

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 19, 2024
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School
6:30 p.m.**

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

Present: *Dennis Golding, Brianne Lavallee (online until 7:20pm), Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Darlene Anzalone, John Zavgren, Michelle Alley, Geoffrey Allen, Diane Foss, and Jonathan Lavoie*

Student Support Services Director, Ned Pratt, Principal Bridgette Fuller, Assistant Principal Katie Gosselin, Technology Director Nicholas Buroker, Curriculum Coordinator Samantha Dignan (online until 7:45pm), and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Pratt called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS

a. Elections

i. School Board Chair

Mr. Pratt asked for nominations for School Board Chair.

Mr. Golding was nominated by Ms. Lavallee and seconded by Ms. Foss. There were no other nominations.

Mr. Pratt provided an opportunity for Mr. Golding to speak to the nomination.

Mr. Golding voiced that he appreciates the nomination; he believes we had a great Board year last year. Everyone worked great with only minor disagreements. We were able to come together on most subjects, had really good discussions, and got a lot of things done this year. He believes we can continue on that same path this year. He would appreciate everyone's support in this nomination.

Mr. Pratt asked for any Board discussion. None heard.

Mr. Pratt asked for a vote, all in favor of Mr. Golding as School Board Chairman.

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

Mr. Pratt turned the meeting over to Chairman Golding.

ii. School Board Vice Chair

Chairman Golding asked for nominations for Vice Chair.

Mr. Lavoie was nominated by Mr. Allen and seconded by Ms. Anzalone.

Ms. Lavallee was nominated by Ms. Foss and seconded by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral.

Chairman Golding gave each candidate the opportunity to speak to the nomination.

Ms. Lavallee spoke to her history on the Board. She has been on the Board for 4 years and believes she has demonstrated through the years, she has a good professional understanding of boundaries and promoting proper chain of command. When issues are brought to her as an individual board member, she tries to tell people what chain of command to follow. One of the things she heard years ago was community members particularly in Lyndeborough that they would like us to visit the schools more and she took that on and has visited the schools whenever possible. She talks to students, staff and volunteers in the buildings and she volunteers for things like the Spelling Bee and WLC senior project presentations. She has participated in these for the last couple of years. She has flexibility in her schedule to do that and is thankful as not all board members do. She thinks that does help to show that the Board as a whole has interest in what the schools are doing. She tries to be accessible to community members and respond in a timely manner to the emails that are sent to the Board as that is a one of her duties as Vice Chair. She always shares and coordinates with administration whenever needed for example if there is legal counsel required prior to responding she has demonstrated the ability to think critically and problem solve when determining the appropriate professional response. She echoed what Chairman Golding said earlier, she thinks we had a great year last year and would like to

keep it going. Having consistency in leadership is not always about just keeping things the same, it is showing we are reliable and predicable and trustworthy which helps inspire trust and confidence in the community and in the staff which we are trying to work on retention and thinks that will help. While being Vice Chair the past few years she has completed a number of in-services on how to run confident meetings and believes she has shown that in the meetings when she has had to run them that she has been able to facilitate the pre-sharing of ideas while keeping the conversation on the agenda. That helps us be more efficient and more focused on problem solving. She embraces her role of support for the Chair; she has no desires to be Chair. She likes the support role of Vice Chair and would love to continue in this position. She feels confident that the fellow board members were satisfied with her representation of the Board, staff and all the community members in Wilton and Lyndeborough. The feedback she has received from community members in Lyndeborough and Wilton has been positive. She thanked everyone for listening.

Mr. Lavoie spoke that he did not originally plan on the nomination but was approached by a couple people on the Board about it. He is open to it. He did Chair on other boards in the past. He always says the same thing to everybody that asks him what he thinks about it. He looks at it as more of a glorified moderator position and Chairman Golding may agree with that. He tried in his first year to listen, be open to others opinions and speak his opinion as well but to be impartial and try to come into everything with an open mind. His goal as Vice Chair would be to be there to bounce ideas off the Chair and have him bounce ideas off him. He would like to get more involved in the school. He has 2 young boys coming out of FRES, one coming into the MS next year and he hopes to be here quite a while. Coming out of Lyndeborough and Chairman Golding being from Wilton, he thinks it is important to have one position from Wilton and one from Lyndeborough. He would appreciate your support. He will try to keep this short and thinks everyone saw how he presents himself last year and he agrees with Chairman Golding we did have a productive year and would like to keep that going.

