

Regional School Unit 78
School Board Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2019
At 6:00 pm
RLRS Multi-Purpose room

Present: Virginia Nuttall, Paul Reynolds, Rick Walker, Kathleen Catrini, Martha VanderWold, Amber Haley, Nancy Hilliard, Colleen Koob, Aaron Vryhoff, Brian Delutio

Quorum: 839/1003

1. Call to Order at 6:00
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adjustments to the Agenda - 9.4 removed
4. Approval of Minutes of 2/12 - motion by K Catrini; 2nd A. Haley. Discussion: M VanderWolk - is meeting that she left from finance and was not present. Minutes to reflect this change. Motion carries
Approval of Minutes of 2/27 Special Meeting - motion by K. Catrini; 2nd A. Haley - Motion carries
5. Public comments: none
6. Chair, Superintendent, Principal and Student Representative Comments:
Chair - budget process time; wants to thank staff, administration, S. Raymond for her amazing work putting together budget. The finance committee will discuss shortly. Always a trying time in any school year. This is 5th budget chair has participated in and has gone very well.

Super - contacted Bowman and cited a number of issues that still remain with renovation project including punch list which isn't complete and items such as 2nd floor bathrooms, drainage in bathrooms in locker rooms, and several others. Understands that Bowman responded (BR has not seen) and they will be meeting and wants representation from the board at that meeting.

Princ - starting MEA testing next week running until 4/12. Student council going to Black Rock on 3/14 from 4-9 pm. Students will be skiing and tubing for free. Rotary is providing ski rental. Sponsored by Franklin Savings Bank. Joanne Dickson organizing trip for girls grades 5-8. A day conference providing workshops for female students as a means of empowering. At Alford Center in Waterville. K-5 is working on new curriculum that may want to pilot for 20-21.

Student - sports seasons finished for year. Emma J-D participated in Poetry Out Loud State Finals. Scholastic art awards announced tomorrow and they will be invited to Carnegie Hall in June. Seniors are talking about graduation. Have been preparing for end of quarter with help of advisors.

7. Committee Reports
 - 7.1. Policy - K. Catrini - Met March 5 and working through policies. Will be no meeting in April. Next meeting is May 7.
 - 7.2. Finance - R. Walker - Everyone should have budget. Process seemed to go smoothly with staff, administration and S. Raymond. Have been meeting since January. Tonight is being distributed for board and will be voted on in April. Is \$261,000 over current year's budget. Is 6% increase. Big jump is Pre-K program which is 2.4% of increase. Another 1.1% is related to additional positions. Leaves a 2.5% increase in budget with contracted salaries for teachers and are averaging health insurance increase at 6%. Put more emphasis on instruction. Small amount for a resource officer next year. Police chief will be involved. Will be ad hoc committee to discuss. This upcoming year will be a test - 10 hours/week to be visible in building. Took all capital items out and are putting them into the capital reserve, raising \$50,000 from taxation and the remaining would be transferred. Budget includes \$250,000 surplus to reduce tax hit to towns. Will reserve discussion of budget in detail until future meetings. Could schedule a meeting before April meeting to discuss if necessary. Haven't run into any real problems and are in pretty good shape. Next finance meeting will be April 9.
 - 7.3. Facilities - G. Nuttall - facilities doesn't have a task assigned at this point and is a direction that would come from the board. Have picked up recommendations from B. Richards which could be considered long term and have the beginning of a list. Most has to do with the grounds. Also considering having a capital fund to maintain 5 year goals of somethings to do. Did receive a donation from Nestle for \$2500 which can be used to begin the Legacy process. Will look for grants available from around state. C. Koob - Legacy isn't part of the board process. G. Nuttall - agrees.
 - 7.4. Team Leader Report - S. Laliberte - snow days. Making up senior one on Saturday. Will try one and are also doing Tuesdays. G. Campbell - will make up 3 days utilizing extra hour on Tuesdays. S. Laliberte - 3/19 the 10th graders going to Fosters. Math team going to KVCC. Curriculum work with Leadership Team and for next month, are creating a new math scope/sequence on website. Moving into testing season through April.
 - 7.5. Superintendent Search - P. Reynolds. Have identified candidate.
 - 7.6 Student Leadership - J. Dickson - no report
8. Appointments, Resignations, and Nominations: None
9. Action Items
 - 9.1 Creation of Advisory Committee - discuss safety concerns and resource officer. B. Delutio has agreed to chair for safety concerns, resource officer. Conversation got started because police chief came asking about resource officer. This committee will include overall safety issues. C. Koob - policy we are about to amend (BBA-R) has specific items for advisory committee

that need to be followed. Motion to create advisory committee: motion N. Hilliard; 2nd R. Walker. Discussion: B. Richards - will be a representative committee that will have member from town council. Motion carries. Additional board members are A. Haley and A. Vryhoff. B. Delutio will reach out to Rangeley officials.

