

# **Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School Board**

**Tuesday, October 17, 2006**

## **Minutes of Meeting**

**Shelburne Town Hall, 6:30pm**

**Board Members Present:** Donna Goodrich, Jean Tremblay, Anne Hill, Greg Corrigan, Angela Brown, Chairman Jo Carpenter, Jay Holmes, Michele Cormier, Paul Partenope

**Absent:** Kathleen Kelley

**Student members:** Jenn Cloutier, Kate Landry

**Administration:** Paul Bousquet, Superintendent; Business Administrator Pauline Plourde; Director of Special Services Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny; Keith Parent, Principal GMHS; Bill Kaczynski, Assistant Principal GMHS; Karen Cloutier, Principal Ed Fenn; Dave Goyette, Maintenance Director/Transportation Coordinator

**Public:** Jay Guilmette, Christine Legendre, Jason Legendre, Darlene Dube, Brooke Grondin, Barbara Arnold, Ben Mayerson, David Laurin, Banwell Assoc.

**Press:** Gail Scott, Jen Bennett

I. Call to Order: Jo Carpenter, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

II. Approval of September 19, 2006 minutes Hearing/Open/Closed Session (Action)

**Motion made by Paul Partenope to accept the minutes of September 19, 2006, with changes identified in discussion. Motion seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor, motion passed.**

**Motion made by Jean Tremblay to accept the minutes of the non-public of September 19, 2006 and seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor, motion passed.**

**Motion made by Jean Tremblay to accept minutes of non-public of September 21, 2006. Motion seconded by Anne Hill; 7 in favor; 2 abstained (Donna Goodrich, Greg Corrigan), motion passed.**

III. Public Comments (Information): no public comments

IV. Written Communication (Information/Discussion/Action):

Request from Mr. & Mrs. Legendre for their son, Jason, to complete course work at GMHS this fall and take classes at the New Hampshire Community Technical College in the spring semester. Jason also made the request to participate in graduation exercises with his peers in June 2007.

**Anne Hill made a motion to accept both requests. Motion seconded by Jay Holmes; all in favor, motion passed.**

V. Building Committee Update (Information/Discussion):

- a. Building Committee Chairman, Ben Mayerson, updated the board regarding the progress of the building committee, upcoming Public forums.
- b. Building Option Presentations-

1. D. Laurin: provided board with options for building and renovating the EFS and GMHS buildings. His presentation included floor plans and explanations for each option. Board members and community members were given the opportunity to ask questions.
2. Tuesday, October 24 @ Ed Fenn and Thursday, October 26, Public Forum will be held at GMHS. Both the EFS and GMHS options will be presented at the meeting. The building committee will give background on their process.

## VI. Principals' Report (Information /Discussion/Action):

### a. EFS:

1. Principal Karen Cloutier discussed the main points in her monthly report.
2. Musical lessons will be starting. Twenty-two students have signed up to participate in the music program at this time.
3. Betty Forestall has been hired to replace Heidi Gray as the Administrative Assistant for Guidance/Special Services. J. Holmes expressed his pleasure for hiring B. Forestall.
4. Findings regarding full-day kindergarten were discussed. Karen Cloutier is not recommending full-day kindergarten implementation at this time because the research is not conclusive regarding evidence of the long range academic benefits of full-day kindergarten. Paul Bousquet concurred that Coop students are as prepared as students in the research who have participated in full-day programs. When comparing EFS students to students who come to EFS from full-day programs in other districts the skill levels are comparable. Karen Cloutier mentioned the idea of looking at an extended kindergarten school day, but not a full day. Board member asked if there would be space in the existing facility for an extended day. Discussion about whether space issues will be an issue in the future.

**Motion made by Anne Hill to accept the recommendation to keep the kindergarten structure the way it is and to eliminate additional classrooms from the building options plans. Motion was seconded by Michele Cormier;**

After discussion, J. Holmes asked to amend the motion, removing the elimination of additional classes. Motion stands and voted on.

**5 in favor; 4 opposed (Jo Carpenter, Jean Tremblay, Jay Holmes, Donna Goodrich), motion passes.**

**7:45 p.m. Greg Corrigan left the meeting.**

### b. GMHS:

1. Principal Keith Parent discussed the main points in his monthly report.
2. Excursion to England and Scotland is available to GHS students, along with students from Laconia and Berlin. Keith Parent asked the board to sanction the trip as a school trip so that school rules would apply.

**Anne Hill made a motion to sanction the trip to England and Scotland as a school trip. Motion seconded by Jay Holmes; all in favor, motion passes.**

3. J. Carpenter asked for numbers of students participating in the music program and K. Parent said that he would get that information for the board.
4. On Thursday, Oct. 19, Paul Hodes will be at GMHS to speak to students Thursday; Oct. 26, NH Supreme Court will be presenting two court cases at the BJHS; students from GMHS will have the opportunity to attend this session.