Chairman Golding opens it up for Board discussion asking to keep it to the candidate they support we have 2 excellent candidates.

Mr. Allen voiced that Mr. Lavoie is an excellent representative for the position he thinks he has proven himself on numerous committees not just here but in the community as well and he nominated him for that reason. He is a voice of reason, not to take away from anyone else who is running. He thinks we have a good Board and thinks we will have good positions no matter what ends up happening.

Ms. Anzalone echoes what Mr. Allen says and knows that Mr. Lavoie is very involved in town politics in Lyndeborough and will be able to represent the voice of Lyndeborough. She really liked that he and Mr. Allen have been doing recaps on Facebooks. As we know, unfortunately, not many come to these meetings or even call in it is good to proactively get the information out there. She thinks it has helped a lot. Obviously, the Board the last year was seen much more positively than the year before but thinks a lot of that is just with the Board itself but also it was great having them do those posts every single week. It shows we are trying our best to be very transparent with everything and that is very important.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral voiced a vote for Ms. Lavallee is not a vote against Mr. Lavoie. They are both strong leaders. Last year went smooth and she likes continuity of things. Ms. Lavallee did a great job, was very accessible and did many seminars and meetings and reaching out she knows Mr. Lavoie did a lot as well. She is looking forward to a great year and wanted people to know a vote for Ms. Lavallee was not against Mr. Lavoie. She thinks he is very capable of leading anything.

Ms. Foss voiced a vote for Ms. Lavallee is not a vote against Mr. Lavoie; he is super organized and goes to bat for a lot of different things. He did a tremendous amount of work. She honestly does not like to fix things if they are not broken and last year was her first year and felt very comfortable how Chairman Golding and Ms. Lavallee ran the meetings and because of that, she is inclined to want to keep Ms. Lavallee on. There was controversy in years past, we didn't have any that and it allowed us to get a lot done. She doesn't like to change things if they don't have to be changed, that is the biggest reason she supports Ms. Lavallee.

Ms. Alley voiced being new to the Board and not very familiar with Chair vs. Vice Chair, asked for a description of what a Vice Chair would be doing. Chairman Golding responded that the Vice Chair is the Chair when the Chair is not around. They have all the same duties and roles. Ms. Alley asked Mr. Lavoie to speak to what would set him apart from another candidate not specifically Ms. Lavallee. Mr. Lavoie spoke about being in a Chair role in other organizations. Being here, he thinks the way Chairman Golding runs the show is similar to the way he would. He would ask the Board, to earn one of those votes that may be for Ms. Lavallee; if you like, the way the Chairman runs it, you would have it similar with him. He thinks that is important. He is not trying to make waves. You are trying to emulate the person who was voted as Chairman and keep things continuous and keep things running in the right direction. He has a similar style running a meeting like Chairman Golding has portrayed over the past year.

Ms. Lavallee spoke in regard to the Vice Chair role, one of the things she brings is she also tries to run things similar to the Chairman. She took the webinar on "How to Run Effective Meetings", the Chairman does an excellent job with that, and she tries to emulate that. The other thing she helps with during a meeting is her knowledge of RSA's and the legislative piece of it because of her role as Chair of the Policy Committee she is frequently reading and reviewing policies and legislative updates that

lead to those policies. When something comes up during a meeting that we have to reference a policy or RSA, even if she doesn't know the answer right away she does know how to find it quickly. For example having a discussion on bids, she called Point of Order to follow the policy and look at the dollar amount we are using. This is what she brings as a support person. When you are running a meeting, it is hard to look at those policies during real time and she tries to do that to help the Chair.

Chairman Golding asked for a vote for your choice of nominee for Vice Chair.

