

**Lamoille North Supervisory Union and  
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District Board  
Minutes of Meeting  
March 13, 2023**

**Board Members Present:** Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet; Cambridge: Denise Webster, Mark Stebbins, Christy Liddy, Jan Sander, Tommy O'Connor; Eden: Jeff Hunsberger, David Whitcomb (phone); Hyde Park: Lisa Barry, Tina Lowe, Patty Hayford, Chasity Fagnant; Johnson: Mark Nielsen, Angela Lamell, Katie Orost, Allen Audette, Monica Stearns; Waterville: Bart Bezio

**Board Members Absent:** Cambridge: Sue Prescott

**Administrators Present:** Catherine Gallagher, Deb Clark, Michele Aumand, Jennifer Hulse, Rachel Crawford, Brian Pena, Denise Maurice, Melinda Mascolino, Betzi Goodman, Jeremy Scannell, Jan Epstein, Erik Remmers, Diane Reilly, Valerie Sullivan, Bethann Pirie, Dylan Laflam, Blake Nemeth

**Others:** Student Representatives: Sophie Hunsberger, Julia-Rose Daley, Jessica Orost, Alyx West

**Minute Taker:** Sue Trainor

**Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment:** Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Nielsen noted that the agenda was being revised. The audit and the Hyde Park/ECS Phone System Modernization item would be removed from the agenda. Hunsberger made a motion, seconded by Barry, to approve the revised agenda. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

Nielsen then turned the meeting over to Superintendent Gallagher. Gallagher and the Board welcomed two new Board members: Christy Liddy and Monica Stearns.

**Reorganization of the Board:**

**Elect LNSU/LNMUUSD Board Chair, Clerk:** Gallagher asked for nominations for Board Chair. Sander nominated Mark Nielsen, seconded by Barry. There were no further nominations. The Board voted unanimously to elect Mark Nielsen as Chair. Gallagher then turned the meeting over to Nielsen.

Hunsberger nominated Katie Orost as Vice Chair, seconded by Fagnant. The Board voted unanimously to elect Katie Orost as Vice Chair. Barry nominated Chasity Fagnant as Board Clerk, seconded by Lowe. The Board voted unanimously to elect Chasity Fagnant as Board Clerk. Fagnant informed the Board she accepted the nomination but noted she would be resigning from the Board effective June 30, 2023 as she was recently elected Treasurer at the Annual Meeting.

**Discuss & Approve 2023-2024 Board Meeting Schedule and Date of Annual Meeting:** Clark noted that the Annual Meeting had been successful when held the Monday before break which was usually February 19<sup>th</sup>. Clark recommended holding the 2024 Annual Meeting on February 19, 2024. The Board agreed with this date. The Board meeting schedule would remain the same, with meetings being held the second Monday of every month.

**Discuss & Approve 2023-2024 Committee Meeting Schedule/Membership:** Gallagher requested that each member select their preference of which of the core committees they would like to be a part of. The options were Social/Racial Justice Committee, Curriculum Committee and the FCC. Following receipt of the Board members preferences, members would be informed what Board they would be on.

**LNSU/LNMUUSD Routine Business: Consent Agenda Items**

**Minutes of February 13, 2023, meeting; Minutes of Curriculum Committee Meeting and Social-Racial Justice Committee Meeting:** Sander made a motion, seconded by O'Connor, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Orders:** Fagnant made a motion to approve the Board Orders as listed on the back of the agenda. Webster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Gallagher stated that with two new Board members she and Chair Nielsen thought it would be a good idea to ask Board members, administrators and staff what was important to them about the Board, as well as saying something personal about themselves. Each person participated.

**Personnel Matter:** Orost made a motion, seconded by O'Connor, to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Board members were asked to stay. The Executive Session began at 6:39 p.m. The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:05 pm.

Orost made a motion to deny the employee's request to move two steps on the salary schedule. The motion was seconded by O'Connor. The motion passed unanimously.

**Administrator and Non-Represented Staff Salary Increases:** The Board agreed in Executive Session they would provide a 5% increase.

**Central Office Updates:** Clark reported that the audit was pulled from the agenda because she wanted to send a written summary before the Board meeting and had been unable to do so. The audits were great and they had received clean opinions. They would be available next month. Gallagher noted that next year's calendar had been approved by the AOE and would be posted to the website.

### **Principal/Director Updates:**

**Middle School:** Maurice noted that one of the things coming up was the continuing partnership with Spruce Peak Arts and Maria Davies. All 7th graders would be going to Spruce Peak Arts Center. The school was also working with NVU on a program called In My Voice. The program interviewed students about their experiences and then put that into an improvisational show with students from NVU.

**Eden:** Goodman stated the Engagement Team at Eden was planning a Family Fun Day on March 25th. There would be seed planting, a scavenger hunt, and a book giveaway. People would also be able to tour the new addition at that time.

**GMTCC:** Remmers stated they had a group compete in an iron chef competition this past weekend and did incredibly well. It came down to GMTCC and CVU for the best tasting item. CVU won but the students were very happy with how they fared and were looking forward to participating next year. Skills USA was coming up. 46 students across eight different programs would be participating on April 5th and 6th. Remmers thought they would have a strong showing across the board this year. The computer networking program was competing this Friday and the forestry program was boiling so maple syrup would be available.

**Hyde Park:** Reilly reported that the school had a mud run obstacle course every year. They were raising money for the Lamoille Area Cancer Network. Up to this point they had raised \$20,000 over the years. So far this year they had raised \$4,400.

**High School:** Pirie asked the student representatives to speak about events at the school. They noted that on February 13<sup>th</sup> the school store had a grand opening. It was great to have products made by the students at the store.

**Belvidere/Waterville:** Epstein informed the Board that they had completed this year's partnership with Star Base. Students were able to launch their rockets successfully and many parents came to the event. A chamber ensemble would be coming to the school soon.

**Johnson:** Manning stated that on March 23rd they would hold a STEM Festival, which was a partnership with ECHO. Stations would be set up where teachers and students would be able to show what kind of science and engineering activities they were learning in school. Additionally, they were making great progress on bringing a mural to the school. Maria Davies and Kyle Nuse were helping to organize the May 15<sup>th</sup> event.

**Dylan Laflam:** They would be able to begin moving into the Eden addition on Thursday and hopefully hold classes on Monday. As far as the bond, he anticipated bringing concept and scope to the FCC on June 12th. He anticipated bringing this to the full Board in August for a September bond.

**Other Business:** Hunsberger congratulated the dance teams and the boys and girls Varsity/JV basketball teams. He noted there would be a choral concert at the high school this week.

Sander noted that she was very impressed with the Annual Meeting and the Annual Report. The report was very well done and very easy to read. It was a huge improvement. The student performers did an amazing job, business students were in the lobby selling things, and the food was great. Sander thanked everyone who was involved with both events.

Sander made a motion to acknowledge the work done to create the Annual Meeting and Annual Report. Bezio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Fagnant wanted to acknowledge the work of Cat Gallagher. While Board members had spoken earlier about what a wonderful School Board they were sitting on, it was Gallagher's leadership that helped to make it so. The Board applauded Fagnant's statement.

**Adjourn:** Hunsberger made a motion, seconded by O'Connor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.