

Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School Board

Tuesday, May 20, 2008, 6:30pm

Minutes of Meeting

Gorham Middle High School Library

GRS Board Members Present: Jo Carpenter, Debra Ackerman, Angela Brown, Anne Hill, Steven Michaud, Julie St. Germaine, and Greg Corrigan (6:45)

Absent: Michelle Cormier, Kathleen Kelley, Carol Miller, Paul Partenope

Administration: Paul Bousquet, Superintendent; Karen Cloutier, Principal, Ed Fenn (left at 8:00pm); Dave Goyette (left at 8:00pm), Maintenance Director/Transportation Coordinator; Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny, Co-Director of Special Services; Keith Parent, Principal, GMHS; and Pauline Plourde, Business Administrator

Public: Kathy Benoit (GMHS Teacher) (left at 8:00pm), Kelly Gagnon (GMHS Teacher) (left at 8:00pm), Todd Lamarque (GMHS Teacher) (left at 8:00pm), Christine Lemoine (Guidance Counselor) (left at 8:00pm), Ben Mayerson (Minute Taker)

Press: Gail Scott (BDS) (left at 8:47pm), Sally Manikian (Berlin Reporter) (left at 8:47pm)

I. Call To Order

The meeting of the GRS Cooperative School Board was called to order at 6:30 pm.

II. Public Comments

None

III. Educational Component Staff Presentation-Senior Projects

The Board went to the gym to review the senior presentations.

IV. Report of Student Council Representative

Ashton Paine was not present.

V. Removal of Consent Agenda Items

The following items were removed from VI: e, f, g, and h

VI. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes April 15, 2008 Regular Meeting and Public Hearing

b. Written Communication

i. Primex Book for Board Chair

ii. Support Staff Agreement-2008-2011

iii. GRS Professional Staff Agreement-2007-2010

iv. Invitation to Retirement Party-Sally McMurdo

c. Legislative Liaison

d. Financial Statement Business Administrator

~~**e. Nomination—Clerk of the Works**~~

~~**f. Nomination—High School Math**~~

~~**g. Nomination—Life Skills Teacher**~~

~~**h. Nomination—Social Studies Teacher**~~

The chair declared items a, b, c, and d as adopted.

Discussion of removed items:

e, f, g, and h will be discussed in the Non-Public session.

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Nominations – Clerk of the Works, High School Math, Life Skills Teacher, and Social Studies Teacher.

A motion was made by Greg Corrigan to accept the nominations as presented. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

VII. District Administrators' Reports

a. SPED Director's Report

Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny explained her revised report. The Coop will receive about \$2800 less this year in IDEA, than originally projected.

A motion was made by Debra Ackerman to accept the FY 09 Federal IDEA and Preschool Entitlement Consolidated Agreement. It was seconded by Steve Michaud; all in favor.

b. Maintenance Director's Report

A member expressed their appreciation for changing cleaning products to a green line. The green products have not been used yet. David Goyette feels confident that the products will do as good a job as the existing line being used.

c. Technology Director's Report

Chad Miller was not present at the meeting. There were questions about MMS and Edline that Paul Bousquet answered.

d. EFS Principal's Report

i. Parent/Student and Staff Handbook First Reading

There was discussion about the relocation of the 6th grade to the EFS for the first half of the 2008-2009 school year. The plan is to bring the 6th grade back to the MHS, at the semester break in January pending progress of the building project. There are plans in process to have a midyear promotion event for the 6th grade.

A member relayed a question from parents, as to whether there is a Health and Wellness Committee. Karen Cloutier said there is none at this time.

Karen said all of the grant applications are submitted at this time. She is awaiting the results.

A motion was made by Debra Ackerman to accept the first reading of the EFS Student and Staff Handbook. It was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

Members were encouraged to contact Karen with any changes or corrections they may see as necessary.

e. GMHS Principal's Report

Keith Parent reported that he and Dan Gorham have reviewed the sports calendar. There is no conflict between the basketball schedule and the proposed 2009 District meeting date.

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A motion was made by Greg Corrigan to accept the contributions for the Mind Flight Program, from the Berlin Kiwanis, the Randolph Foundation, and the Gorham Randolph Shelburne Educational Foundation. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

A motion was made by Greg Corrigan moved to accept the donation by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation for the Gorham Amigos Program. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

A motion was made by Anne Hill to approve the Humanitarian Group's overnight stay on the Gorham Common. It was seconded by Debra Ackerman; all in favor.

A motion was made by Anne Hill to approve the overseas excursion. It was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

Keith and several teachers presented and discussed his request to change grade nine's current program for level(s) 2 & 3 for a full year of math and science, to a half year. There was extensive discussion to consider the pros and cons of the proposal.

A motion was made by Steve Michaud to accept Keith Parent's recommendation for the curriculum change for the math and science programs. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

A member asked for a report next year, on the progress of the change.

i. Parent/Student and Staff Handbooks First Reading

There were some questions about the draft of the handbook.

There was a question about the liability issues pertaining to students driving themselves to Berlin. It was the opinion of Pauline Plourde and Paul Bousquet that there are no liability concerns. Keith did speak about liability problems of students accepting rides from each other, to the Shelburne soccer field. A bus is always provided for student transportation.

