

TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

ATKINSON, DANVILLE, PLAISTOW, SANDOWN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2012

Regular Meeting - 7:30 PM

SAU Office Plaistow, New Hampshire

Dr. Earl Metzler, II, Superintendent
Winfried Feneberg, Asst. Superintendent

Robert Collins, Chair
Lori Aubrey, Vice Chair

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order – Chair**
2. **Roll Call – Clerk**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. September 20, 2012 (public and nonpublic)
 - b. October 4, 2012 (public)
 - c. October 11, 2012 (joint meeting)
5. **Delegations or Individuals**
6. **Current Business**
 - a. Puerto Rico Trip Request – ACTION REQUIRED (10 minutes)
 - b. Common Core Update – ACTION (20 minutes)
 - c. School Board Goals – ACTION REQUIRED (15 minutes)
 - d. Policies – ACTION REQUIRED (5 minutes)
 - e. NHSBA Resolutions – INFORMATIONAL (10 minutes)
7. **Administrator’s Report**
 - a. Update on School Activities – INFORMATIONAL
8. **Personnel Report**
9. **Committee Report/Reports of the School Board**
10. **Correspondence Folder**
11. **Vendor and Payroll Registers**
12. **Other Business**
 - a. Non-public (if needed)
13. **Future Dates**

DATE	MEETING TYPE	LOCATION	TIME
October 24	SAU Board Meeting (work session)	SAU	7:00 pm
November 1	Regular School Board Meeting	SAU	7:30 pm
November 14	SAU Board Meeting (public hearing)	SAU	7:00 pm
November 15	Regular School Board Meeting	Danville	7:30 pm
December 6	Regular School Board Meeting	SAU	7:30 pm
December 20	Regular School Board Meeting	SAU	7:30 pm
January 3	Regular School Board Meeting	SAU	7:30 pm
January 8	Deadline for Citizen’s Petition	SAU	4:00 pm
January 10	Public Hearing on Budget	PAC	7:00 pm
January 17	Regular School Board Meeting	SAU	7:30 pm

The MISSION of the Timberlane Regional School District is to engage all students in challenging and relevant learning opportunities, emphasizing high aspirations and personal growth.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

To: *Timberlane Regional School Board Members*
From: *Dr. Earl Metzler, Superintendent of Schools*
Date: *October 12, 2012*
Re: *Administrator's Report for October 18, 2012 School Board Meeting*

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1-,3. OPEN MEETING

Self-explanatory.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Three sets: September 20, 2012 public & nonpublic, October 4, 2012 public

5. DELEGATION OR INDIVIDUALS

6. CURRENT BUSINESS

a. Montreal Trip Request – 10 minutes

Amy O'Leary to request permission to offer field trip to Puerto Rico in the spring. Requesting permission to take students on overnight trip pursuant to policy IJOA. ACTION

b. Common Core Update – 20 minutes

Dr. Metzler to present workshop schedule on Common Core and Assessments for board approval. ACTION

c. School Board Goals – 15 minutes

Chairman Collins to discuss school board goals, specifically Section 5 – Retreat. ACTION

d. Policies – 5 minutes

Michael Mascola to present two policies for second reading and adoption. KFB – Assaults on School Property and JRS – Student Education Records and Information. See policy BGB. ACTION

e. NHSBA Proposed 2013 Resolutions – 10 minutes

Board to finalize any proposed additions to resolutions from NHSBA. ACTION

7-9. REPORTS

7. Administrator's Report – Dr. Metzler to present

a. Update on happenings and activities with each of the district schools

8. Personnel Report – Mr. Metzler to present (if needed)

9. Committee Reports and Reports of the School Board

10. CORRESPONDENCE

11. VENDOR AND PAYROLL REGISTERS

12. OTHER BUSINESS

Non-public (if needed)

13. FUTURE DATES

UPCOMING REGULAR MEETING AGENDAS

*This information is provided for informational purposes only. Agenda items are subject to change.
The official agenda will be distributed one week prior to its scheduled meeting.*

November 1, 2012	
Policies	<i>First Reading</i>
Assessment	<i>Tentative</i>
Public Hearing on Donation	<i>Atkinson Academy shade structure \$8,500 & \$6,000 Pollard PTA</i>
Family/School/Community Engagement Proposal	
Budget Update	