9.2 Policy committee recommends the following policy revisions

9.2.1 - IHBAC - Added sentence recommended by state. Motion: R. Walker; 2nd B. Delutio. Motion carries.

9.2.2 - BBA-R - Section 3 on meetings. Change to meet availability of new superintendent. Motion: N. Hilliard; 2nd A. Haley. Discussion: M. VanderWold - question under organization says will be 12 members. Is no specification of distribution of members C. Koob- distribution established by state and is in charter. P. Reynolds - question about section 1.F. - not board's responsibility to hire/fire/employ staff. B. Richards - is a qualification where teachers are nominated and the board is part of the final process. Is in the statute. C. Koob - accept change as necessary and send remainder back to policy committee. V. Nuttall - under E. refers back to Union 37 which needs to be changed. Should also look at committees. Maybe standing committees should be added. Need to figure out what we want for standing committees and clarify. Motion carries.

9.3 Policy committee recommends the following policy for adoption IHBAL - K. Catrini - is boilerplate from state and is a required policy. Motion: P. Reynolds; 2nd M. VanderWolk Motion carries. Motion to waive 2nd reading: K. Catrini; 2nd M. VanderWolk - motion carries.

9.4 Policy Committee recommends the following policy be rescinded IMBB - eliminated from agenda.

9.5 Executive session in accordance to 1 MRSA 405(6)(A) - motion for executive session: V. Nuttall; 2nd K. Catrini. Motion carries at 6:33. Reconvene 6:54

9.6 Executive session in accordance to 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A) -motion for executive session: N. Hilliard; 2nd A. Haley. Motion carries at 6:54. Reconvene 7:06

Added Discussion - P. Reynolds - not on agenda about softball and baseball coaches. Students who are not playing a sport this spring and we are concerned about them having too much free time. Could have a club team in place of baseball and softball. Responsibility of board to understand why we are not having these teams. Hasn't heard a good reason why not.

B. Richards - takes a few minutes to discuss with S. Laliberte and G. Campbell. Asks G. Campbell to discuss. Haven't had anyone apply to coach and don't have the numbers to play. Students aren't dedicated to playing. P. Reynolds - we need to be honest with the community. Can't say we didn't have enough kids to play because coach could have recruited kids. G. Campbell - are up against April vacation because players don't stay in town to play games. Is an on-going issue. P. Reynolds- has heard that there was a communication from the school that was hard to understand and has heard both sides from the community. G. Campbell - had a coach but not enough players. P. Reynolds - wants to be completely transparent. Would like to

see school consider what can be done to replace the team activity. G. Campbell - J. Larochelle and H. Deery are working on something. P. Reynolds - would be helpful to get that out to community. This is starting to "feed" on itself. G. Campbell - MPA has given us a grace period to see if we can get a coach. For every day that goes by that we don't have something in place, other teams are scheduling games. We need a certain number of games to qualify for tournaments. A. Haley - is important that we, board/principal/whoever, send out a notice stating the facts. So if a team is pulled together this year and they don't commit, what happens in the future. G. Campbell - it would cost us 2 years of competition if we forfeit the season. A. Haley - the town doesn't know that. That needs to be communicated. Need to know that even if have some kids but can't play, that affects future season. S. Laliberte - that information was on facebook. A. Haley - everyone comments on facebook and had articles written for Highlander explaining what is happening in the school. S. Laliberte - the information was given to students and parents signed without reading form. Almost didn't have soccer team because students don't want to commit. A lot of students play to fill spot but don't want to commit to full season. Another piece is that no one is interested in getting the facts. We did look for a coach and had a coach candidate who withdrew because didn't want part of the craziness. Creates tension in the classroom. Based on people not coming in to talk about the issue. People go with the rumor but not the facts. A. Haley - kids are pressuring kids too. Things spiral. Last year, knows this because son-in-law was coach, some missed 17 practices. B. Richards - very important point. Haven't seen in other school districts. The lack of commitment to sports or other activities isn't here as in other schools. Wonder why. Is a concern for us also in the classroom. A. Haley - we are a rural area and lots of double-headers that takes toll on family on weekend and distance. G. Campbell - Vinylhaven got around issue and did away with Feb and Apr break and instead take 2 weeks in March. Fosters gets in the way. M. VanderWolk - just had discussion of who will be here in April and board is having difficulty getting quorum. B. Delutio - mindset in community about going away in April. S. Laliberte - that going away is part of our culture. Obviously we go on vacation because that is what the town does in April. P. Reynolds - thank you and thinks it is important for board to understand. G. Campbell - we were as transparent as we could be on Friday.

10. Motion to adjourn - motion by B. Delutio; 2nd A. Haley Motion carries. @ 7:24.

Next meeting: April 9, 2019