Voting: via roll call vote, 5-4, for Ms. Lavallee (5 Ms. Lavallee, 4 Mr. Lavoie)

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral-Ms. Lavallee

Mr. Zavgren-Ms. Lavallee

Ms. Foss-Ms. Lavallee

Ms. Lavallee-Ms. Lavallee

Mr. Allen-Mr. Lavoie

Ms. Anzalone-Mr. Lavoie

Ms. Alley-Mr. Lavoie

Mr. Lavoie-Mr. Lavoie

Chairman Golding-breaks tie for Ms. Lavallee

Chairman Golding spoke of being a fan of continuity. He breaks the tie by voting for Ms. Lavallee, confirming her as Vice Chair.

b. Appointments

i. Committees

Members were provided a roster of current committees and membership. Chairman Golding reviewed committees and the role of the Budget Committee Liaison, which is to attend all budget committee meetings and report back to the Board.

The Facilities Committee- This committee discusses facility repairs, how to get money, what projects are due and coming up, hears from the Facilities Director and Business Administrator. Mr. Allen added that they oversee the CIP and hear from the Facilities Director and Business Administrator. They meet once or twice a month or more if needed to hear feedback on what is needed this year and review quotes, bids and recommend projects and bring that back to the Board. The goal is to not have a 15-hour Board meeting; we do it at the committee level and bring it back to the Board. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Mr. Allen and Mr. Zavgren volunteer for the Facilities Committee.

*Voting: all aye for Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Mr. Allen and Mr. Zavgren on the Facilities Committee
(Ms. Lavallee had no audio/no vote)*

Strategic Planning Committee- Chairman Golding voiced we try to build a plan of growth and try to determine if all is running smoothly or continue the plan or to back off or break it up. We look at all the aspects of planning the year, no matter what it. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Ms. Anzalone, Mr. Allen and Ms. Alley volunteer for the Strategic Planning Committee. Mr. Allen withdraws after Chairman Golding noted that with 4 board members it gets tough due to it becoming a quorum if another board member attends.

Voting: via roll call vote, all aye for Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Ms. Anzalone and Ms. Alley to be on the Strategic Planning Committee.

Budget Committee Liaison-Chairman Golding explained the liaison goes back and forth between the meetings and brings information back to the Board after the meetings. Ms. Alley volunteers for this.

Voting: via roll call vote, all aye for Ms. Alley to be the Budget Committee Liaison for the Board.

Negotiations Committee-Chairman Golding noted there are no collective bargaining agreements that need to be negotiated this year, the committee will not be needed this year.

Policy Committee-Chairman Golding explained this committee goes over every policy, updates as needed and brings forth new policies should the government say we need them. They bring it to us for edits, comments and questions and after 2-3 reads, we vote to put it into policy. Ms. Foss, Mr. Lavoie and Ms. Lavallee volunteer for this committee.

Voting: via roll call vote, all aye for Ms. Foss, Mr. Lavoie and Ms. Lavallee to be on the Policy Committee.

Technology Committee-Chairman Golding explained this committee meets quarterly. They go over the 5-year technology plan and any new things that might come forth or what needs updates, what we do for end of life equipment and how to dispose of it, computer updates etc. and Mr. Buroker takes care of most of the legwork on that. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Chairman Golding and Mr. Zavgren volunteer for this committee.

Voting: via roll call vote, all aye, for Ms. Cloutier-Cabral, Chairman Golding and Mr. Zavgren to be on the Technology Committee.

IV. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Pratt reported he has no request for adjustments.

Ms. Anzalone commented that we talked last year about doing a workshop of some kind for goal setting, can we make sure to do that. Chairman Golding noted it could be discussed during school board meeting dates. Ms. Lavallee added in case she has to leave before that is discussed, she spoke to Will Phillips at NHSBA and they are filling up fast with night meetings. She suggests getting back to them within the next week or 2 weeks to schedule something for the spring otherwise; it may be pushed out until the summer. Chairman Golding asked if the Board is OK for him to work with the Superintendent to schedule Will Phillips and Barret Christina from NHSBA to come in to go over what boards do, how to run boards, how to make motions, etc. There was no objection heard. He does not believe there is a fee for this service but we will double check.

V. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

a. WLC PTO Update

Ms. Crystal Gill from the WLC PTO was present and provided an update on their activities this year. She spoke of having more donations this year, it was amazing the outpouring of parent donations and she thinks it was due to the emails and webpage that is well visited. They were overwhelmed with the amount of donations. The tables were full to the room with cookie donations and it was amazing what we did for the teachers. They take great pride to give back to them. The big thing on their PTO has always been to teach students and groups about fundraising, give ideas and support them. They spent a good portion of this year supporting those fundraisers rather than us running them, they had students and athletic teams run them. We have seen great success during basketball season with board member Ms. Lavallee and other parents; like the Crouse's and other students, all stepping up to do something. Our goal is always for the students to run those events. It was great for us to see that come together. For sports night this year, we were asked to step up and Ms. Lavallee spoke earlier about being involved in the school, she was always here to support those students it was great for everyone here to see her in the school and Chairman Golding was here. It was really nice to see people stepping up and it has been encouraging other parents as well. With sports night this year we were able to provide dinners with the school's support and our desserts. It was a the collaboration that made that happen and for us was overwhelming to see that support come in and was exactly what we were hoping for, seeing parents stepping up; it was a great success. We have teacher appreciation coming up, that is the next big jump and she will probably come back to ask for help with donations for food because that is another thing they are proud of. She will speak about that when she comes back as Chairman Golding has asked her to come back. She has collaborated with the group that runs the Wilton Old Home Days; they invited her to come in and wanted to find a way to bring students in this year. She met with them a few times and want as many students as she can get for this summer. They want kids to provide games at Old Home Days, which doesn't happen every year. She is happy they were invited and happy to incorporate kids into it. The Penny Sale is this weekend; it was a great success last year and hoping this year too. We have 15 plus kids set up to volunteer, it is overwhelming. The junior class and siblings and even seniors from last year will come back help this class, all collaborating. The community will see our kids and we will stand out this year with the bright orange shirts that say volunteer on the back. It shows the kids and us as a group, we sold tickets for 1 hour and 15 minutes and ran out of tickets and presold 3000 before the event. That is huge; the tickets are 50 cents apiece. There are big "penny salers" out there, it is a large event. She is here to ask for anyone listening that they are looking for food donations between 12pm and 2pm. We will take anything you provide, baked goods, mac and cheese, anything anyone will donate. We have Mel Jones with the Dance Team who will help at the food table; they will be in uniform united and talk about their recent event. We have Laura Bujak, she is at the how to table for new comers. She volunteered to educate with the kids to help, this is only our 2nd year with the Lions Club. Ms. Anzalone has volunteered her time. Ms. Gill asked if anyone can help from 4:15pm-6pm, even if not the whole time but any time would be great to see you work with the kids, us, and greeting the community. They need help at the doors of the gym as they come in for prizes and contain any food from heading into the gym. They have nametags and a shirt if we have any left. If you can email her tonight if you can help, and any food is welcome. She spoke of having food that can be contained in bags is best such as cookies. Ms. Foss spoke of the event going on for years, it is a nice event that is not expensive to bring your kids or grandkids Ms. Gill spoke of the amazing prizes, a \$600 photo package, and a lot of gift cards. Ms. Anzalone spoke of Ms. Gill being very modest and does an amazing job. Ms. Anzalone tries to volunteer as much as she can; Ms. Gill does a great job, thank you for all you do. Chairman Golding thanked Ms. Gill who did an amazing job and welcomes her back to for an update. He asked if Mr. Post is bringing is pulled pork Ms. Gill doesn't know but will ask she had many people request it. Chairman Golding requests she email Ms. Fowler (k.fowler@sau63.org) and she will share it with the Board.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Ms. Mary Golding congratulated the PTO on all their success, she loves hearing that board members are so involved, that did not happen when she was PTO President. It is great that it is happening now. She is happy Ms. Gill will be giving regular reports. She congratulated Ms. Alley and Mr. Zavgren for being on the Board and Mr. Allen for being voted back in, nice to have you all.

