

**Lamoille North Supervisory Union and
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District Board
Minutes of Meeting
October 11, 2021**

Board Members Present: Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet; Cambridge: Jan Sander, Bill Sander (remote), Mark Stebbins (remote), Laura Miller, Denise Webster, Sue Prescott (remote); Eden: Jeff Hunsberger, David Whitcomb (remote); Hyde Park: Lisa Barry (remote), Tina Lowe, Chasity Fagnant (remote); Johnson: Mark Nielsen, Katie Orost, Bobbie Moulton (remote), Angela Lamell, Allen Audette, Jr.; Waterville: Bart Bezio

Board Members Absent: Hyde Park: Patty Hayford

Administrators Present: Deborah Clark, Michele Aumand, Wendy Savery, Betzi Goodman, David Manning, Mary Anderson, Denise Maurice, Bethann Pirie, Brian Pena, Dylan LaFlam, Jennifer Hulse, Erik Remmers

Minute Taker: Sue Trainor

Call to Order, Approval of the Agenda, Announcements and Public Comment: Chair Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. J. Sander made a motion, seconded by Hunsberger, to approve the agenda. Nielsen amended the agenda by removing the October VSBA Regional Meeting item. The motion to approve the amended agenda passed unanimously. There were no announcements or public comment.

LNSU/LNMUUSD Routine Business: Consent Agenda Items

Minutes of the September 27, 2021, meeting; Technology Committee meeting: J. Sander made a motion, seconded by Bezio, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

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

New Policy E3, Community Use of School Facilities, First Reading: LaFlam informed the Board that the policy had been developed to bring all schools across the District in line with the school use policy. This would also provide an online platform as well as a paper format to reserve a room. The fees were less than other surrounding schools. The facility use fee was lower and the cost for services was higher. J. Sander asked if an outside group that contributed to the schools would be charged. She outlined the example of the Vermont Auto Enthusiasts who awarded the Golden Wrench Award to juniors in the automotive program. Recently they had used a room at the school and they weren't charged because of the relationship they had of giving to the program. Sander asked if that possibility could be included within the fee structure. Clark stated that would be considered in-kind and could be looked at. They would vet the idea through insurance and legal to ensure that there was no discrimination or the perception that a group was buying the privilege of using a facility.

Hyde Park Elementary School, Lamoille Union Middle and High School Campus, and GMTCC Three-Year Plowing Contract: LaFlam outlined the results of the Hyde Park and Lamoille Union/GMTCC/Central Office RFP for a three-year contract. The RFP had been sent to six contractors; two bids were returned. James Westerman and J.L. Audy, LLC both submitted bids, with J.L. Audy, LLC being the low bidder. The administration recommended moving forward with J.L. Audy, LLC for three years.

The bid for Hyde Park Elementary School was \$15,500 for year 1, \$16,100 for year 2, and year 3 was \$16,700. The bid for GMTCC/Lamoille Union was \$26,850 for year 1, \$27,650 for year 2, and year 3 was \$28,450. These bids were actually lower than LaFlam had anticipated. Hunsberger made a motion to accept both of the bids from J.L. Audy, LLC, seconded by Lamell. The motion passed unanimously.

Miller noted that Cambridge members could not vote on the bid for Hyde Park. The Board members voted unanimously to rescind the vote in order to vote on the two items separately. Bezio made a motion to approve the contract for J.L. Audy, LLC at Hyde Park Elementary School. Hunsberger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Cambridge members abstaining. Hunsberger made a

motion to approve the contract of J.L. Audy, LLC, for the LUMS/LUHS and GMTCC campus. J. Sander seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Update on Proposed ESSER-Funded Eden Central School Project: LaFlam stated that the Board members had been provided the written job scope, blueprints, and estimates for the Eden Central School ESSER addition. The overall scope included reworking the administration area and the health office. There would now be an isolation space with a dedicated HVAC system. This would be great during the pandemic or the flu season. There would be a fairly large 5,000 square foot addition at the end of the building, which included a dedicated art/music/multipurpose room of about 12,000 square feet. This also had a divider that could separate the room into two classrooms if needed. The remainder would be space for special education services or confidential conversations. There were two add alternates. One was a dedicated three-season classroom and the second was a divider that would go in the gymnasium. The cost, including the add alternates, was projected to be \$1.4 million. \$120,000 of capital reserve funds would be used and the rest would come from ESSER funds.

LaFlam explained that this project was something they had been looking at well before COVID. Once the pandemic hit, it drove home the point that there wasn't enough room to accommodate all of the students at Eden Elementary. When the buildings were finally able to open up with social distancing rules, the school was only able to accommodate 60% of their student body. A year ago the project was estimated to cost about \$900,000. However, now there was limited manpower available. Contractors were now bidding wages at time and a half because with their limited staff they know there would be overtime. Additionally, material costs were increasing significantly. Market corrections could bring some of the excess labor costs down. This was a perfect opportunity to use ESSER funds to increase the space in this overcrowded school. Clark added that a housing development was being planned in the area which could increase the numbers at the school.

LaFlam noted there was a lot of engineering and design work still to be done. Eden Elementary staff seemed to be very supportive. Clark stated the administration was at a point where they were committed to moving forward. Orost asked where the capital costs were coming from. Clark stated they were capital funds and some left over bond funds. There was still \$25,000 of Eden bond funds to use. Once they arrived at the bid point everything beyond that would be ESSER funds. Clark noted that the site-specific capital funds needed to be used by July so this was a good use of those funds.

Central Office Updates: Clark stated the budget process had begun. The initial budgets needed to be in the system by November 1. That information will then be presented to the Finance and Capital Committee on November 15. The budget needed to be approved by the Board in the middle of January in order to move it forward to the voters. The Annual Meeting would take place in February and Town Meeting on March 1.

Clark stated they were having difficulty with their old timeclocks. They had piloted three new timeclocks, were now going to move forward with them, and would be paying for them with merger analysis funds. The purchase price was \$16,000, which was under the bid requirements.

Principal/Director Updates: All principals noted they had very little to add to their reports. However, they offered the additional information:

Cambridge: Anderson stated they had had a great in-service day today.

Eden: Goodman expressed her appreciation to the Board for their support of the building upgrade. She noted they had had their first fire drill as well as their first community meeting and both were very successful. They would be holding a PBIS celebration soon.

Johnson: Manning stated they would be holding their first community meeting virtually this year. Each class had made a six to ten minute video for the event.

Middle School: Maurice stated they had held a dance at the middle level on Friday. It went well. A space was set up that was both roomy enough for the group but contained enough to be safe. The students enjoyed it.

High School: Pirie stated they were continuing to work to build community within the high school. Last Thursday the entire school went outside together to green up the campus in order to get ready for Homecoming. Despite the fact that the game needed to be cancelled, Homecoming weekend went very well.

Other Business: There was no additional business.

Adjourn: Hunsberger made a motion, seconded by Moulton, to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m.