

**Inter-Lakes School Board Meeting
Humiston Building – Conference Room
103 Main Street, Meredith NH
October 25, 2022 – Special Meeting
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

School Board Chair Merrill called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

Ms. Lisa Merrill, Chair
Mr. Mark Billings, Vice-Chair*
Mr. Charles Hanson, Secretary
Mr. Howard Cunningham
Mr. Duncan Porter-Zuckerman
Ms. Nancy Starmer
Mr. Paolo Cao, Student Rep.

Members Absent:

Mr. Craig Baker-with notice

*Mr. Billings with notice left the meeting at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Administrators Present:

Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent
Mrs. Trish Temperino, Asst. Superintendent
Mr. Michael Bryant, ILES Principal
Mr. Jeremy Hillger, SCS Principal
Dr. Amanda Downing, ILM/HS Principal
Mr. Mark Parsons, Director of Technology
Mr. Brian Swanker, Facilities Director
Mrs. Elaine Dodge, Director of Student Services
Mrs. Erica Pappalardo, Curriculum Coordinator

Others Present:

Ms. Diane Mega, Video Recorder
Ms. Rachel Bartlett, Resident, Parent, Teacher
Ms. Jocelyn Judge, Teacher
Mr. Carson Sleeper, Student/Class of 2023
Treasurer
Public (In-person & Remote)

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened at 6:00 p.m.

Email Summarized

Kasia Beznoska, Center Sandwich – Requested that there is a need for after-school programming for school-aged children, grades K-6 in Sandwich. Please consider allocating a portion of the funds that are leftover to support these families in Sandwich. They need to hire someone or find a program that can come to SCS.

Email Summarized

Carrie Fair, North Sandwich – Requested that an after-school program can be started with the remains of the ESSER funds in Sandwich. I am requesting an after-school program be started at Sandwich Central School and that these funds be used to fund this program in its launch and later supported through School District funds. I would also like to request that the half-day Kindergarten program be reconsidered as a full-day program in Sandwich as this is an equity issue.

Email – Summarized

Riley Paquette, Sandwich - Requested that the School Board consider using some of the available ESSER Funds to start an after-school program for the kids of Sandwich Central School. It was noted that there are currently zero after school options for the school age children of Sandwich (other than Town Recreation Sports), since the Sandwich Children's Center closed their after school program.

V. MINUTES

A. Regular Board Meeting – October 11, 2022

Mr. Billings moved, seconded by Mr. Porter-Zuckerman, to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2022 Regular School Board Meeting. The motion carried 6-0.

VI. CURRENT BILLS PAYABLE

A. General Operating Expenses

Mr. Hanson moved, seconded by Mr. Billings, to approve the payment of bills, manifest #3012. The motion carried 6-0.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Moriarty sent correspondence for the School Board on October 25, 2022 and the School Board acknowledged receipt.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds I, II, III (ESSER I, II, III); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act; Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act; and American Rescue Plan (ARP) Financial Update & Use of Remaining Funds

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed a graph on how the ESSER Funds have been used to date; the graph was accessed through a link on the School District website; it was created by the New Hampshire Department of Education and is available through the NHDE website. Mrs. Moriarty reported that 23 respondents communicated with feedback on uses for the remaining ESSER Funds. Mr. Billings voiced his concerns about spending non-recurring money on recurring expenses. Mr. Billings indicated that he is in favor of the ventilation project; additionally, Mr. Billings noted that Mr. Swanker has a strong track record for successful facilities projects. Mr. Cunningham supported Mr. Billings' position. Mr. Hanson also supported Mr. Billings' position and further stated that he agrees with the ventilation project.

Rachel Bartlett from the Town of Sandwich (Ms. Bartlett also indicated that she is a Parent and Employee of the School District) asked how upgrading the ventilation in the schools will help specifically with COVID. Mr. Swanker stated that any improvements to air quality, filtration and comfort is an improvement to fight viruses and bacteria. He also said improvements are designed to have a much better chance of eliminating bacteria and viruses. Mr. Porter-Zuckerman asked if these improvements will improve filtration within in the buildings. Mr. Swanker agreed that the improvements would help the filtration within the

schools. Mr. Swanker also stated that by updating the ventilation systems it will help with air exchange.