248 She congratulated Ms. Lavallee. Ms. Golding is from Wilton and notes Ms. Lavallee has never had a Wilton vs. Lyndeborough
249 kind of thing for all the years she has been watching the Board and knows she had some real struggles with some of the previous
250 board members, personal attacks and things like that but she stood strong. She is grateful that she has made not just
251 Lyndeborough, but Lyndeborough-Wilton our community and works really hard and cares about the children in Lyndeborough
252 as much as she does the children in Wilton and vice versa. Thank you Ms. Lavallee for that. To the Chairman, the last board
253 season has had some of the best meetings she has been a part of listening to and thinks it stems from your direction. The way that
254 you move things along and keep a positive team beside you. It is pretty astounding. Congratulations, you deserve to be Chair
255 again and she knows how hard that decision was for him to make.

256
257 Ms. Lynn Crouse, Lyndeborough gave shout-outs to sports night in general and our Athletic Director Cam Taber. We have been
258 going to sports night for quite a while and he has done a tremendous job, this last one in particular she was so impressed. He is
259 an incredible speaker and did an amazing job and we are proud of him. Great shout-out to him, Crystal and Mandy and the PTO,
260 there is not enough credit we could give them. It is a small number of people who do a large amount for our schools and would
261 encourage parents to get involved. There are only a few parents who come over and over again and encourages parents of
262 younger kids coming in too. She gave a shout-out to the girls' varsity basketball team, doing a great job getting into playoffs. It
263 is a small team of 9 who did an outstanding job going to playoffs and played teams twice as big; they made us proud and played
264 some schools who did not show the best sportsmanship. She is really proud of them, our girls and Coach Crowley; it was a
265 shining moment for our school and community. She gets chills thinking of it. It was really an amazing time to be part of our
266 community and wanted to give shout-outs to them and not all are aware of those things happening behind the scenes.

267
268 Mr. Pratt called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.

269
270 Mr. Don Rankin commended the Board on all they accomplished last year, he encourages you to keep your eye on the ball and
271 do not want to get distracted by any ideological problems. Stick to business. You are doing a great job.

272
273 Mr. Adam Lavallee congratulated the new board members and looks forward to working with you on the Budget Committee. I
274 know you are all excited too.

275 276 **VII. FOLLOW-UP DISTRICT MEETING**

277 Chairman Golding asked if there were any comments or concerns from district meeting. He felt it went better than what he
278 expected. He has only heard positive things on how the Board presented (articles 5-8). Most felt they were informed enough,
279 felt they could make their decision, and felt comfortable with it. He thinks everyone here did a fantastic job. Mr. Allen did a
280 great job presenting facilities, Ms. Anzalone, Mr. Allen and Mr. Mannarino did an excellent job presenting the teacher's
281 contract. Mr. Allen did a great job with Mr. Lavoie presenting article 8. Good job. Ms. Foss spoke regarding when Mr. Schultz
282 questioned some of the percentages. She notes he has heard him on a number of things and is really a "number cruncher", she
283 doesn't doubt his honesty but she felt she was at a loss in terms of which number was accurate; he could make a mistake too.
284 What do we do in a situation like that? Chairman Golding responded he thought he was combining articles to come up with a tax
285 impact percentage. What we would do in that instance is trust our business administrator to have the correct number for us and
286 the community so we all understand what our tax impact is. Mr. Allen said we all here set board policy and manage the
287 Superintendent. We have people who are experts in each of these fields with SPED, business administration and facilities and
288 when we let those people do what they do as professionals and are best at we refer to them. We can say there is a possibility we
289 may be incorrect and we can check out the numbers and respond back to you. Ms. Foss noted it did not seem to a problem,
290 everyone got what they needed. Mr. Schultz always has numbers he brings up. Clearly, he was supported; he was just saying and
291 she wondered if it was something we had to be watching and following. Chairman Golding added like Mr. Allen said, that is
292 why we have our Superintendent and we hope he hires the best people in those positions and we get the answers we need quick
293 from them. Mr. Allen added there are also different ways to look at numbers and one of the things you will hear a lot is cost of
294 education per student, what the DOE is doing would be very different than what you will see here on a budget. There are
295 different criteria going to different percentages and we may not always be comparing apples and oranges. Mr. Lavoie asked to
296 take a note regarding an individual who spoke about one classroom that had less than ideal conditions, can we make a note to
297 make sure we look into that to see if there is any validity behind it. Chairman Golding responded they heard this at the meeting
298 and believes they started looking into it the following Monday. Superintendent Weaver is out of town and when he gets back, we
299 will ask him for a report. A request was made to add it to the next agenda. Chairman Golding agrees it will be the first item
300 under old business. Mr. Allen noted he had made a note to add it to Facilities Committee as well.