November 15, 2012 – on location at Danville Elementary	
Policies	<i>Second Reading</i>
Common Core Standards	<i>Tentative</i>
Standards-Based Report Card Update	<i>Following end of 1st quarter</i>
Present awards for Education Week Contest	<i>Dr. Metzler</i>
Department Report	<i>Danville Elementary (hold/TBD)</i>
Budget Update	

December 6, 2012	
Policies	<i>First Reading</i>
Budget/Warrant Update	

Back-Burner List

Committee Self-Evaluations	<i>Waiting on online evaluation/results</i>
Standards-based Report Card	<i>11/15, 2/7, 4/18, & 6/20</i>

October 11, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I will be traveling with 7 students to Puerto Rico, February 23-28, 2013. The student cost is \$1,895 and includes airfare and traveling on the island, hotel accommodations, entrance fees and most meals. Students are required to purchase insurance so that they are fully insured for trip cancellation; travel delay, medical expenses, and emergency assistance and lost baggage (see <http://studentslovetravel.com/support>.)

We are using the same travel company, "Students love travel" as we did with the past two trips to Spain (2011 and 2012), however this trip is geared for students who want a more adventurous experience as I am trying to appeal to students who like to actively participate while learning about the culture and speaking Spanish. Although another school is going on the trip at the same time, the Timberlane students and I will be considered our own separate group. I have attached the itinerary and the student code of conduct. For more information about the company, please refer to the company website and <http://studentslovetravel.com/destinations/itineraries/puertorico>.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Amy C. O'Leary

Spanish Teacher,

World Language Department Lead Teacher

San Juan, Ponce & Vieques SVI, 6 Days

The Caribbean island of Puerto Rico with its awe-inspiring geographic features, deep history, world cuisine, authentic Spanish language and culture, and of course warm turquoise water is one of our favorite destinations, and because of it's so close to us it's exceptionally affordable.

Our Puerto Rico trip is a wild six day eco-adventure trip that introduces you to San Juan and then takes you to Ponce on the southern coast to explore the Rainforests and Karst regions of the island, and from Ponce we head to the remote island of Vieques off the eastern coast.

For safety reasons our eco-adventure trips are limited to very small groups of students with a moderate to high level of fitness, we will be hiking and climbing for extended periods on steep inclines over loose scree, slippery roots, and through waist high pools of water. We will be ziplining, climbing with ropes, plunging into swimholes, kayaking at night, and riding horses. If this is your speed then you will have a lifetime of memories, some great pictures, and you'll want to come back again and again.

Day 1 | Welcome to Old San Juan

- Morning flight to San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Private shuttle transfer to hotel
- Navigation workshop followed by an exploration of Old San Juan
 - Fortaleza San Filipe del Morro
 - Plaza de San José
 - Plaza del Inmigrante
 - Paseo de la Princesa
 - Catedral de San Juan Bautista
- Explore Castillo de San Cristóbal
 - Entrance Gate
 - Plaza de Armas
 - Garita del Diablo
 - North and the Main Battery
 - Chapel
 - Ordóñez Cannon
 - Barracks
 - Great Moat
 - Extensive Tunnels
- Kickoff Dinner on the waterfront at Tijuana
- Free time with chaperones

Day 2 | Puerto Rico Road Trip

- Early breakfast at hotel and board private shuttle
- Visit Arecibo Observatory
 - World's largest radio telescope
- Visit Parque de las Cavernas del Río Camuy
 - Lunch
 - Tres Pueblo Sinkhole
 - Cueva Clara del Elpalma
 - Río Camuy
 - Tiano Pictographs
 - Dripstone Formations
 - Bats and Tarantulas
- Visit recently restored Hacienda Buena Vista coffee mill and plantation

- Guided tour explaining all aspects of growing and processing coffee
- Corn grinding process of the last century
- Demonstration of the last remaining Barker Hydraulic Turbine in the world
- Arrive in Ponce on the south coast of Puerto Rico
- Navigation workshop followed by an exploration of Ponce
 - Plaza Las Delicias
 - King's Cream
 - Cathedral de Nuestra Señora de la Guadalupe
 - Museo Antiguo Parque de Bombas
 - Casa Armstrong Proventud
 - Casa de la Masacre de Ponce
 - Teatro La Perla
- Dinner at El Rincon Argentino
- Free time with chaperones

