art and for the first time, we are opening this up to alumni. Performances will include original songs written by students, covers of familiar songs, instrumental works, and more. We are very excited and hope to see you there! In our ongoing effort to tailor the education at WLC to the needs and interests of the students, the Math and Science Department next year will offer two new classes: Intro to Geology and Math for the Trades. With regards to Math for the Trades, we are seeking any relevant charts, diagrams, technical guides, etc. that may be relevant to those entering the trades in the near future. Any townspeople currently working in the trades who have resources that may help, please contact Bill Comerford at b.comerford@sau63.org. The art department wanted to share that we had Pasty Belt, a local artist come in who shared ceramics with the ceramics class and will continue to incorporate other local artists in other types of art classes in school. There is a new school-wide garden curriculum, which started in the fall, and we hope to incorporate local gardeners and farmers to enhance the curriculum. Ms. Anzalone suggested that Mr. Comerford posts the request for charts and diagrams on a community page. Ms. Rosana will pass that along to him.

## **b. Letters/Information**

### **i. SPED Follow up**

Mr. Pratt reviewed there was a request for information in regard to school psychologist, mental health clinician and school social worker positions. School psychologists and licensed mental health clinician have been with us for 3 years now, we had a full-time, benefited school psychologist who left us and we tried to find someone else later in 2021. These positions work closely with the school counselors and administration, working in tandem to make sure kids are safe doing many things in school. We are always working with parents and making sure the type of service they agree with. Students can be on an IEP or general education students, it's a team effort. We had many conversations about the mental health needs. We hired someone who did not work out. Working with administration after the first few months in school, the need to shift to behavioral needs. We had some students needing hefty support and made decisions until we could find a social worker, we found a contracted ABA therapist who had experience working with behaviors and that model continues at FRES. They are hard to find but we continue to look. We are thinking about working with administration and the best use may be someone part-time. The hourly rate and number of weeks is on the report. The ABA was hired in lieu of the school social worker. He listed approximate hourly rate for a licensed school social worker, 20 hours a week for the full school year. A question was raised what the difference in the 3 roles. Mr. Pratt responded the school psychologist primarily does testing; we are mandated to do testing. Her hands are full not only with our students but if we have any referrals from High Mowing, we do those too. The licensed mental health clinician spends her day working with students and services on the IEP, she sees students in crisis needing some short-time counseling and interfaces with outside agencies to support students who get outside counseling and want to meld the two together. The School Social Worker is designed for students in crisis, they need the type of support to get back to the classroom and be productive. They are different but similar. He left out school counselors who are in the mix too, always working and shifting caseloads etc. They work as a team but also individually. Ms. Anzalone asked how do people get with the school social worker and how are kids referred. She wants to see how the SRO fits into that. Mr. Pratt responded administration could be working with a student, always involving the parent, they could be having a bad day, and we would say could we have the licensed social worker work with your child today. If we have a situation in school, where the student is out of control we have staff trained in CPI that helps deescalate and more of our staff is being trained in that as we have a CPI trainer in the district that provides training for us. A question was raised if we are not able to fill the social worker position; he mentioned part-time, would we advertise it in conjunction with the full-time. Mr. Pratt responded we don't know, we will continue to try to find folks; we are finding SchoolSpring is not working, this is a specialized piece and have looked at going through an agency and they even are not staffed. The team will get together with various schools and see how we can best navigate, look at the kids coming in and going out, and see how to best deploy staff and plug the holes as best we can. A question was raised regarding conflict that arises between students and do we use any mediation techniques between the two students. Mr. Pratt responded he knows his colleagues here are always doing that, more often than not, the door is closed in guidance because they are working with kids it is a great thing. A question was raised if he thinks the district would benefit with hosting something for parents afterschool where they would discuss some more relevant problems they are having and some difficulties just raising kids especially the younger kids who missed so much socialization. Mr. Pratt spoke that it could be but we have to be careful and sensitive to families and want to respect them, if we open a forum, we want to make sure it is comfortable. Sometimes it is better to have that run by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party or tell them about the resources available, there are better ways to connect folks outside of school. We try to handle it very carefully and with a lot of respect, people often in crisis don't want people to bother them. Mr. Lavoie thanked Mr. Pratt for putting the numbers together. Regarding the mental health worker at FRES that didn't work out, was it changed to 2 ABA's? Mr. Pratt confirms we have 1 dedicated and others are available. In the ABA world, there is a lot of changing. We have