301 302 **VIII. 2024-2025 DRAFT SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR**

303 Chairman Golding noted everyone should have this in their board packet. Mr. Pratt gave an overview of the calendar. There are
304 2 days of new teacher orientation, and then 3 days for professional development (PD) and a no school day on August 30 for a
305 long weekend for parents. In October we have a half day, required by collective bargaining agreement for PD and on November

8 that is not the parent/teacher conference “day” per say, it is a “comp day” per the CBA and the teachers will scheduling those meetings at the convenience of parents and spread it out over time. It is the time equivalent for the teachers. December we have a longer holiday recess returning January 2. Early release on February 4 for PD, March 28 is PD and May 23 we will look at teacher workshops for testing (iReady) and planning for the following year. We have a projected last day of June 6 and with 5 snow days we would have the last day on June 13. With the increase to 7.5 hours a day, we clear the requirements for hours of instruction. A question was raised what the start and end time of school will be. Mr. Pratt does not have that data right now and will get back to you. It was noted the highlights for holidays (and no school days) are a nice touch and make it easy to see. A question was raised why April vacation was the last week as it is usually the week before. Mr. Pratt explains that is the NH DOE recommended week.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Mr. Allen to approve the 2024-2025 School District Calendar.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

IX. DRAFT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES

Chairman Golding noted we don’t meet in July; we do enough meetings and committee meetings and deserve some time with family. Typically, the 2nd meeting in December is the first meeting with the Budget Committee. He spoke of the Board not having joint sessions with the Budget Committee but instead it being more of an invite to budget presentations. He thinks last year there was a problem with the way the sessions were run and talking with administration from the past and old school board members, the School Board Chair always ran those meetings and he feels there was some control issues in that. He would like to have it more of an information session; still the same just with school board chair running it. He asks for any questions or comments, issues or discussion. Ms. Alley asked for clarification. Chairman Golding voiced he wants to see the School Board run that session, he spoke of a lot of back and forth last year, and it seemed disjointed at times and gave examples. He notes for all intense and purposes it will be the same. They would come in, ask all your questions, get the answers needed and instead the School Board would be running that meeting. A question was raised if this would be a new way of doing it or would this be an old way. Chairman Golding responded it used to be done that way then it changed just before COVID he was told and wants to have it back to the way it was before. Ms. Foss spoke that it was her first year being part of that and thinks anything we can do to streamline it would probably help. It is not that the School Board has a foot in the door more than anyone else in the library but felt like they were our guests and can see where it may have been difficult if there were 2 Chairs and you had not decided ahead of time who would field questions or who calls on those listening etc. She would be more comfortable having the school board moderate it. Mr. Allen asked why we have to have a joint meeting, what was the purpose, what are the goals. Chairman Golding believes we have a joint meeting because it is usually the first read of the budget and the Budget Committee’s first time to hear the budget in full, the rest are breakdowns of the budget. Mr. Allen asked if there is an opportunity for them to share what they are talking about and for us to ask questions because we are ultimately the ones that approves what goes to district on the warrant. Is there an opportunity for us to provide feedback as to what we are looking for. Discussion continued including not understanding why the Budget Committee is running it, they are coming into our meeting. Chairman Golding voiced he understands it is the Budget Committee’s budget and they need to hear all of that but they can also hear it in their meeting as well. They ask questions, they have administration come in and talk about it but if we are all hearing it at the same time; he was confused why we went to the Budget Committee running those sessions. It seems disjointed. Mr. Allen spoke that he agrees and sees it like when the Facilities Committee or any other committee makes recommendation but not the same. He sees they are building the budget and we can ask and answer questions and obtain feedback in that case, he does not know why the School Board would relinquish it but has no problem with it. Mr. Lavallee attempts to speak and advised to wait for public comment. Ms. Alley notes when you say “joint meeting” to her that defines that you have almost 2 Chairs that are on equal grounds. I don’t know why it is run the way it is now but to me when you have joint, that means you have 2 committees coming together and you are working together maybe it is a misunderstanding of what it means. Maybe it is more of an understanding before the Budget Committee comes in what their purpose is. Chairman Golding believes it could have been he believes it started around 2017 or 2018. Ms. Fowler believes around then but doesn’t remember exactly what year at this time. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral suggested having a workshop with them and determine how to do that this year, how to make it more organized, and when people are called on etc. Ms. Fowler was asked when it typically starts and ends, Ms. Fowler responds the 2nd meeting in September starts and we try to end the 1st meeting in January but usually goes longer to at least to the 2nd. Ms. Anzalone asked if part of the purpose was to have both groups together so the public could hear both at the same time. She suggested the 2 Chairs get together, talk about it and decide. She doesn’t want to come across as we are trying to change things or insult them as they are elected too. Chairman Golding noted that is not his intent. Ms. Anzalone notes there is a chance to coordinate better and talk about how to run it better with the Chair. Chairman Golding responds that if that is the directive for the Chair to meet with the Budget Committee Elected Chair to determine how we would present meetings in those sessions, he could do that as well. Ms. Anzalone notes instead of us just making the decision hopes there is an opportunity to meet with them and say we are feeling that maybe it was a little discombobulated, what is the best way to run the meeting and they may decide that is better way but would rather have the decision made with the Budget Committee. Ms. Foss felt what was happening in the joint meetings was that yes, the budget is the responsibility of the Budget Committee, but they were coming in here wanting information from us in terms of what we felt we needed and the people most qualified from the school to help build that. Maybe the Budget Committee was asking for a lot of things and maybe why there was a vote for us to come back to the table to cut things. She thinks it is a good idea for the School Board to do the moderating but does not have a problem with what Ms. Anzalone said either. She