Day 3 | Rainforest & Salsa

- Early breakfast at hotel
- Board shuttle for trip into Toro Negro Rainforest
- Rainforest Hiking Ascent
 - Rainforest ecology lessons
 - Climbing on slippery and uneven terrain
 - Jumping into plunge pools and swimming holes
 - Wading through moving water, scrambling over wet rocks and through sticky mud
 - Climbing waterfalls with ropes, helmets, and harnesses
- Authentic Home-cooked Puerto Rican Lunch
- Rainforest Zipline Descent
 - Up to six ziplines!
(Affected by weather conditions, pace of the group during morning hike, and zipline competence)
- Return to Ponce, clean up at hotel
- Free time with chaperones
- Professional Salsa lessons
- Dinner

Restrictions

You will be provided with a climbing helmet, harness and zipline system. Due to size restrictions of harnesses and other vertical equipment we cannot accommodate people weighing over 230lbs and/or bigger than 38 inch waist.

Day 4 | Tibes & Vieques

- Early Breakfast at hotel and board private shuttle
- Guided tour of Centro Ceremonial Indígena de Tibes
 - Zemis
 - Petroglyphs

- Bateyes
- Pottery and Ceramics
- Cemetery
- Botanical Gardens
- Replica village
- Star-shaped plaza
- Fast ferry to the Vieques, SVI (Spanish Virgin Islands)
- Introduction to Publico sytem and transfer to Esperanza
- Exploration of Esperanza
- Dinner

Day 5 | Horse Riding, Beaches & Night Kakaking

- Breakfast in Esperanza
- Horse Riding
 - Ride through the hills, open meadows, woods, river bottoms and beaches of the Esperanza area
 - Head west through La Hueca strolling down a few different beaches, inspecting the old Navy bunkers and visiting historic sugar mill ruins
- Lunch
- Student Choice
 - Relax in Esperanza
 - Visit Isabel Segunda
 - Visit Green Beach
 - Visit Blue Beach
- Dinner
- Student Choice
 - Puerto Moquito (the brightest bio-bay in the world)
 - Mangroves

Restrictions

You will be riding a Vieques Paso horse. Due to the small stature of the Vieques Paso horse, there is a weight restriction of 225lbs.

Day 6 | ¡Adiós, Puerto Rico!

- Fast ferry to Fajardo, PR
- Board shuttle for transfer to San Juan Airport
- Flight Home

TEACHERS TRAVEL

www.teacherslovetravel.com

Student Code of Conduct

Cooperation

You will cooperate with the Group Director and your Chaperone and honor rules that they set for you (e.g, curfews, punctuality, behavior on flights, in hotels or restaurants).

Buddy Up

Outside your hotel, at all times, you will accompany at least one other group member.

Personal Appearance

You will dress and act appropriately at all times and be sensitive to the impression you are conveying in a culture other than your own; you will refrain from acquiring any tattoo or body piercing.

Prohibited Substances

You will not accept, transport, or use alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

Behavior

You will refrain from romantic or sexual involvement of any kind.

Motorized Vehicles

You will not operate any motorized vehicle, or be a passenger on any motorcycle.

Early Departure

If your attitude or behavior is detrimental to the group and you repeatedly disregard teacher instructions you may be sent home before the end of the trip at the expense of your parent/guardian. All efforts to resolve the conflict, including a collect phone call to your parent/guardian, will be made prior to sending you home.

Teachers Love Travel LLC

Post Office Box 1025 | Portsmouth, NH 03802 | 603.722.0603

SCHOOL BOARD GOALS

2012-2013

The MISSION of the Timberlane Regional School District is to engage all students in challenging and relevant learning opportunities, emphasizing high aspirations and personal growth.

1 Standards & Assessment Understanding

- 1.1 Standards and/or instruction are to be presented to the Board at least once every calendar month for at least 20 minutes beginning September 2012.
- 1.2 Assessments are to be presented to the Board at least once every calendar month for at least 20 minutes beginning September 2012.

