

# **Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School Board**

**Tuesday, October 16, 2007, 6:00pm**

## **Minutes of Meeting**

### **Gorham Middle High School Library**

**GRS Board Members Present:** Jo Carpenter, Angela Brown, Michelle Cormier, Greg Corrigan, Patricia Flynn, Donna Goodrich, Anne Hill, Kathleen Kelley, Stephen Michaud, and Paul Partenope

**Late Arrival:**

**Absent:** Carol Miller

**Student member:** Ashton Paine

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

**Town Officials:** William Jackson (Gorham), Stephanie Kennedy (Gorham), Yves Zornio (Gorham), Lucy Evans (Shelburne), Stanley Judge (Shelburne)

**Public:** Robert Balon, Wendy Mayerson, Minute Taker; Zane Brown, student

**Press:** Craig Lyons, Bethany Taylor

#### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting of the GRS Cooperative School Board was called to order at 6:05 pm. Introductions of all present were done.

#### **II. Public Comment**

Zane Brown, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, feels adding golf as a sport is a good idea and one he would participate in.

#### **III. Discussion with Selectmen Gorham, Randolph and Shelburne**

##### **a. Tour of MHS**

**Meeting was called back to order at 6:39, after the tour of the MHS.**

Paul Bousquet discussed actions that have been taken toward repairing the building, modifications (such as the security system in the Ed Fenn) in process, and looking at how to remedy the needs of the students staying within the footprint of the current school.

Administration is working with David Laurin of Banwell Architects to come up with some solid figures of the costs and a timeline for making changes to the school, staying within the footprint.

The reason for asking to meet with the towns' Selectmen was to find out what other projects are planned and how they can be managed with the tough financial times in the valley. The goal is to get the schools upgraded without creating such high tax rates that people cannot afford it.

Discussion followed regarding various costs of projects i.e. replacing the roofs which are approximated at 2 million dollars and necessary to close up the buildings before internal work is done. There was also discussion regarding the process that has been occurring over the past to decrease the costs.

An inquiry was made as to what types of projects are planned for all of the cooperative towns. Currently, Gorham does not have any major projects planned. The major item right now is the Common and making it back into a playing field that can serve as a multi-purpose space without destroying it. It was also reported that Gorham's re-evaluation has been completed.

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The Shelburne Selectmen reported that they do not see anything at this point in time that is upcoming as far as a major expenditure, except what might need to be done to the fire station / bus garage.

There was discussion regarding the need for the Cooperative to make a 10 year plan, but they first need to get all the problems taken care of before getting to that point, and getting there is going to be a hard process.

Selectmen left at 7:18 pm.

**IV. Approval of Minutes September 18, 2007**

**Angela Brown made a motion to approve all the September 18, 2007, minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.**

**V. Written Communication**

**a. Quarterly Attendance**

Angela Brown provided Jo Carpenter with the last quarter's attendance record.

**b. Shaw's Gift Card**

In the past, a gift card has been given to the staff at Christmas time and is greatly appreciated.

**Greg Corrigan made a motion to approve the distribution of \$20.00 Shaw's gift certificates to all staff as done last year. The motion was seconded by Kathleen Kelley; all in favor.**

**c. Barrett Christina – NHSBA Policy**

The Board was informed that if there is a policy that needs to be streamlined, it is legal to have only one reading and adopt it the same evening. Although the Board expressed a strong inclination that the two readings is working quite well, they appreciated knowing that it would be legal to only do one reading if it became necessary.

**VI. Report of the Student Body**

Ashton Paine reported that there is a lot of support for a golf team. At this time there is a lot of discussion regarding being restricted to the cafeteria during lunch and breaks. It was explained that this is in place due to supervision and safety issues. During break and lunch the only true supervision is in the cafeteria since the teachers have a duty-free lunch contractually.

**VII. GRS Polices**

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

Paul Partenope went over the first reading of the J policies, explaining changes as deemed appropriate. Paul asked for input from the Board regarding several policies. Specific J policies were also reviewed as requested by various Board members and as necessary, additions, changes, and deletions were noted during the readings.

**Kathleen Kelley motioned that the reading of the J policies be accepted as the first reading. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.**

### **VIII. Legislative Liaison Report**

Paul Partenope reviewed with the Board the listing of bills that have been submitted by the House that seemed to be educationally related. At this point, only the titles are available. The Senate's submission deadline is some time this week. The substance of the bills will not be available until some time next month at which time a meeting will be planned to discuss the appropriate bills to obtain the Board's opinions on them.