1 dedicated person. A question was raised if the intention was to move back to the original model or has this model been so beneficial? Mr. Pratt responded we talked about how to fulfill the needs now; they morphed from providing the environment to keeping kids in the classroom and making sure kids are safe. How it will go in the future is as I said depends if needs are different and if we can provide a school social worker. Principal Fuller spoke about the data, the number of referrals since October has really dropped, in October it was 57 and in January 17. For her she feels the support we are providing right now is meeting student needs and the BCBA, is fabulous at training her staff. We have CPI that many teachers are leveraging, the BCBA helps to identify what the problem is and how best to deal with that problem.

## **VII. 7:00PM JOINT BOARD & BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION**

Present: *Jeff Jones, Leslie Browne, Charlie Post, Caitlin Maki, Michelle Alley, Bill Ryan, Adam Lavallee, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Jennifer Bernet*

Chairman Jones called the joint session to order at 7:23pm.

### **a. FY 2024-2025**

#### **i. Prior Follow UP/Year to Date**

#### **ii. Warrants**

Chairman Jones informed the group that the Budget Committee voted on Warrant Article #5, Teachers' Collective Bargaining Agreement and recommended it, voted 7-2. He notes we are here to talk about unspent funds. Ms. LaPlante noted she made an error on the draft warrant and forgot to omit on articles 5, 6, 7 that the Budget Committee recommended them. She reviewed as requested she provided the year-to-date, through today as best as she can know, we have \$674,000 in unspent funds, 4.75% of the approved budget. Not knowing what the full intent is putting unspent funds into a capital reserve for; she is not prepared to make a recommendation. She floated the idea of what if we used this to build our base capital reserve to have more stability in the out years. At the last meeting, it was said it could be used to set aside for any cost project over runs or emergency repairs so it depends on what the intent of those funds is. If the intent is to smooth things out for the future, or if the District and or Budget Committee and public want to continue to do this every year, putting \$50,000 each year, it is a good way to start building that capital in the out years, \$50,000-\$70,000 she thinks is very safe. If the goal is to have a one-time allowance reserve for projects that run over or unplanned projects, \$75,000-\$100,000 is what she would recommend. She put the facts out there it is up to the School Board and or the Budget Committee to determine what they want to do. Chairman Golding asked the School Board if they have any recommendations, the last time it was decided to wait on this until Ms. LaPlante brought us the information. At this point, he does not see an issue with \$100,000 personally. A couple of the members voiced they are ok with this. Ms. Foss stated as long as everything is legal; she likes the idea to have something in the reserve, just wants it to be legal. Ms. LaPlante responded it is 100% legal. We are taking funds from a lapsing fund and putting it into a non-lapsing fund. She notes she did double check the language as well. A question was raised, if we had only \$70,000, left at the end of the year would the number be \$70,000, she confirms yes. Mr. Allen spoke that we discussed moving it into the CRF for facilities, the Building & Roadways funds. Ms. LaPlante confirms this. Mr. Allen added we discussed in the Facilities Committee having extra money in there would be helpful, for certain times like the sewer pipe, we have a couple of items we have quotes on but because of our bidding process once we vote on them come June it may be different. One thing we were concerned about is having a "blanket build up" listed there but having a separate line item that can be tracked what we use it for rather than it hanging out there assigned to nothing that made us uncomfortable. If we assign it to specific projects, it almost defeats the purpose. He is more amenable to add a line to the CIP as miscellaneous and maintain that, it would make more sense to him. Chairman Golding noted for this like the sewer pipe or the fire panel we could use it for things like that. We could come back to the Board too or take it out of the budget for unspent funds Mr. Allen added. If we are running close to a zero budget, it may not be possible. Since coming on to the Facilities Committee, we realized there are things we should have done in the last few years that we didn't do for whatever reason. He would like to avoid that. We have put together a very comprehensive CIP that we would really like to stick to with plans of budgeting out 30 years and would hate to see us fall back again.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to adjust Warrant Article #8, fill in the amount with, "up to \$100,000" to be placed in the Building/Equipment & Roadways Capital Reserve fund coming from unspent funds and accept warrant article #8 as amended.*

