

Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School Board
Tuesday, April 15, 2008, 6:30pm
Minutes of Meeting

Gorham Middle High School Library

GRS Board Members Present: Jo Carpenter, Debra Ackerman, Angela Brown, Michelle Cormier, Anne Hill, Kathleen Kelley, Carol Miller, Paul Partenope, Julie St. Germaine, and Greg Corrigan (6:37)

Absent: Steven Michaud

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

Public: Kelly Gagnon (GMHS Teacher) (left ~7:39), Donna Goodrich (Public), Amanda Lavigne (GMHS Teacher) (left ~7:39), Ben Mayerson (Minute Taker), Ashton Paine (Student Rep.) (left ~8:53), Rick Smith (GMHS Teacher)

Press: Gail Scott (BDS)

I. Call To Order

The meeting of the GRS Cooperative School Board was called to order at 6:34 pm.

II. Public Comments

None

III. Educational Component Staff Presentation-Whiteboard

There was a demonstration of the Whiteboard technology by Kelly Gagnon and Amanda Lavigne.

A motion was made by Greg Corrigan to move to item VII e.i. and iv. at this time. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

IV. Report of Student Council Representative

Ashton Paine summarized the Winter Carnival events. The snow sculptures were not successful. The entire event was great in spite of a missed day of school, due to the weather. Bowling was successful, though "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?" was not as much fun as anticipated. The juniors were the overall winners. The seniors won the Sportsmanship award.

Ashton commented positively about the food service survey.

He asked when graduation was. The answer was June 6th.

V. Removal of Consent Agenda Items

The following items were removed from the consent agenda: VI: b., h, and i.

VI. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes March 18, 2008 Public and Non-Public

~~**b. Letter from Robert C. Potter see Maintenance Report**~~

c. Written Communication

i. NHSBA Law at Your Fingertips-Teacher Dismissal and Nonrenomination

d. Legislative Liaison

e. Financial Statement Business Administrator

f. GRS Cooperative School District Meeting Minutes March 8, 2008

g. Hiring Non-Professional Staff-Appointments 2008-2009

~~**h. Dates for Meetings 2008-2009**~~

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- ~~i. GRS Cooperative School Board Committee Membership 2008-2009~~
- j. Staff Appointments-Launa Keenan MS Softball-\$1,482.69 and Mitch Weathers JV Baseball-\$946.40**
- k. School Board of Excellence**

The chair declared items a, c, d, e, f, g, j, and k as adopted.

Discussion of removed items:

b. There was a comment that in light of the price of oil, there should be a consideration to establish a committee to study the student transportation issues. Dave Goyette's draft response to Mr. Potter was praised.

h. There was discussion about future meeting locations. Paul Bousquet will research it, and get back with the information. Paul B. suggested a rotation starting in Shelburne on June 20th.

It was asked if a Saturday District Meeting was still intended. The District meeting will not be the same week as Town Meetings.

A motion was made by Angela Brown to have the next District Meeting on a week night. It was seconded by Carol Miller; all in favor

A motion was made by Greg to have the next District Meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2009. It was seconded by Kathleen Kelley; all in favor

Keith Parent said there might be a basketball game that night. Keith and Dan Gorham will look into it and report back. It was the consensus to have the meeting start at 7pm.

A motion was made by Greg to accept the entire list of proposed board meeting dates. It was seconded by Kathleen; all in favor. The meeting dates will take place on the third Tuesday of each month as follows: 7/15/08, 8/19/08, 9/16/08, 10/21/08, 11/18/08, 12/16/08, 1/20/09, 2/17/09, 3/17/09, 4/14/09, 5/19/09, and 6/16/09.

i. A question was asked to confirm Carol's participation on the Alternative Funding Committee. Greg corrected his contact phone numbers.

VII. District Administrators Reports

a. SPED Director's Report

Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny asked for questions about her submitted report. She plans to have a series of additional parent meetings starting in the fall. She further explained the Medicaid chart and commented on the improved quality control, which results in better tracking and reimbursement.

b. Maintenance Director Report

There was no discussion other than,

A motion was made by Greg to send David Goyette's letter to Mr. Potter. It was seconded by Debra Ackerman; all in favor.

c. Technology Director's Report

There was discussion about the continuing Edline problems. Chad Miller feels that his redefined goals are now being met.

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He discussed his idea of changing to 'Infinite Campus' software. It would possibly integrate better into the State reporting system. There was the question of data loss and backup reliability and liability. Chad will look into it and report back. It was noted that the support staff needs to review the new software and comment as to their level of comfort with it.

d. EFS Principal's Report

Karen Cloutier asked for questions about her report. There was a brief discussion about the food survey.

e. GMHS Principal's Report

It was requested that in the future, Cabaret and board meetings not have conflicting dates. Keith said that the Gorham Town Hall theatre may be open by the fall.

Anne volunteered to help sign and hand out diplomas. Kathleen volunteered to sign diplomas. Jo will also sign. Debra volunteered to hand out diplomas.

It was commented that the recently published drop out rate data was very positive.

i. 8th Grade Algebra

Amanda Lavigne and Kelly Gagnon discussed their issues revolving around teaching 8th grade algebra. They presented the benefits and drawbacks to such a program. There was Q/A and extensive discussion.

