

Errol School Board

Minutes

April 17, 2006

In attendance were: Principal Kathleen Urso, School Board Members: Norman Eames, Gloria Coffin and Michelle Ouellet, Staff: Carol Tremblay, Mary (Teri) Cote and Sharon Lane, Superintendent Patrick Low, and Recording Secretary Clara Grover.

Also in attendance was Rhonda Anctil.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Norman Eames at 7:10 p.m.
2. Gloria Coffin made a motion to approve the minutes of February 20, 2006, and Michelle Ouellet seconded the motion. All in favor.
3. Public Comments: Rhonda Anctil asked if, at graduation, could the people that worked with and the students that participated on the basketball team receive an award ?

Patrick Low said that at the SAU office, there was a temp plate on the computer software, that had an assortment of different styles and wording for a large selection of awards or plaques. He will print out examples of what styles are available and send them to Kathleen Urso. Rhonda Anctil can get in touch with the principal and pick out what was wanted.

Kathleen Urso said that there were also some different awards available on the software in the school.

Rhonda Anctil stated that 12 awards would be needed. She will make a list of the people involved.

Rhonda Anctil wanted to know if the Board Members would mind if she went to item # 8 on the agenda, the athletic field, and then she would leave.

The Board Members agreed.

Rhonda Anctil wanted to know if the field was dried out enough for softball practice and did Patrick Low have information about what was needed for the back stop that the School Association would be buying ?

Patrick Low explained that the only way to judge the condition of the field was to walk on it, if your feet sank into the soil, then it was still to wet to use.

He stated that he had talked to the coach in Gorham, who said that the back stop posts would need to be inserted in concrete, the more posts the better for support, and to put in an overhang fence on top of back stop to catch wayward balls that were hit.

Kathleen Urso had asked the Physical Education Teacher Larry Guiles for his opinion about where the back stop should be.

Mr. Guiles said that he thought having the back stop down by the Kid's Pond was the best place.

Norman Eames stated that with the back stop placed near the pond wasn't a good place, because the hit balls could land on the roof of the school and damage the roofing causing leaks. He thought that the best place was at the back end of the school building and to the right. After more discussion it was agreed to put the back stop where he had suggested. He also had concerns about the windows in the Library.

Rhonda Anctil wanted to know if the Superintendent knew of anyone that could install the back stop ? She wanted to know if she needed to let the Board Members know when everything was set, like games scheduled.

Patrick Low stated that at the SAU office there must be a list of people that could put up the back stop. He would check and let the principal know.

Gloria Coffin stated that the Board had already gave their permission for the program to go forward.

According to Rhonda Anctil, no games have been scheduled, but the children need to practice. Bases and the back stop need to be put in place before the practices can start.

Kathleen Urso wanted to know if the back stop and bases would have an impact on the other organizations that use the field ?

Norman Eames stated that there shouldn't be any problems; the other groups could work around the bases and back stop. The field was fixed for the students to use.

Patrick Low has several catalogues on sports equipment that will be sent to Kathleen Urso.

Rhonda Anctil left at 7:26 p.m.

4. Written Communications: Kathleen Urso read a letter from the students that

are going on a trip to Washington D.C.. They wanted permission from the Board Members to miss classes on May 16th-May 18th, 2006. The trip is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. Nancy Bourassa and Mary Cote will be chaperons.

Gloria Coffin made the motion to allow the students to miss classes because of the trip and Michelle Ouellet seconded the motion. All in favor.

5. Guest Presenters: Staff Carol Trembley and Sharon Lane gave a report on the New England Conference for PreK to Grade 4 teachers that they had attended. They came home with new ideas to help to encourage the students. Sharon Lane received, on behalf of the school, a homemade set of dominos from Mr. **Houseman** from Hanover, which she showed to the Board Members.

Teri Cote went to a conference on teaching algebra, she enjoyed the experience and the chance to exchange ideas with other teachers.

Gloria Coffin stated that her daughter and son-in-law would do the Lego camp on June 26-27-28, 2006. It would be limited to 25 children but no one would be turned away at a charge of \$10.00 per person.

Kathleen Urso stated the school had purchased some Lego sets for the Science Fair. Some of the students had become proficient in the use of the Legos.

Gloria Coffin wanted to know why the school was starting on August 30, 2006, when on February 20, 2006 it was decided to have school start after Labor Day?

Kathleen Urso explained that after she had taken a look at the schedule and crunched numbers, she realized that if a snow day was required, it would be on a Monday and she didn't think that was right. After consulting with the staff, it was decided to start the school year before Labor Day.

6. Principal's Report: Kathleen Urso explained that she and the other teachers are doing the paperwork for their Highly Qualified Teacher status required by the state. The NECAP test results were reviewed and the work on the curriculum planning and mapping is on going.

Upcoming activities are: The Jump Rope for the Heart Program on Tuesday, April 18th, Science Fair is on Thursday, April 20th and on Friday April 21st, Rocky Lehr will speak about life in Afghanistan. Progress reports and NECAP results will be sent home to the parents. After vacation, the students

will study about Mexico and receive a visit from a Mexican musician Veronica Robles.

Teaching the students about accountability and responsibility has been included in the lessons taught, because some students aren't returning their homework on time or returning books borrowed from the school library. If a book is not returned, the student has to pay for the book. Parents have been informed about these changes.

There was another leak in the pipes, this one was in the office and happened on a weekend. If Sharon Lane hadn't come into her classroom, the damage would have been worse than just a few wet papers and folder. Lonny Calder was called, he shut off the water that goes to the heating elements under the floor in the front of the building. No leaks have occurred since then. After some discussion, it was decided to have someone check the pipes and the heating system this summer.

The building will be check over for other repairs needed to maintain a healthy environment for education.

Kathleen Urso submitted a letter to the School Board Members asking for money from the end of the year funds for certain items needed for the school. Such as 2 printers, paying 5 staff for summer curriculum work, and supplies for classroom extras (puzzles, posters, movies, and motivational prizes). The teachers usually pay for these items from their paychecks.

7. Superintendent's Report: Patrick Low stated that the criteria requirements for the different scholarships have been sent to the area high schools. As yet no applications have been received at the SAU office.

The eighth grade portfolios need to include extra curriculum activities and out of school activities to show a well rounded student.

The Ed Finn Elementary School in Gorham and the Milan Village School are sharing a counselor to save money.

There is an on going search for a nurse and music teacher for the Errol School. The Milan nurse is now shared between the two schools.

8. Athletic Field was discussed in Item # 3 Public Comments.
9. Building was discussed in Item # 6 Principal's Report.
10. Other- Is the town owned generator hooked up to the school for emergencies? Norman Eames will check on the situation.

Carol Tremblay asked about the contracts for the up-coming year?

Patrick Low stated that the contracts would arrive in the near future. He asked the Board Members to approve renewing the contracts.

Gloria Coffin made the motion to approve the renewals of the contracts and Michelle Ouellet seconded the motion. All in favor.

11. No Non-Public Session was required.
12. Next meeting will be on Monday, May 15, 2006, at 7 p.m. in the School.
13. Adjournment: Gloria Coffin made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. and Michelle Ouellet seconded the motion.
All in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Clara Grover
Recording Secretary