thinks it is legit to streamline it and have the school board chair moderate it. She would be surprised if the Chair, assuming it is the same person, she would be surprised if he was offended; he was great to work with and very collaborative but either way it as long as it is streamlined. Ms. Alley voiced she thinks both Chairs working it out together is the most ideal solution. Chairman Golding notes he doesn't believe we need a motion, just the direction to the Chair that it is ok to talk to the Budget Committee to go over how we present our meetings going forward. He asked if everyone agree with that. No objection heard. He will go to their first meeting and set something up with the Chair and report back.

A question was raised why the meetings are on Tuesday nights. Ms. Foss had been asked if the meetings could be moved to another night as it conflicts with the Lions Club. Chairman Golding responded it has been on Tuesday nights for a long time; he doesn't want to offend the Lions Club but feels it is important to keep it the same (Tuesday) night.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral noted to be aware of when district meeting is in correlation to school vacation week.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to approve the 2024-2025 school board meeting dates.

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. Anzalone to approve the minutes of March 19, 2024 as written.

Voting: six ayes; two abstentions from Ms. Alley and Mr. Zavgren, motion carried.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. Strategic Planning Committee

Chairman Golding reported a lot of the meeting was centered around the SRO (School Resource Officer). DJ Garcia was there as the representative for the Wilton Select Board. He suggested filling the position with a lot of different officers on a rotating schedule. The committee and administration did not feel that was what we were looking for. We talked about having a full time SRO which didn't go over well with the town and we may have to compromise to have 1 part time officer 20-25 hours which would give us the opportunity to prove or disprove why we needed it. We discussed training, a 40-hour course over 5 days, cost \$550. Superintendent discussed this with the committee and we said we would probably put forward to pay for that but Mr. Garcia said he didn't see a reason why the town wouldn't pay it. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral Ms. Anzalone and Ms. Alley will discuss it at the next meeting. The committee discussed the district report card that the Superintendent had a bunch of items on that he wanted us to give suggestions on. He wanted to know if we had suggestions to add to the list also and was going to get back to us on the items we requested from him. Ms. Cloutier-Cabral added we are looking at a baseline for how the district is doing and going forward. Taking a temperature and watch that for a year, then 2 and 5 years based on the goals. Ms. Anzalone questioned if we should set the first meeting since the committees are set. The next Strategic Planning Committee is set for April 8 at 6pm. Mr. Allen does not have the next Facilities Committee meeting set but will send something out as Chair until a new one is elected if there is no objection. No objection heard. He would propose to continue with Mondays for that committee. Chairman Golding confirms the Technology Committee will meet next on Tuesday May 7 at 6pm. The Policy Committee has not set up the next meeting yet. Members will get together to determine a date. Ms. Alley notes the next Budget Committee meeting may be held on April 16, they are looking to see who can make it.