### **IX. Building Update**

Paul Bousquet informed the Board that he will try to meet with David Laurin sometime early next week regarding the pricing, "laundry list," and staging of tasks by year. He suggested that the Board determine the amount of money to be requested for the building updates. Concern was expressed regarding the scaled back plans' ability to provide the necessary facilities for delivering the education our children need. Also expressed were the frustrations that all members know that something needs to be done and concerns about how it is going to get there. A suggestion was made that the bond be put off a year while a solid plan is compiled. In the meantime, work on the priority repairs during the coming year. Discussion also centered on recognizing that the number one priority really needs to be the roofs on the two schools. The necessity for putting money into the budget for maintenance funds was also discussed regardless of what happens with the bond vote.

Paul Bousquet summarized that there was a need to put money away for the future, take care of the roofs, and that a large bond is not going to be viable for the next district meeting. The Board suggested making the next Building Committee meeting a joint meeting, but consensus was that Thursdays do not work for most Board members. Paul Bousquet is going to contact David Laurin to reschedule to a Tuesday or Wednesday for the meeting.

Keith Parent is expecting that a piecemeal approach will be at the cost of our accreditation. He made a call the NEASC today and is waiting for a call back regarding their opinion on the October progress report.

The Board in discussing the meeting the next evening with the Berlin school board plans to ask directly if their board wants to regionalize with the cooperative school district.

### **X. SPED Director's Report**

Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny gave an overview of her report. She informed the Board that the

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attachment disorder was an FYI, and that the complete article went out to the staff regarding attachment disorders.

### **XI. Maintenance Director's Report**

Dave Goyette informed the Board that the installation of the security system at the Ed Fenn should be completed by Friday, October 26, 2007.

### **XII. Technology Director's Report**

Chad Miller inquired if there were any questions regarding his update. There has been no update on the system integration due to scheduling issues with vendors. He is currently looking into doing some upgrades and custom software that may need to be purchased to get the integration to work.

**A motion was made to extend the meeting by Kathleen Kelley for an additional hour (10:05 pm). Greg Corrigan seconded the motion; all in favor.**

### **XIII. EFS Principal's Report**

Karen Cloutier expressed her appreciation for the CARE group and the large purchase they made for physical education. Karen also reported that the Walking School bus program is working well.

### **XIV. GMHS Principal's Report**

Keith Parent expressed appreciation for the Booster club's donation of an ice machine, and requested a motion to accept the donation.

**A motion to accept the donation of the ice machine was made by Greg Corrigan. The motion was seconded by Kathleen Kelley; all in favor.**

The field hockey program is no longer viable due to a decreasing number of students. Keith Parent and Dan Gorham proposed the addition of golf and possibly cross country as a fall sport.

**A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to explore co-ed sports for fall such as golf & cross country, co-participant sports for the fall that would include a survey of the students' interests. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.**

### **XV. Business Administrator's Report**

#### **a. Financial Report**

No monthly update was provided due to little activity. Budget information has been distributed to principals who then distribute to their staff. The Board was informed that line item budgeting would be done again this year.

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**b. Dates of Finance Committee Meetings**

The Finance Committee needs to set up meetings beginning in mid-November, specific dates will be determined via e-mail with the Committee members.

**XVI. Superintendent's Report**

**a. Review and Approve Building use Fees**

**A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to accept changes to Policy KF-R (Building Use Fees). The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.**

**b. Carsey Institute Survey Grades 7 and 11**

Presented as an informational piece. It will provide us with data that is not currently available and is a good opportunity to find out where our young people are going and why they don't come back. Concerns were expressed on the composition of the questions.

**A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to participate in the Carsey Institute Survey. The motion was seconded by Donna Goodrich; 8 in favor, 2 abstained (Patricia Flynn and Paul Partenope).**

**c. Berlin Meeting on 10/17/07 – Representation**

Paul Bousquet made an inquiry as to who would be attending the meeting with the Berlin School Board the next evening. He told the Board members who were unable to attend to e-mail any specific questions you would like addressed at the meeting to him.

**d. Support Staff Negotiations**

Paul Bousquet has sent examples of contracts to Steve Michaud to review. The process is currently in the infancy stage. The team was just recently formed and Paul Bousquet hopes to have more information for the Board in November.

**XVII. Non Public Session**

**RSA91-A:3II(d) at 9:44 pm motion by Kathleen Kelley and Greg Corrigan to go into non public. Roll call vote: Patricia Flynn, yes; Anne Hill, yes; Donna Goodrich, yes; Kathleen Kelley, yes; Michele Cormier, yes; Angela Brown, yes; Greg Corrigan, yes; Jo Carpenter, yes; Paul Partenope, yes; Stephen Michaud, yes; motion passed. Board returned to public session at 9:53 pm**

**a. Purchase of Property**

**Next Regular Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Cooperative School Board will be November 20, 2007, in the Edward Fenn Elementary School Library.

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Reminder for a certified trainer to be placed in the budget, November a draft program of studies should be presented.

**XVIII. Other**

**XIX. Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 pm. The motion was seconded Greg Corrigan; all in favor.**

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