

**Lamoille North Supervisory Union and
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District Board
Minutes of Meeting
June 28, 2021**

Board Members Present: Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet (6:20 p.m.); Cambridge: Laura Miller, Jan Sander, Bill Sander (by phone for executive sessions), Denise Webster, Mark Stebbins; Eden: David Whitcomb (by phone); Hyde Park: Lisa Barry, Tina Lowe, Chasity Fagnant; Patty Hayford; Johnson: Mark Nielsen, Katie Orost, Angela Lamell, Allen Audette, Jr.; Waterville: Bart Bezio

Board Members Absent: Cambridge: Susan Prescott; Eden: Jeff Hunsberger; Johnson: Bobbie Moulton

Administrators Present: Catherine Gallagher, Deborah Clark, Michele Aumand, Charleen McFarlane, Wendy Savery, Denise Maurice, Jan Epstein, Melinda Mascolino, Bethann Pirie, Erik Remmers, Brian Pena, Jeremy Scannell

Others Present: John Moton, Larry LaClair, Eric Hutchins

Minute Taker: Sue Trainor and Michele Aumand

Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment: Chair Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Stebbins made a motion, seconded by Barry, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

LNSU/LNMOUSD Routine Business: Consent Agenda Items

Minutes of the June 14, 2021, Meeting: J. Sander made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Board Orders: Miller made a motion, seconded by Stebbins, to approve the Board Orders. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of SRO Position: Discussion took place over whether to replace the Student Resource Officer. Gallagher stated the Board needed to weigh in on this. Gallagher reported the SRO position had never been used in a punitive fashion. The person who had been in the position had often developed relationships with students and staff and provided insight into issues a student may be experiencing. It was important to find the right person for the position. Pirie stated the position had contributed to the high school. The SRO had been part of the high school intervention team and had been an incredible resource. The SRO had helped develop useful procedures relative to restorative practices. Maurice agreed that the SRO had been very helpful in the middle school.

Eric Hutchins offered his opinions to the Board, stating that the discussion should be about the position and the rules and procedures that the SRO should follow. Miller asked if it was the person who made the position the way it was, or if it was the actual position. Hutchins stated the position worked well now because of the person in the position. It was important to review the policies and job description of the position. Gallagher stated that Sheriff Marcoux and she would work closely to define the position. She stated the person would be vetted before being agreed to. Orost made a motion, seconded by Stebbins, to approve the process to search for a new School Resource Officer. The motion passed unanimously.

ECS 2nd Grade Teacher Hire: McFarlane stated the recommendation was to hire Chloe Janaro as the second grade teacher for Eden Central School at a salary of \$41,000. Orost made a motion, seconded by Bezio, to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously. The Cambridge members abstained.

Approve LUMS Science Teacher Hire: McFarlane stated the recommendation was to hire Deborah Rossman as the Middle School science teacher at a salary of \$63,725. Stebbins made a motion, seconded by J. Sander, to approve the recommendation. J. Sander asked about her previous history of short-term employment. The motion passed unanimously.

Central Office Updates: Gallagher expressed appreciation that the Board was able to hold an in-person meeting and asked the Board to pause for a moment to reflect on those who were no longer here as a

result of the past year. Gallagher then thanked Michele Aumand, the Wellness Coach for the District, who had hosted a 5K that a number of employees participated in. Aumand was inspirational as a coach.

Gallagher then thanked Savery and others for the work done on the Recovery Plan. The plan was approved within 24 hours by the AOE. It had been a herculean effort. Clark then presented information on how the two ESSER grants would be spent. Clark outlined the following: ESSER grants totaled \$7,353,000. The three key areas being addressed were social emotional well-being (27.48%), academic achievement and success (35.75%), and Engagement and Truancy (11.87%). Facilities would receive 13.03% of the funds, technology would receive 11.20% and the recovery team would receive 0.67%. This would result in a total budget of \$6,987,073.

Gallagher reported that summer school was ready to start up. Lamoille North was one of the only SU's that had a summer program going on in every school in the district. Gallagher stated they wanted to provide all students an equal opportunity to succeed in school. Providing equity, access and opportunity was part of the mission statement of the District.

Gallagher stated they were finally able to begin revamping the website. Most of IT had had to help with technology needs over the past year, which meant they weren't able to do this before. The Board Retreat was scheduled for August 16th. The Union would be speaking to the Board about what they were hopeful for. There would be goal setting, training on the rules and responsibilities of the Board, and a piece on confidentiality. There would also be a short special meeting for the public.

Principal/Director Updates:

Belvidere/Waterville: Epstein informed the Board they had had a great wrap up to the year. They were able to hold an in-person 6th grade commencement ceremony. Field Days had been held on the last day of school. The story-walk now ran the perimeter of the school. The garden was mostly in and was much larger than she originally thought it would be. Summer school was ready to go. They would have twice the numbers of students than they normally had. Providing transportation was a huge help in expanding those numbers.

Eden: Mascolino reported they ended the year strong and kept their energy level up until the very end. The staff did a great job. The 6th graders had a great sendoff. Mascolino was excited to be moving on to her new position and thanked everyone for her five years at Eden.

Middle School: Maurice stated they had a great end of the year. The 8th grade Awards Night celebration had been held outside. Maurice explained that one of the math teachers had been looking for ways to inspire students and had them enter a financial literacy contest. Maurice was happy to report that they had won. The middle and high school were working together to begin the 100% respect campaign. They hoped it would create a smooth transition from middle to high school and create an atmosphere of respect among students.

High School: Pirie stated the graduation celebration was a great way to end a tough year. Prom had been held at Boyden Farms. The student council was fantastic. They helped plan and feed the entire school on two different occasions. She was working with Maurice almost daily. Pirie wanted the Board to know that the District's mentor program for new teachers was wonderful.

GMTCC: Remmers reported they had three National Skills USA silver medalists. Elias Gillen and Abby Dixon-Boles came in second place nationally for their digital cinema piece and Emmitt White came in second place nationally for advertising. Vermont in general had a really successful year in the National Skills USA competition. Remmers also urged the Board to view Abby Dixon-Boles' award-winning documentary. She won first place in the Freedom and Unity film competition.

Student-Related Matter: Gallagher requested the Board go into Executive Session to discuss a student-related matter. She invited Pirie, Clark, Aumand and the Board. Stebbins made a motion, seconded by J. Sander, to go into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session at 7:03 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:13 p.m.

Personnel Matter: B. Sander made a motion, seconded by Stebbins, to go into Executive Session at 7:14 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.

Other Business: There was no other business.

Adjourn: J. Sander made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.