ii. Facilities Committee

Mr. Allen reported there was no meeting in March due to the Board workshop.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Ms. Mary Golding voiced appreciation for the Board, this is a job you don't get paid for and put a lot of time into it. Thank you again and thank you for volunteering and doing such great work.

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

Mr. Adam Lavallee commented you guys don't have the authority to take over those joint meetings; you can have meetings where you just don't join us. We had a lawyer come in and that was why we had those meetings. You had it backwards as if the Budget Committee were an advisory committee. We are not, we are a taxing authority and when you have a joint session those are our meetings that is why your school board meeting stops and a new meeting has to start. You can check, it may have changed, but I think the Budget Committee could vote to relinquish control of those meetings. I will not vote in favor of that I don't know how everyone else would. That is the reason for the change, we decided to get clarity on who owns the budget

because it was treated as if the school boards own the budget and we discovered the Budget Committee owns those joint sessions. Whatever first year I was elected is the year it changed.

XIII. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Alley commented that she is grateful to be here and thankful for all who voted for her. Being on the Budget Committee, it was a fairly good experience.

Ms. Foss commented for those online if I was incorrect about who owned the joint meetings she apologizes and stands corrected.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral welcomed the new members, she appreciates you both coming to work with us, glad Mr. Allen is back and we will be on the Facilities Committee again. She thinks it will be a great year. She thanked Ms. Gill for coming in and encourages all to support the PTO, you don't have to attend the meetings if you give your email it does not mean you are committed. She encourages you to support them and the students.

Mr. Lavoie thanked the voters voting overwhelming support for our school system. He welcomed Mr. Zavgren and Ms. Alley and congratulated Ms. Lavallee. He thanked Mr. LoVerne and his service on the School Board for many years. We appreciate your time and thank you for that.

Ms. Anzalone welcomed the new members, congratulated Mr. Allen for re-election and thanked the community coming to vote support for our teachers. She was nervous but thought it went well. She thanked Ms. Gill for coming out and looks forward to another productive year.

Mr. Zavgren thanked the citizens for voting for him, he will do his best to represent them. He notes he has a lot to learn and appreciates being voted in.

Mr. Allen congratulated the Chair and Vice Chair and thanked the Lyndeborough community for sending him back and to the teachers and staff who go to school and serve every day. He looks forward to serving you. He thanked the PTO; he knows how tireless and thankless it is. He thanked Mr. LoVerne who brought a wealth of knowledge to the Board, which will be missed. He spoke of being required to have a new member orientation; we need to set a goal workshop to be focused on Board evaluations. He believes we were supposed to do that before the Board changed over according to policy. He asked about reaching out to NHSBA about that board meeting piece and see if they can provide guidance.

Chairman Golding echoed all those statements. He thanked Ms. Gill for coming in. We will need to coordinate how many times she will come back. He commented that this is a school board meeting, the School Board can choose what is on the agenda, and if we decide not to have a joint meeting, we don't have one. Administration can go to both meetings and present at both but we don't want to see them have to do that. He thanked all involved at district meeting from set up staff, school board and presenters to Mr. Buroker who did the sound for the community members who came out. It was really pretty decent turnout and glad things turned out the way they did. The school board did a fantastic job; he believes we answered all the questions raised.

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

A MOTION was made by Ms. Anzalone and SECONDED by Ms. Foss to enter Non-Public Session to review the non-public minutes RSA 91-A: 3 II (C) at 8:03.

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

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board entered public session at 8:09pm.

A MOTION was made to seal the non-public session minutes RSA 91-A: 3 II (C) by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie. Voting: all aye, motion carried unanimously.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:10pm. Voting: all aye, motion carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Fowler*