*Voting: all aye; motion carried.*

Mr. Vanderhoof asks what would the stated tax impact of this warrant article be. Ms. LaPlante responded her recommendation is that there is no statement. There is no way to say what that is going to be to not return \$100,000. We are not asking the voters to raise and appropriate anything. There is no way to say what a future tax impact may be if we have to raise \$100,000 for a project we are not asking the taxpayers to raise anything this year and she recommends omitting that from the warrant article. Mr. Vanderhoof commented he understands if you send \$100,000 back to the town there is no controls of the school to say how that money is spent whether to use it to offset taxes or put it toward something else from the schools perspective, you are increasing the ask by keeping the \$100,000. The tax impact from the schools perspective it is a \$100,000 impact. He thinks it is a very deceptive way to get it in his opinion. If you are going to add a \$100,000 in the CIP and then use it, will this be a consistent warrant article and do you know you will have \$100,000 in unspent funds each year to replenish it. He thinks it would be more of a benefit to put it in one warrant as opposed to two. If you have an emergency, the very fact that you have unspent funds means you have the money to spend you don't need to separate it into a special spot to spend it when you already have it there to spend. If you want a line, it should be funded through the Building/Equipment & Roadways Capital Reserve Warrant

Article. Ms. LaPlante clarifies that when we are returning unspent funds to the town, we are not cutting them a check, it is coming off the amount that they owe so the towns can't use that to offset the tax rate or do whatever they want to do. We are essentially saying this is the total of what you owed us, we are giving you this much for revenues and what we are returning and this is the new amount you owe us. The towns don't have any discretion over what they do with that money. Mr. Vanderhoof responded, exactly why it would be a \$100,000 impact to taxes. If you pass it, your ask is \$100,000 more than if you didn't pass it. Chairman Jones noted, he thinks that is understood and asks the School Board to take that into advisement, they don't have to speak to it but recognize his comments; they have to present the warrant article. Mr. Lavallee voiced isn't this just asking taxpayers if they would like to do something else with money they have already approved to be spent from this current budget year, right. You are asking them we haven't spent it would you like us to do something different with it, it is not like we are burying it some budget somewhere. We are specifically asking them if they want to do it, they approved that spend for this year, it didn't get spent, it is up to them if they want to approve it. Mr. Vanderhoof responded if you put a warrant article up there for whatever amount and tell me it will cost me nothing, that sounds great but I know it doesn't cost me nothing to raise and expend \$100,000. I think it is a more clear-cut way is to fund it through the capital reserve warrant article that we funnel all this through as opposed to make it sound like you are getting something from nothing.

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Alley to recommend Warrant Article #8, with the amount of, "up to \$100,000" to be placed in the Building/Equipment & Roadways Capital Reserve fund to come from the unassigned fund balance.*

*Voting: five ayes, four nays from Mr. Post, Mr. Vanderhoof, Ms. Browne and Ms. Maki, motion carried.*

A brief discussion was had as Ms. Foss questioned if she can vote again as a Budget Committee member, it was decided she didn't need to as the motion passed, she did not vote here.

Chairman Jones expressed the Public Hearing is Thursday night, tell your friends, and then we look to district meeting. There will be slides for the Public Hearing presentation; they are pretty close to completion. Chairman Golding asked that it be sent to the School Board. Chairman Jones noted it would be posted online with the full budget. Ms. Lavallee asked if anyone wanted to be there for the CBA. Chairman Jones informed the group that the Budget Committee did talk a little about it, he doesn't think so based on the last conversation. We plan to read the warrants but not speak to them in detail. If it goes beyond the surface questions, unless the School Board wants to present it, but the Budget Committee is not necessarily in favor of that. Having someone there is helpful, as they don't plan to get into any detail. Ms. Anzalone informed them she will try to attend but would like Ms. LaPlante to be present. Mr. Allen stated he could be there. Ms. LaPlante offered to meet with them earlier in advance to go over things. Mr. Ryan asked if there is anything that could be sent out to remind people of the hearing. Superintendent will send something out.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public comment section of the agenda was read. Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.

