



**Lamoille North Supervisory Union and
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District
Minutes of Meeting
September 23, 2019**

Board Members Present: Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet; Cambridge: Bill Sander, Jan Sander, Laura Miller, Mark Stebbins; Eden: Jeff Hunsberger; Hyde Park: Lisa Barry, Tina Lowe; Johnson: Katie Orost, Angela Lamell, Lauren Philie, Mark Nielsen (on phone); Waterville: Bart Bezio (on phone)

Board Members Absent: Cambridge: Sue Prescott, Bernard Barnes; Eden: David Whitcomb; Hyde Park: Chasity Fagnant, Patti Hayford; Johnson: Bobbie Moulton

Administrators Present: Catherine Gallagher, Deb Clark, Brian Pena, Melinda Mascolino, Jade Hazard, Brian Schaffer, Jen Hulse, Jan Epstein, Erik Remmers, Charleen McFarlane, David Manning, Janet Murray

Student Representative: Maggie McGee

Minute Taker: Sue Trainor

Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment: Because both co-chairs were absent, Gallagher asked for a nomination for a temporary Board Chairperson. Hunsberger nominated Stebbins. There were no further nominations. Stebbins then called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Orost made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Lamell. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

LNSU/LNMUUSD Routine Business: Consent Agenda Items

Minutes of the September 9, 2019, Meeting and Safety & Wellness Committee Meeting: B. Sander made a motion, seconded by Lamell, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Orders: Miller made a motion, seconded by B. Sander, to accept the Board Orders. The motion passed unanimously.

Eden Storage Shed Addition Bid: Hunsberger made a motion to discuss the bid, seconded by Lamell. Clark stated they had invited four bidders and only one bid was returned. The Administration was recommending the acceptance of the sole bid from Nathan Felch Carpentry of \$53,140, along with the add alternate of \$5,160 for insulation, bringing the total bid recommendation to \$58,300. Additionally, the Administration requested the use of Eden School Capital Funds for the project. There was \$232,000 available in the fund to use. Orost asked about the size of the shed. Mascolino stated it was the length of the gym and ten feet wide. It was a large space with a garage door. Laflam recommended the contractor.

Hunsberger made a motion to accept the bid from Nathan Felch Carpentry for \$58,300 to complete the project at Eden Central School. Bezio seconded the motion. Orost asked if there was a deadline for completion. Clark stated it was to be done as soon as possible and would be finished this fall. Lamell was discouraged there was only one bidder. Clark stated that with the safety grants, bond projects, and general construction across the state, there was a great deal of work available and it was difficult to find contractors. Orost stated the requirements were very stringent and that might

keep contractors from bidding. The motion passed unanimously, with Cambridge members abstaining.

Personnel: Approve LUHS Custodian Hire: McFarlane stated the recommendation was to rehire John Bailey and pay him at a step 15 for his prior fifteen years as a school custodian, at \$15.98/hour. B. Sander made a motion, seconded by J. Sander, to approve the recommendation. McFarlane stated he had left on good terms, was highly recommended, and the union was in favor of the pay rate. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve WES .2 Art Teacher Hire: McFarlane stated the recommendation was to hire Suzanne Journey Blain as the WES .2 Art teacher. Her prorated amount of pay, based on her experience and her education, would be \$10,602. Orost made a motion, seconded by Sweet, to approve the recommendation. Epstein noted she had worked with her previously. Blain had traveled extensively and Epstein believed Blain could enrich the program. The motion passed unanimously.

HR Update: McFarlane stated an email would be sent to union members stating the Administration's intent to negotiate. BNC members would be contacted to discuss meeting dates. The fact-finding report had been received and both sides could now negotiate further. However, McFarlane was not optimistic that negotiations would be fruitful. Therefore, a November 1st meeting had been scheduled with an arbitrator. McFarlane anticipated that by the end of November they should know about the health commission decision.

Philie asked Schaffer if they were going to be hiring another driver's education teacher. Schaffer stated he would respond during his presentation.

Finance Update: Clark reported that the auditors were on site. The estimated year-end operations looked great. GMTCC was going to have a large surplus. The high school and elementary schools budgets were where they should be. The budget season kicked off just before this meeting, with a meeting of the Finance and Capital Committee. They decided that the first meeting of the Committee would be on October 21st at 6:00 p.m. Clark stated that at that same meeting a space use analysis would be presented to the FCC and then it would move on to the School Board.

Central Office Report: Gallagher stated she and Clark had met with WCAX to discuss the bus driver shortage. Things were now more collaborative with drivers and the community. Ideas that were being looked at were cultivating better communication with senior citizens who had expressed an interest in mentoring, driving, and substitute teaching. Gallagher stated they had held an incredible celebration for the life of Mark Collins. Shaffer wrote the service and the community came together and celebrated Collins' life throughout that day. The family wanted to thank the administration of the high school and the entire Board for the support.

There would be an independent field review soon, with other SU's visiting to review a number of items within the District, including academic and fiscal efficiencies, professional development, safe and healthy environments, etc. In turn, Gallagher's team would visit Lamoille South, Orleans and Washington Central. Work continued in restorative practices, which helped to inform multi-tiered systems of support. Each school was being visited in order to support the program.

Principals/Director Updates:

Belvidere/Waterville: Epstein reported they had had their open house and there was a good turnout. Epstein thanked the Board for approving the art teacher hire. They were still looking for a school counselor.

Eden: Mascolino thanked the Board for the approval of the addition. It would have a huge impact. There were three new substitutes in the building today and she now felt they weren't suffering through attempting to find substitutes. They had received their first money from the AOE and she thanked both Deb Clark and Jade Hazard for their help in accessing the funds.

Johnson: Manning reported that work had begun on repairing water damage in the gym/cafeteria. Originally they had anticipated the repair would take six weeks, which meant lunches would take place in the classrooms. However, they had found that the water damage was contained to the gym side. The Business Assistant had left and they were hopefully hiring someone shortly. A paraeducator position had been filled. Johnson was recognized by the Agency of Education with a Vermont PBIS award for the good work staff had done last year to dive back into the fidelity of the PBIS programming.

GMTCC: Remmers reported that the Perkins Grant had been approved. This program supported various programs at GMTCC. Additionally the Program Innovation Grant had been approved. This grant would support the development of an early childhood program. This year they would hire someone who would support the development of the program. They would be working in conjunction with Janet Murray. Remmers stated he had attended the Hyde Park Home Day.

Student Representative: McGee reported that the Lamoille Union Marching Band had participated in the Hyde Park Home Day parade. She stated that Homecoming had been great. There had been a walkout on Friday for the global climate strike. It had been a powerful experience and there were a lot of conversations throughout the day about the issue.

High School: Schaffer reported that there had been an unexpected resignation of the driver's education teacher for personal reasons. A posting had gone out to fill the position. There were a number of individuals who had helped out over the years with this position. They would fill the position as quickly as possible, however, this was been a position with a lot of turnover. Schaffer then discussed the student protest, noting that student leaders had done an excellent job and he was proud of how they had conducted themselves. B. Sander expressed appreciation to the Administration for handling the protests the way they did. He was pleased and grateful they had allowed students to protest in a peaceful manner.

Other Business: B. Sander asked for information on the idea of developing a track. He was concerned that winter was coming and nothing would be done. McGee stated she was looking into grants. Clark stated she was talking with Laflam about it.

Adjourn: B. Sander made a motion, seconded by Hunsberger, to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.