2 Community Involvement and Engagement

- 2.1 The Board will form at least one citizens committee in the next 12 months for advisory purposes.
- 2.2 The Board will work with the Superintendent and other appropriate stakeholders to examine the district's current family, school, and community engagement practices. (Completion date: February 2013)
- 2.3 After completion of goals item 2.2, the Board will work with the Superintendent and other appropriate stakeholders to develop a plan to integrate family, school, and community engagement into the district wide strategy for student success. (Completion date: May 2013)

3 Capital Improvement Plan

- 3.1 The Board will review, adjust and implement the Capital Improvement Plan in the next six months.

4 Public Relations

- 4.1 The Board will work with appropriate stakeholders to create and implement a "Communication Plan" for the District in the next six months.
- 4.2 The Board will work with appropriate stakeholders to publish a "District Report Card" in the next three months.
- 4.3 The Board will work with appropriate stakeholders in the consideration of using a public relations firm.
- 4.4 The board will encourage administrators in the district to be proactive regarding information for parents, such as email alerts, and avoid saying, "It's on the website."

5 Retreat

- 5.1 The Board and Superintendent will attend a retreat by the end of January 2013 for the purposes of general discussion regarding improvement of our School District.

Robert Collins, Chair
Lori Aubrey, Vice Chair
Timberlane Regional School Board
Adopted September 20, 2012

TIMBERLANE POLICY COMMITTEE

SECOND READING / ADOPTION

1. KFB – Assaults on School Property
 - a. Last updated in 1998
 - b. No language updates required
 - c. Recommend affirming
2. JRA – Student Education Records and Information
 - a. Last updated in 1991
 - b. New language required by FERPA laws (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
 - c. Language drafted by district counsel in accordance with federal law
 - d. A procedure to this policy will be approved by the Policy Committee once the policy is adopted by the Board

Timberlane Regional School District	Policy Code: KFB
Adopted: 10-13-98 Re-affirmed:	Page 1 of 1

ASSAULTS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

It is the policy of the Board of Education to encourage the prosecution of any person who commits assault, battery, or assault and battery upon the person of a school employee or student or threatens and places an employee or student of the public schools in immediate fear of bodily harm while the employee or student is in the performance of his duties as a school or student.

“School employee” is hereby defined to include any duly appointed person or employee of a firm contracting with a school system for any purpose, including personnel not directly related to the teaching process and including School Board members during School Board meetings.

Statutory Reference:
RSA 571-C:2

Timberlane Regional School District	Policy Code: JRA
Adopted: 06-06-91 Revised:	Page 1 of 4

NOTE: This sample reflects changes made to the FERPA regulations through 2011. All notes should be deleted before the policy is adopted.

STUDENT EDUCATION RECORDS AND INFORMATION

The Timberlane Regional School District shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") and all other federal and state laws and regulations concerning confidentiality and maintenance of student records and information.

NOTE: Drummond Woodsum generally recommends that school districts restrict directory information to the categories listed in Paragraph A. Schools may adopt a shorter listing of categories of information. FERPA regulations include the following additional categories that may be included at their discretion (but we recommend discussing this with legal counsel first): student address, telephone listing, e-mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, grade level, most recent educational agency or institution attended, and student ID number or other unique identifier other than a Social Security number (but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access directly to education records without one or more factors such as a password).

A. Directory Information

The Timberlane Regional School District designates the following student information as directory information: name, participation and grade level of students in recognized activities and sports, height and weight of student athletes, dates of attendance in the school district, honors and awards received, and photographs and videos of student participation in school activities open to the public. The Timberlane Regional School District may disclose directory information if it has provided notice to parents (and eligible students) and has not received timely written notice refusing permission to designate such information as directory information.

NOTE: The FERPA regulations were revised in late 2011 to permit school districts to limit the disclosure of directory information to specific parties or for specific purposes, or both. This may be something that local Boards want to consider. We suggest consulting with legal counsel about appropriate language. In addition, school districts should keep in mind that the federal Protection of Pupil Rights Act limits the collection and disclosure of student information for most commercial purposes, and Boards should have a policy that addresses this (ILD – Student Surveys and Marketing Information). Let us know if you need a sample.