Ms. Mary Golding congratulated Jonathan and the Dance Team, she loves hearing those reports. Recycled Percussion was amazing! Thank you Mr. Allen for your work on the Facilities Committee, it was really well done and your work on the School Board. As usual, everyone on the School Board does a great job, it is a pleasure to listen to some of these meetings and she looks forward to the Public Hearing and the District Meeting.

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Post and SECONDED by Ms. Browne to recess the Budget Committee session at 7:43pm.*

*Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

Chairman Jones noted we have 3 open positions on the Budget Committee if anyone knows anyone for a write in campaign. Chairman Golding noted we would keep that in mind.

## **IX. POLICIES**

### **a. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

#### **i. JH-Student Absences and Excuses**

Ms. Lavallee reviewed that this policy had not been updated since 2010, in 2013, there were legislative changes regarding the truancy section. One of the reasons we looked at this is administration approached us feeling that we need to provide parents with knowledge on how things will work so that they can help advocate at home and we give the same message here and at home. She spoke of absenteeism is going up nationwide; it is a significant problem now. Looking at things like our scores and the need for tutoring and she can't help but feel there is a direct correlation with scores. If you have a quarter of students out in a classroom you are putting them all behind as you have to constantly be catching them up. She thought it was great that administration took the initiative to work on it. The changes are in blue italics, there is a significant amount added and some taken out. She has the RSA's available if anyone wanted to know which we used to create this. She confirms they are listed at the bottom of the policy. There were no questions or comments on the policy; this will come back for a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. She hopes all parents look at it and provide feedback at the next meeting.

#### **ii. KD-School District Social Media Websites**

Ms. Lavallee reviewed this policy has to do with the district using social media platforms. Administration was hoping to have it in place to keep the community informed. She asked for any questions or comments, none heard. This policy will come back for a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

**b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

**i. ACN-Nursing Mothers**

Ms. Lavallee reviewed this policy is now required by the law it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. She asked for any questions or comments, none heard.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to adopt policy ACN-Nursing Mothers as written.*

*Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

**ii. EHAB-Data Governance**

Ms. Lavallee reviewed this was updated every year since she has been on the Board. She went over the changes with Mr. Buroker this evening and there were no suggestions for changes. She asked for any questions or comments, none heard.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to accept policy EHAB-Data Governance as written.*

*Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

**iii. BBBE-Vacancies and Unexpired Term Fulfillment**

Ms. Lavallee reported that she did receive feedback that she wanted to share. The question from administration was regarding page, 2 section E, the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph that says, "shall occur in public session during a duly noticed meeting". Suggestion is to strike word "a" in that and add "during the next regularly scheduled school board duly noticed meeting". This puts parameters in regarding timeline and as it states above we always have the option to change the process. This just puts parameters in place. She asked for any questions, none heard. She asked if all members were ok with the changed language. No objection heard. This policy will be amended and come back for a 3<sup>rd</sup> read. She will work with Ms. Fowler and have it updated for the next meeting.

**iv. BEDG-Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Lavallee reviewed this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading; there were no suggestions for changes. It is a recommended policy. It outlines how we deal with minutes in regard to the RSA change last year. She asked for any questions or comments, none heard.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to adopt policy BEDG-Meeting Minutes as written.*

*Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

**X. ACTION ITEMS**

**a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting**

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Ms. Lavallee to approve the public minutes of January 23, 2024 as written.*

*Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Ms. Lavallee to approve the nonpublic minutes of January 23, 2024 as written.*

*Voting: eight ayes, one abstention from Mr. Mannarino, motion carried.*

**b. Approve Capital Improvement Plan**

Mr. Allen reviewed the committee met last night; there were not any significant changes. There was confusion with regard to the roof sections (square footage was not matching up) and they changed the names of the section itself such as library and main hallway roof vs. section 1 etc. We still consolidated those adding dates that were missing, the 1<sup>st</sup> round in 2034 and 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2040 when those will come due and added those 4 steps to the left and adjusted when we start collecting money. All the numbers are the same and amounts are the same. Chairman Golding voiced that it is a good looking and detailed CIP; he has not seen one like this in a while and thanked him for the work that was put into it. Mr. Allen voiced appreciation for the awesome committee who came to the table ready to solve problems.