Ms. Bartlett asked Mr. Swanker if any of the schools have an air quality issue and he responded by saying that there is one section at the Middle/High School that doesn't even meet the standard for mechanical code. Ms. Bartlett asked Mrs. Moriarty what the process was for deciding to spend ESSER funded money on the HVAC system. Mrs. Moriarty stated that when the ESSER funds were initially granted it was discussed then. There was a School District funded study completed and the results showed that it would be beneficial to update the HVAC systems. Mrs. Moriarty stated updating the HVAC systems is allowed under the ESSER fund allotment. Ms. Bartlett brought up learning loss in groups of students and agrees that the funds spent on staff should be considered temporary through the grant period and not be considered as permanent positions. Ms. Bartlett would like to see the money be used for temporary positions to help students with learning loss. Mrs. Moriarty stated that the ESSER funds will be ending on September 30 of 2024. Ms. Starmer asked about how the schools are addressing learning loss in the schools. Mrs. Moriarty stated that the only ESSER funded positions for 21/22 are a high school mathematics teacher at the Middle/High School specifically for grade 9 to address the learning loss from when they were in grade 7 and the schedule was altered to limit potential exposures to COVID, and a part-time literacy teacher for the high school level. Mrs. Moriarty shared that the School District is working to address learning loss through current staff at the elementary level through the implementation of targeted literacy support which has been extended to grades 7 and 8. The targeted literacy support is supported through a professional literacy consultant who provides professional support; the School District has leveraged entitlement grants to fund this support. Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the other ESSER funds used to date and discussed through the budget process the addition of 0.5 FTE in guidance was supported; also, previously, through half grant funds and half School District funds access to a school psychologist was increased to 2.0 FTE in the School District. Additionally, Mrs. Moriarty indicated that the School Board had supported carrying funds forward in the approximate amount of \$115,000 to partner with Growing Roots to increase access to licensed mental health workers.

Ms. Dodge, Director of Student Services, spoke about how the schools are looking at each individual case manager's case load, not just by number but what are the students' needs. Mr. Bryant, Principal of ILES, spoke to how ILES is accessing Title I to assist with addressing learning loss. Mr. Hillger, Principal of SCS, thanked the School Board for the increase in guidance and noted that it has helped students. Dr. Downing, Principal of ILM/HS, discussed changes made to the school schedule to benefit the students including office hours. Mrs. Moriarty spoke to how the district is working hard to close the gaps in learning loss; she shared that in summer 2020 Summer School was 6 weeks long; in summer 2021 it was 5 weeks long and due to fatigue for learners and staff, summer 2022 returned to the typical format of 3 weeks long. Also, discussed was that there are School District funds to support tutoring, some of which has been accessed to date. Mrs. Moriarty did state that there is learning loss and that all staff are working very hard to close the gaps. Mrs. Starmer thanked everyone for sharing and for their efforts to address the needs of students. Mr. Cunningham

brought up part time kindergarten in Sandwich and provided a historical reference that at the time it was a preference from the Sandwich community.

Mr. Hanson moved, seconded by Mr. Porter-Zuckerman to approve using ESSER III funds to fund the Ventilation Project for the \$748,000 plan as presented. The motion carried 5-0. Mr. Hanson indicated that perhaps the remaining funds might be able to be used to address some of the issues discussed during the meeting and through the feedback.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request from the class of 2023

Carson Sleeper, Treasurer for the Class of 2023, requested \$10,000 for the class. Mr. Sleeper explained that the pandemic negatively affected the Class's ability to fundraise and because of that, the Class of 2023 has requested \$10,000 to support senior year related activities. Discussion ensued regarding that the Class will need to expend their Class funds before accessing these funds; the School District funds will have to meet School District purchasing requirements and will be accessed through a Purchase Order; any unspent School District funds stay with the School District. The Class was reminded that any Class Funds, if left, need to travel with the Class and do not remain with the Student Activities Accounts.