## VII. Superintendent's Report

- a. School Board Expectations for Me (Discussion):
  1. Paul Bousquet requested feedback from the board regarding their expectations;
  2. J. Carpenter:
    1. keep up the good follow through and good relations between the three towns; if we can help each other we should do it;
    2. Asked Paul Bousquet to help the board complete a self-evaluation;
  3. A board member asked Paul not to be afraid to tell the board if you think that we are going in the wrong direction
- b. GRS Curriculum and PR Committee(Information/Discussion):
  1. Donna Goodrich: administration needs to run the school; suggested that board put curriculum topics on the agenda a few times a year.
  2. Jean Tremblay: don't think we need a curriculum committee but we need to hear about curriculum;
  3. Paul Partenope: noted that curriculum adoptions come before the board;
  4. Angela Brown: suggested that several times a year students come to board meetings to share—for example, chorus or band performance, reading an essay or poetry, or sharing experiences from this upcoming trip to Europe.
  5. Anne. Hill: referenced department heads
  6. Jo Carpenter: encouraged staff to continue to showcase the schools in a positive light
  7. PR from the building committee has been strong. Also a thank you to Gail Scott and Jen Bennett for their coverage.

**Consensus of board to accept Paul Bousquet's recommendation that a Board Public Relations Committee and Curriculum Committee are not needed at this time.**

- c. Progress of the DEIP (Information/Discussion):
  1. Reviewed DEIP status with K. Parent, K. Cloutier, and C. Miller. Continued discussion of DEIP on the November agenda for administrators' meeting and will report back at a future meeting; copy of DEIP in board packet for their review.
- d. Other:
  1. Discussed the status of board membership. The deadline for applying for board membership for the vacant position is 10/20/06. There is currently one applicant and if that status remains, Jo Carpenter will communicate the applicant's name to the board by email. If more than one person applies, the board will interview the applicants at next month's meeting.

2. Finance Committee will review the budget in November. Finance Committee members include: Donna Goodrich, Michele Cormier, Kathleen Kelley, and Jo Carpenter; budget meeting will be posted and all board members are welcome to attend.

VIII. Business Administrator's Report

- a. Transfers requested.

**Motion by Jean Tremblay to accept transfers; seconded by Anne Hill; all voted in favor, motion passed.**

- b. Tax Rate for Bonding Purposes (Information): Pauline Plourde provided the board with a handout and reviewed bonding scenarios with them. Jo Carpenter: asked board if they are ready to give building committee and superintendent a target. Board wants to wait for public input at the upcoming forums. Asked board members to encourage community members to come to the public forums. Donna Goodrich cautioned the board against personal opinions. All board members are encouraged to attend the Public Forums and building committee meetings.
- c. Ben Mayerson said that he would like to provide the community members with handout regarding bonding scenarios at the public forums. Both projects will be discussed at both forums; however, the EFS options will discussed first at the EFS and the GMHS options will be discussed first at the GMHS forum.
- d. Other: none

IX. Director of Special Service's Report (Information):

- a. B. Hebert-Sweeny: Asked for questions pertinent to special services, and answered one question regarding Cascade Academy

X. Maintenance Director's Report (Information):

- a. D. Goyette described the new bus which has the Cooperative School District logo on its side. The bus holds 40 passengers

XI. Policy Committee Update (Information/Discussion/Action):

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading-Section E
- b. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading- Appendix E: discussion of recommended changes in policies

Paul Partenope reviewed policy changes and completed first readings of Section E and Appendix E.

**Paul Partenope moved to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Section E and Appendix E; seconded by Jean Tremblay; all in favor; motion passed**

**9:25 pm: D. Goyette; K. Cloutier, Jenn Cloutier and Kate Landry left**

XII. Non Public Session (Information/Discussion/Action):

- a. Motion to enter non-public under RSA 91-A:311: C at 9:25 pm by Jean Tremblay; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Donna Goodrich :
- b. Polled board members: roll call vote: Jean Tremblay, yes; Angela Brown, yes; Anne Hill, yes; Jay Holmes, yes; Donna Goodrich, yes; Paul Partenope, yes; Michele Cormier, yes; Jo Carpenter, yes

Greg Corrigan returned to the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

XIII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting (Discussion/Action):

XIV. Next meeting Tuesday November 21, 2006-6:30pm-Gorham Middle High School Library

XV. Other:

a. Jo Carpenter: Suggested that we re-visit goals discussion from 12/21/05 meeting at a future meeting?

XVI. Adjournment: at 9:30 pm; motion to adjourn Jay Holmes; Greg Corrigan 2<sup>nd</sup>; all in favor; motion passes.

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**Non-Public Minutes**  
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**Administration:** Paul Bousquet, Superintendent; Business Administrator Pauline Plourde; Director of Special Services Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny; Keith Parent, Principal GMHS; Bill Kaczynski, Assistant Principal GMHS

The board voted by roll call vote to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:311c at 9:25 p.m.

A student issue was discussed.

At 9:28 p.m. Jean Tremblay moved to go out of non-public session; seconded by Donna Goodrich; all in favor.