Keith will include the GRS mission statement in the handbook, along with the SAU mission statement. There were further comments and questions for suggested changes.

A motion was made by Anne Hill to accept the first reading of the GMHS Parent/Student and Staff Handbooks. It was seconded by Debra Ackerman; all in favor.

Karen Cloutier and David Goyette left at this time. (8:00pm)

VIII. Business Administrator's Report

This item was accepted as part of item VI.

Pauline Plourde reported that a 20 passenger bus RFP went out, and will be back on May 29th at 2:00pm.

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IX. Superintendent's Report

a. Building Update

Paul Bousquet updated the board about the status of the contractor bid packages. The RFP bid packages will be ready soon. The contractor walk through is occurring on May 27th at 3:00pm.

The last two overseas boxes are being delivered to the GMHS next week.

Paul B. said that the soccer field, on the Gorham Common will be unavailable while it is being redone. JV will most likely play at the Libby field. There was a question if the District will be contributing towards the field renovation. Paul B. reported that there will be no additional funds submitted, above the yearly \$2500 payment.

Pauline Plourde informed the board that a majority of the members must sign the building construction loan document. Board members will be emailed as to when they should come and sign the document. The IRS form has been sent out, and has been signed by the Treasurer.

b. Schedule Meeting to approve a Construction Company

Paul Bousquet requested a meeting on June 10th to approve the contractor. There was a consensus to change the regular board meeting to June 10, to avoid a second meeting on the 17th.

X. Board Committee Reports

a. Policy

i. Second Reading-FEH-R, GCGB, EBCE, ECA, ECAC, EDCA, ECAF, KL,JIHD

Angela Brown reviewed the changes made to the policies.

Paul Bousquet expressed his opinion to not adopt JIHD. Keith Parent said he felt a guidance counselor should be present. Keith felt that interviews need not always be done at school.

After a long discussion:

A motion was made by Angela Brown to table item JIHD pending further legal review. It was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

Angela briefly explained the background information for the policies.

A motion was made by Steve Michaud to accept the second reading of sections: FEH-R, GCGB, EBCE, ECA, ECAC, EDCA, ECAF, and KL. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

ii. Revision-KCD

Angela explained the change in the policy section.

A motion was made by Steve Michaud to accept the revision of section KCD. It was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

iii. First Reading-DFA, GBAA, JBAA, IJNDB

Angela explained the proposed policies and the reasons behind them.

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A motion was made by Steve Michaud to accept the first reading of sections DFA, GBAA, JBAA, and IJNDB. It was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

b. Alternative Funding

Jo Carpenter reported that there was recently a meeting, though attendance was low. Greg Corrigan submitted a letter to the committee saying he can't remain on due to a scheduling conflict. Debra Ackerman has volunteered to join the committee.

The committee will be working on a charge for the board to review. The next committee meeting will be on June 4th, at 6:30 at the SAU office.

Michele Cormier is drafting a letter to solicit funds from the public. It has not been determined yet as to whom the letter will be sent to.

XI. Public Comments

None

XII. Non Public Session

A motion was made by Debra Ackerman to go into non public session under RSA 91-A: 3ll, sections A and B. It was seconded by Greg Corrigan. The roll was called; Jo Carpenter -Y, Debra Ackerman -Y, Angela Brown -Y, Greg Corrigan -Y, Anne Hill -Y, Steve Michaud -Y, and Julie St. Germaine -Y

a. Staffing Issue – No motion was made in non public. See section VI – Consent agenda items e.f.g.h. for motions made was out of non public.

b. Retiree Request – The board entertained two separate requests. A motion was made in public session as follows:

A motion was made by Greg Corrigan to fund Lynn Hunt's early retirement request using end of year funds with the stipulation that the GRS Cooperative NEA agree in writing that this will not set precedence for future requests. It was seconded by Steven Michaud; all in favor.

A motion was made by Angela Brown to allow Don Boucher to return to the group's health insurance plan once he has shown proof of first enrolling onto his wife's group health insurance plan and requesting reinstatement once his wife retires so long as the request is made within 30 days after losing coverage through his wife. It was seconded by Julie St. Germaine; all in favor.

XIII. Next Regular Meeting June 17, 2008, in the Shelburne Town Hall

The meeting has been rescheduled for June 10th, in the Shelburne Town Hall. The July meeting will be held in Randolph.

XIV. Other

Paul Bousquet said that he is looking into a phone option that would enable him to call set groups of parents, teachers, etc for general announcements IE snow closings, etc. The estimated cost will be \$1900.00.

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Pauline Plourde reported that the bus maintenance contract with Berlin is about to expire. She described the terms of a new three year contract to continue servicing the buses. David Goyette has been very pleased with the work, and occasionally is able to barter for services, exchanging training for labor.

The terms of the proposed contract include a labor rate of \$28/hour for 2008-2009, \$29/hour for 2009-2010, and \$30/hour for 2010-2011. Parts will be charge at cost plus 10%.

A motion was made by Greg Corrigan enter into a three year agreement with Berlin for bus maintenance. It was seconded by Debra Ackerman; all in favor.

XV. Adjournment

A motion was made by Steven Michaud to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 pm. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

bwm