Mr. Porter-Zuckerman moved, seconded by Mr. Hanson, to approve the \$10,000 request from the Class of 2023 as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

B. Donations

Mrs. Moriarty explained that a generous donation in the amount of \$50,000 in memory of Catherine "Taffy" McGuigan is being made to Inter-Lakes Elementary School. The School Board will need to approve accepting the funds, then, Mr. Bryant, Principal ILES, will work to develop a plan for the use of funds and the plan will need to be approved by the School Board. A piece of playground equipment may be considered and whatever the decision, a plaque will be included to acknowledge Mrs. McGuigan's memory and the generous donation from her Husband's estate.

Mr. Bryant, Principal ILES, shared the following about Catherine "Taffy" McGuigan: Mrs. Catherine "Taffy" McGuigan grew up in Concord NH, graduated from Concord High School, went to Plymouth Teacher's College graduated in 1955 with a Degree in Elementary Education and taught 2 years in Warner, NH, before accepting a position in the Inter-Lakes School District in the fall of 1957. Mrs. McGuigan began at the Lang Street School, taught over 30 years in the School District in the primary grades as well as in the readiness and special education programs; substituted many years after retirement. Mr. Bryant shared from Mrs. McGuigan's own words: *The ultimate pleasure comes from working with the children; it is true that one does touch the future when one teaches. I am pleased and proud to have been part of so many young lives. I have taught the children of the children of the past and I felt privileged to go full circle I thank you for the sincerity and the hard work*

you endeavored to keep our school safe and positive learning environments. I thank you for establishing an environment that allows one to teach proudly in this environment. Mr. Bryant thanked Mr. Norman McGuigan’s estate for providing the donation in honor of Mrs. McGuigan.

Additionally, Mr. Hanson and Mr. Cunningham shared accolades for Mrs. McGuigan and her student-centered nature. Mr. Porter-Zuckerman moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to approve the \$50,000 donation in Catherine “Taffy” McGuigan’s honor with gratitude. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Hanson moved, seconded by Mr. Porter-Zuckerman, to approve accepting with gratitude the following donations: Vending Machine and Inventory from the Meredith Rotary Club for Inter-Lakes Elementary School in the amount of \$7,830 and the Donation of \$400 from the Sandwich Fair Association for the Inter-Lakes Middle/High School Band’s participation at the Sandwich Fair. The motion carried 5-0.

X. POLICY

A. Policy #5119 (JFA), Admission Requirements for Students Entering or Transferring into the Inter-Lakes School District, Policy Public Impact Information to Share

Mrs. Moriarty explained that the School Board approved changes to this Policy at the last School Board meeting. Due to transitions in the SAU Office, a Policy Public Impact Form was received and did not get included at the time of the decision. Discussion ensued and the Policy and Impact Form are being returned to the Policy Committee for consideration.

XI. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

A. Members of the Board None

B. Members of the Administration None

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT – Chair Merrill closed public comments at 6:50 p.m.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Inter-Lakes School Board @ Humiston Building – Conference Room

- Regular School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

B. Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Inter-Lakes School Board @ Humiston Building – Conference Room

- Regular School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

XIV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE FOR THE BOARD

Mr. Paolo Cao, Student Representative, updated the School Board on news throughout Inter-Lakes Middle/High School. The Lakerbots won the Governor’s Cup Award and FBLA won 3rd place in the Gold Seal Chapter at the recent Fall Leadership Conference. Mr. Cao reported on three upcoming playoff games taking place for the week of

10/24/22. Mr. Cao shared that the 8th grade traveled to Boston, Massachusetts to walk the Freedom Trail. Lastly, the Middle/High School will be hosting guest speaker, Jack Potvin, who is an Accomplished Entrepreneur and Technology Executive.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Porter-Zuckerman moved, seconded by Mr. Hanson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted.

Mary Moriarty
Recording Secretary Pro-Tem