



SAU 35 Executive Board

DATE: January 2nd, 2024

Conference Room – Presby Construction, 244 Main Street, Franconia, NH 03580

Board Meeting – 5:30pm

Present: Superintendent Kate Segal, Business Manager Toni Butterfield, Chair Robert Weir (Bethlehem), James Noyes (Bethlehem), Tucker Clark (Lisbon), Amy Mullins (Lafayette), John Barth (Landaff), Matthew Copithorne (Landaff), Kim Koprowski (Profile), Dr Alice Rocke (Profile), Clerk Rhiannon Copithorne.

I. Call to Order

CHAIRMAN BOB WEIR CALLED THE MONTHLY E-BOARD MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:31 PM.

II. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION MADE BY AMY MULLINS, SECONDED BY JAMES NOYES FOR THE APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 7TH, 2023, PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. KIM KOPROWSKI, TUCKER CLARK AND JOHN BARTH ABSTAINED.

III. Public Input - None

IV. New Business

1. School Board and Superintendent Relationship

2. Roles and Responsibilities

Kate Segal would like to work on roles and responsibilities and wants to collaborate with everyone.

There was a brief discussion about the recent Profile board meeting, Amy Mullins found that meeting very upsetting as a board member, parent and member of the community. Matthew Copithorne felt that it reflected badly on all board members and school boards. Kim Koprowski did not want to relive that meeting. Further discussion was had about the need for new board members to attend new board training so that they can understand the roles and responsibilities of being a board member and the processes that need to be followed.

Bob Weir mentioned that it has been brought to his attention that social media posts are an issue. As executive board members we have access to information that is considered privileged and confidential so we need to be careful. There is a lot of misinformation out there. “We need to come together as a group. If we fail, the schools fail and the kids fail.....if we don’t learn to work

together then everyone fails”. New members are the nature of the business so as board chairs we should be signing up new members for training.

James Noyes stated that when the board meeting starts you are a board member but when the meeting is over you no longer have those rights and responsibilities/privileges so very clear boundaries need to be set. The New Hampshire School Board is a great resource for all board members.

Dr Alice Rocke suggested that having a team building event for the SAU and boards may be helpful. Bob Weir thought this was a good idea. John Barth thought that this could be incorporated at the full board meetings.

James Noyes mentioned the NHBS Annual meeting as a great opportunity to keep up to date on current and future requirements.

V. Continuing Business – Structural and Financial Challenges Facing the SAU

The budget for 24/25 was passed which included the creation of a new position to assist with resolving the audit issues. Bob Weir would like the SAU to start working on this as soon as possible once the budget season is over.

VI. Standing Reports

A. Superintendent

- **Biweekly Visits to the Schools**
- **Licensing and Minimum Standards**

The licensing takes time, Bob Weir wants to ensure that Kate Segal has enough support with this. Kate Segal confirmed that she likes working on this.

- **Landaff’s Innovation Plan**

This plan was approved, Landaff is the first in the State to do this. This gives their school district what is needed as a one room schoolhouse. The commissioner was very impressed with the level of support from the SAU, the school and the community.

B. Business Manager

Budget to Actual Report

The estimated ending balance is \$45,000 to \$50,000 so it may be possible to start working on getting the new position set up as early as April. Toni Butterfield believes that come April 1st they should be in a good place to start working on this and the necessary changes.

Toni Butterfield mentioned that there is a new RSA from May 2022 which is about making sure that schools are getting their audits completed. The Department of Revenue has been informed that they will receive the completed reports by the end of January. The auditors will provide the completed

audit to Toni Butterfield by January 15th then Toni Butterfield will provide the reports to the State by January 31st.

VII. Staffing Notifications & Approvals - None

VIII. Non Public Session as per RSA 91A:3. I, II

MOTION TO ENTER NON-PUBLIC SESSION MADE BY JAMES NOYES, SECONDED BY TUCKER CLARK. BY ROLL CALL, ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED TO ENTER NON-PUBLIC AT 6:40 PM

MOTION TO LEAVE NON-PUBLIC SESSION MADE BY JOHN BARTH, SECONDED BY JAMES NOYES. BY ROLL CALL, ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION AT 9:08 PM

IX. Adjournment

MOTION MADE BY JOHN BARTH, SECONDED BY JAMES NOYES, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:08 PM. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Next Meeting: February 6, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Notice is hereby made that public comment shall be made without expectation of a response by any School Board member to matters raised by such commentary. The Board will not hear personal complaints about school personnel nor against any person connected with the school system. The expectation of all in attendance is to conduct themselves in a civil manner. The Board respects the right of the public to communicate its stance of matters of interest, but meetings are scheduled in advance to conduct business put forth on its publicly posted agenda only.