*A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to accept the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).*

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke that from the time she was on the Facilities Committee she was boggled looking at it; she loves this version compared to what it was before. She knows it was a headache to look at it all the time. Mr. Allen will change two formulas at the bottom and send it to Ms. Fowler for posting and it will become an official public document.

*Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

**XI. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS/LEAVE**

**a. Resignation-LCS Custodian-Jackie Bird-**

Superintendent reviewed the resignation of Ms. Bird who is the LCS custodian; we will miss her terribly. Ms. Lavallee spoke of missing her as well and always looked forward to seeing her and thinks the kids did too. She spoke of it being hard previously to fill that position when as hours had been cut and questioned if we are looking into that. Superintendent responded that as soon as she gave her notice, Mr. Erb jumped on it and we have someone who does the same position at Hitchiner and the hours match with his schedule. Mr. Erb has shown him around and Ms. Fowler and I met him. We will process his paperwork and he will start next Tuesday.

## **XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public comment section of the agenda was read. Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.

Ms. Mary Golding congratulated Ms. Ariel, she is wonderful and well deserving, the whole list of nominees, and Nancy Rykken, they work with students who need the most support, it is not easy. She spoke of Artist in Residence, she helped on that and we created a project that involves all 3 schools, both towns, our community; she is excited to see that completed. She questioned if anyone had thought of inviting students to the public hearing and district meeting, their opinion matters, to me anyway. The mental health room, which is now the Student Support Center, the behaviors at FRES, have gone down a bit, the goal was to get those students back to the classroom and not stay in the support center. We have other students who have emotional issues, whether social situations or stresses of education and if the school counselor is not available they don't have a place to go. Are we going to help those kids, she thinks that was Mr. Pratt's vision originally. She does not want to move so far away from it that we don't help those kids who have emotional but not behavioral needs. She commented nice job Mr. Erb for finding a replacement for Ms. Bird at LCS and thank you to everyone on the School Board for all your hard work.

## **XIII. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Allen spoke about Warrant Article #8. He would like us to pay close attention to that, a lot of potential issues that can happen and we don't want to create a slush fund but as Ms. LaPlante pointed out there are some significant things coming in the next few years, we can put that money toward it paying it down. He congratulated the Starfish Award winners and nominees Ms. Ariel, Valerie, Sherry, and Megan, Nancy, Mel (who does so much with the Dance Team) Ms. Rudd, Mr. Taber and Mr. Comerford and Ms. Kovaliv, and thanked the Facilities Committee. He appreciates the time, effort and candor during this process and thanked Mr. Erb. We took him out of his comfort zone and he knocked it out of the park. The driving force of this CIP will be the policy when it comes out of the Policy Committee that is what will hold us accountable, transparent and be good stewards of the taxpayers. He thanked the Board.

Ms. Anzalone thanked Mr. Pratt for putting the figures together, she thinks that will be helpful as we hope to pull an SRO into the mix and some of the comments people had that didn't necessarily want to go with an SRO but wanted a social worker and sounds that position is pretty hard to staff anyway. An SRO will be good to add to this team. She had asked before about using left over money to pay down the outstanding food services debt to help parents and asked that administration find out about that.

Mr. Lavoie commented that he has seen the PTO is looking for volunteers and if parents want to have fun while making a big difference, look to the PTO and try to get in on that. The WLC PTO has made a big difference he feels in the attendance we have been seeing in the gym and letting people know about the games. The last one is Friday hope to see everyone there.

Ms. Lavallee thanked the group for listening to her earlier.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral spoke of the district being so lucky to have all the Starfish nominees and those who nominated them it makes her so proud to hear of them. She loves all the detail they put into it. Ms. Jones is a stand out and has made a difference and all the hard work that goes into all of that. She is really proud.

Ms. Foss thanked everyone involved in helping students navigate the SATs. She knows how difficult it was to get the score everyone wants you to have. It is not an easy test to take. Kudos to helping them.

Chairman Golding implores the public if you want to know where and how your money is, being spent please show up to some of these meetings. We have the public hearing on Thursday at 7pm. The Budget Committee will present the budget for all to see. Come to district meeting and vote on how your money is spent and what we do with it.

## **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

*A MOTION was made by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:54pm.  
Voting: all aye, motion carried.*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kristina Fowler*