There was additional discussion about other course enrichment tracks i.e. language, arts, etc.

ii. 6-12 Department Head Restructuring

Keith said he is preparing a proposal to restructure. He plans to reduce the number from nine to seven. He will bring his proposal forward at next month's meeting.

iii. Café Services Survey

The Elementary School results were more favorable than at the High School. A board member who ate many times at the GMHS felt the food was substandard.

There was extensive discussion about the value and nutritional quality of the meals.

A motion was made by Greg to renew the contract with Café Services. It was seconded by Anne; nine in favor, Julie St. Germaine was opposed.

iv. Formal Approval-Youth and Government and All State Chorus Overnight

A motion was made by Kathleen to approve both the Youth and Government and All State Chorus overnight trips. The motion was seconded by Greg; all in favor.

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Approval of FBLA Trip to Montreal

FBLA advisor Rick Smith described the proposed trip to Montreal and the itinerary for 17 students and 4 chaperones. There were questions relating to the trip, and how it ties into the business curriculum.

A motion was made by Anne Hill and seconded by Kathleen Kelley to approve the overnight trip to Montreal for the FBLA students; all in favor

Chad, Dan, David, Karen, Keith, and Rebecca left at this time. (8:53pm)

VIII. Business Administrator's Report

A motion was made by Kathleen to finance the building project through Northway Bank with the terms and conditions as proposed with an interest rate of 3.14%, and to authorize the Superintendent to act on the District's behalf. It was seconded by Anne; all in favor.

Pauline Plourde says this bid will save the District \$60,000.

IX. Superintendent's Report

a. Cost of Adequate Education

Paul B. briefly discussed his memo.

b. Building Update

Paul B. reported another planning meeting will be occurring this Thursday. There will be no meeting next week, as Karen, Keith, and Paul B. will be on vacation. He was very appreciative of the active participation of local and State Fire officials. The storage boxes will be ordered soon.

Paul B. is writing a Press Release to update the public on the status of the building project.

There was discussion about how contractors will be recommended and approved.

Paul B. will setup the team for interviewing candidates.

c. Yard Sale EFS and GMHS

A motion was made by Kathleen to approve the request for a yard sale. The motion was seconded by Anne; all in favor.

d. Appointment of Coop School District Clerk and Treasurer

In order to correct an 'housekeeping' error;

A motion was made by Kathleen to nominate Grace Lapierre as Clerk for one year. The motion was seconded by Angela; all in favor.

X. Board Committee Reports

a. Policy

i. First Reading-FEH-R, GCGB, EBCE, ECA, ECAC, EDCA, EEAA, KL

Paul Partenope explained details pertaining to the proposed policies.

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A motion was made by Paul P. to accept the first reading of the above named policy sections. The motion was seconded by Kathleen; all in favor.

ii. Second Reading-ILD, ILD-R, JICD, JIHD

There were no changes to ILD or JICD. ILD-R had only half the document for review, as the committee was still waiting for a piece from Keith. There was considerable committee time spent reviewing and discussing JIHD. Paul B. was concerned about some of the proposed language, as it pertains to liability.

A motion was made by Kathleen to hold consideration of JIHD until next month when more research and consideration will be done. The motion was seconded by Anne; all in favor.

A motion was made by Kathleen to accept the second reading and adopt policy sections ILD, ILD-R, and JICD. The motion was seconded by Anne; all in favor.

iii. Revisions-ACE, EB, EBCB, EEAE, IHAMB

Paul P. explained the issues behind these sections.

A motion was made by Greg to accept the revisions to the above named policy sections. The motion was seconded by Kathleen; all in favor.

A motion was made by Anne to extend the meeting for 10 minutes. The motion was seconded by Debra; all in favor.

b. Alternative Funding

Kathleen reported that there has been one meeting, and there will another one this week. There will be a need for some new policies to be drafted.

XI. Action Agenda

Paul B. asked that this item be withdrawn.

XII. Public Comments

None. This item was placed redundantly in the agenda to allow for public comment near the close of the meeting.

XIII. Non Public Session

None

XIV. Next Regular Meeting May 20, 2008, in the Gorham Middle High School Library

XV. Other

a. Paul B. informed the board that the snow date waiver request has been granted. The teachers will make up the time as per their contract.

b. Paul B. and Jo received a letter from Kathy Benoit, informing the board of her intention to retire.

A motion was made by Kathleen to accept Kathy's resignation/retirement with deep regret. The motion was seconded by Greg; all in favor.

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c. Regarding HB 468; an act relative to the reinsurance pool and the NH vaccine association, Paul Partenope suggested the board oppose this bill. He explained some of the issues behind his recommendation.

A motion was made by Kathleen to oppose HB 468. It was seconded by Greg; all in favor.

d. A member inquired if anyone was planning to attend the NHSBA seminar on May 8th from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Debra said she had registered online for it already. Other members were encouraged to participate, and reminded that the bill for the event should be sent through to the SAU office.

e. Angela and Kathleen were thanked for their work in creating a PowerPoint presentation for orientation of new board members.

XVI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Kathleen to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Paul P.; all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46pm.

bwm