

**Lamoille North Supervisory Union and
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District Board
Minutes of Meeting
June 10, 2024**

Board Members Present: Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet; Cambridge: Mark Stebbins, Denise Webster, Amy Listenik, Jan Sander, Susan Prescott; Nancy Guyette; Hyde Park: Patty Hayford, Lisa Jones, Philip Kiely, Tina Lowe; Johnson: Allen Audette, Katie Audette, Monica Stearns, Kiley Hill, Mark Nielsen; Waterville: Bart Bezio

Board Members Absent: Eden: David Whitcomb, Jeff Hunsberger

Administrators Present: Catherine Gallagher, Deb Clark, Michele Aumand, Valerie Sullivan, Paula Beattie, Erik Remmers, Diane Reilly, Jan Epstein, Dylan Laflam, Betzi Goodman, David Manning, Maria Davies, Blake Nemeth, Cole Hayes, Rene Thibault, Thomas Galinat, Jessica Bickford, Abigail Lanphear, other members of the public.

Minute Taker: Michele Aumand, Sue Trainor

Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment: Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Gallagher asked that "Approval of LNSU and Member Schools' Continuous Improvement Plans" discussion and possible action, be added to the agenda. Sander made a motion, seconded by Bezio, to approve the amended agenda. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

LNSU/LN MUUSD Routine Business: Consent Agenda Items

LNSU/LN MUUSD Special Board Meeting Minutes, May 13 and May 20, 2024; Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes, May 17 and May 30, 2024: Kiely made a motion, seconded by Bezio, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Orders: Bezio asked that the Board approve the April 11, 2024 through May 9, 2024 Board Orders. Jones made a motion, seconded by Kiely, to approve the Board Orders. The motion passed unanimously.

Appeal of In-District Transfer Request: Webster requested a motion, seconded by Hayford, to enter into Executive Session to discuss a confidential student matter. The Board invited the guardian(s), Gallagher, Clark, and Beattie to attend. The Board went into Executive Session at 6:07 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:17 p.m. K. Audette made a motion to deny the in-district transfer request so as not to set a precedent under the in-district transfer policy, seconded by Kiely. The motion passed with Cambridge members abstaining.

DEIA Presentation: Maria Davies shared that the presentation outlined the teams working on diversity, equity and inclusion. Learning about different cultures fostered a deeper understanding of the needs and differences of all learners. This academic year they have been working on making the school communities more welcoming, more equitable, and more inclusive.

The document/guide being used by teachers in classroom situations was reviewed by students, teachers, community partners and the community at large. The approach to be used with students was restorative in practice and proactive rather than reactive. Reilly explained that the document had been very helpful to her school during some incidents there. Manning and Epstein outlined how they had used the document. Manning explained it was a very good tool to use in having an equitable process because there was a common language and consequences used in dealing with a situation.

Johnson Library Project Update: Laflam stated that we are getting closer to having a quitclaim deed ready to sign for the town of Johnson's requisition of the property on the North West side of George Hill Road for the purpose of moving the town library. We are hoping that at the next board meeting to have all our permits and the quitclaim deed ready to move forward and have the board vote on and if approved signed. Orost asked where the town was with the grant for moving the library, Laflam deferred to Thomas Galinat, Johnson's town administrator. Galinat spoke about the funding and that they were working on different pots of money to get the project moved forward regardless of whether or not they receive the grant.

CHILL Video: Reilly explained that Burton Snowboards offered six weeks of snowboarding lessons to students. They provided all equipment, clothing, helmets, and lunch. They offered character and confidence building activities as well. Cambridge and Hyde Park schools participated together. The video was a compilation of students explaining their experience of participating in the CHILL Program. They urged that the schools continue to offer the program. Reilly stated that almost all of the 6th grade students participated.

Approval of LNSU and Member Schools' Continuous Improvement Plans: This document was required to have two goals, one around safe and healthy schools and the other about academic achievement, and reported to the State bi-annually. The goal for the next two years for the safe and healthy school was an equity goal, helping the adults in the building recognize and address inequities in the building. This would include instruction and training for the staff. Last year's academic achievement goals included creating an aligned curriculum and identify the goals and expectations of the K-12 students in the content area and the next two years would be instructional design for that content area and proficiency-based learning. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Continuous Improvement Plan and the school-based goals. The motion passed unanimously.

FY25 Subgrant Agreements: Clark explained that all federal grants came into the LNSU and then were distributed to the districts. Clark asked for a motion for the Supervisory Union to accept the fiduciary responsibility and subgrant to LNMUUSD and Cambridge Elementary School. A motion was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Clark then asked for a motion that the LNMUUSD enter into a subgrant agreement with LNSU to receive and subgrant out federal funds accordingly. The motion was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

LNMUUSD FY25 Tax Anticipation Note(s) Timing Update: Clark reported they were still in the 30-day certification period after the successful passing of the budget. Therefore, on June 21st, Clark would send an RFP to the banks for tax anticipation borrowing. Clark was hoping to have quotes back to her no later than July 3rd. Clark hoped to have a special meeting on July 8th to award the tax anticipation borrowing for FY25. Board members approved a special meeting on July 8th.

Review and Award Student Bus Transportation Contract FY25-FY27: Clark stated they received one bid from Lamoille Valley Transportation for \$1,155,850. This was an overall increase of less than 1% and was significantly below budget. Kiely made a motion, seconded by Bezio, to approve the contract. The motion passed unanimously.

Review Dental Insurance Set-Aside and Employee Share: Clark reported they were self-insured for the dental program. Employees with family coverage contribute to the plan. There had not been an increase in the set-aside for over ten years. Clark thought it was time to adjust that set-aside by 10%. Clark explained that what they were looking at for the covered employees was to go from \$516 a year for their share to \$556 a year. This was anywhere from \$1.96 a pay period to \$2.43 a pay period depending on 21 or 26 pay periods a year. Additionally, there had already been a 5.8% increase and this

would be on top of that. K. Audette made a motion to approve an increase on the set-aside. The motion was seconded by Sander. The motion passed unanimously.

Non-Represented Personnel Salary Increases: Clark stated the recommendation was that the overall increase of 3.75% comprehensive increase be adopted. Sander made a motion for a comprehensive 3.75% increase for non-represented personnel, seconded by Sweet. The motion passed with Cambridge members abstaining.

LNSU Substitute Pay Rate: Clark reported that substitutes were non-union employees. Sander made a motion to change the substitute rate to \$22 an hour, effective July 1, 2024, seconded by Stebbins. The motion passed with Sweet and Bezio abstaining.

Other Business: Gallagher reported that due to the open meeting law, there must be an audio or video of all meetings.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.