B. Military Recruiters/Higher Education Access to Information

Timberlane Regional School District	Policy Code: JRA
Adopted: 06-06-91 Revised:	Page 2 of 4

Under federal law, military recruiters and institutions of higher education are entitled to receive the names, addresses and telephone numbers of secondary students and the Timberlane Regional School District must comply with any such request, provided that parents have been notified that they and secondary school students have the right to request that this information not be released without their prior written consent.

C. Health or Safety Emergencies

In accordance with federal regulations, the School District may disclose education records in a health or safety emergency without prior written consent to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

D. Transfer of Student Records

The Timberlane Regional School District sends student education records to a school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled, if the school, school system, or institution or postsecondary education has requested the records, so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. Such records include, but are not limited to, grades and report cards, disciplinary records, attendance records, special education records and health records.

NOTE: Local Boards that want to be able to disclose student education records to school resource officers or their local police district should include the following paragraph in this policy. We also recommend that local Boards adopt a policy on relationships with law enforcement or, if the school unit has SROs, a policy on relationships with SROs and law enforcement.

E. Designation of Law Enforcement Unit

The Board hereby designates [choose one of the following options: its School Resource Officer(s) OR Timberlane Regional Police Department] as the Timberlane Regional School District's law enforcement unit.

F. Administrative Procedures and Notices

The Superintendent is responsible for developing and implementing any administrative procedures and parent notices necessary to comply with the applicable laws and regulations concerning student education records and information. Notices shall be distributed annually to parents and eligible students concerning their rights under these laws and regulations. A copy of this policy shall be posted in each school.

Timberlane Regional School District	Policy Code: JRA
Adopted: 06-06-91 Revised:	Page 3 of 4

*Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99, as amended
20 U.S.C. § 7908
RSA 189:1-e, 193-D:8, 194:31-a
N.H. Code of Administrative Rules Ed 1119*

*Cross Reference: JRA-E – Annual Notice of Student Education Records and Information Rights
JRA-R – Student Education Records and Information Administrative Procedure
ILD – Student Surveys and Marketing Information
EHB – Records Retention Policy*

STUDENT RECORDS

~~The School Board is intent upon maintaining an adequate individual student record system designed to benefit the education of every student and to assist school staff in this process.~~

~~It is the responsibility of school personnel to collect and maintain data to assure such benefit and data required by statute and/or State Department regulations. This data shall be presented in a format which meets the needs of the student. Emphasis is placed upon accuracy in reporting.~~

~~Where the parents of a student are separated or divorced, or for some other reason the student is not in the joint custody of both of his parents, information concerning the student shall be disclosed to both natural parents or persons having legal custody of the student, and to a person having written authority from the legal custodian of the student.~~

~~Student records are to be kept in the custody of the principal of the school the child attends and may not be transferred outside the district without written permission of the parent in accordance with state and federal laws.~~

~~An eligible student and his/her parent, or either one, as applicable, shall have access to the student record, and may have copies of any information in the record payment of a reasonable fee. Authorized school personnel shall have access the student records. Except for Directory Information released in accordance with state guidelines, no information in a student record shall be disseminated with the specific informed written consent of the eligible student and his/her parent, or either one, as applicable. A log shall be kept to record the dissemination of any information in the student record.~~

~~The eligible student and his/her parent, or either one, as applicable, shall have the right to add information or other relevant material to the record. They shall have the right to request deletion or amendment of any information in the record which is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's rights to privacy under the Buckley Amendment. The principal, or his designee, will make a decision which may be appealed first to the Superintendent and then to the School Board.~~

Timberlane Regional School District	Policy Code: JRA
Adopted: 06-06-91 Revised:	Page 4 of 4

~~If a parent or legal guardian wishes to review his/her child's school records, he must complete the appropriate forms available at the guidance office. The counselor will then supervise the gathering of records and meet with the parents to review the contents. The parent/guardian must give a minimum of 5 days notice before reviewing records.~~

Appendix JRA-R



New Hampshire School Boards Association

N H S B A
NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHOOL BOARDS
ASSOCIATION
Incorporated 1946

Proposed
Resolution
for Consideration
by the
2013 NHSBA
Delegate Assembly

Please duplicate this form to allow for submission of each proposed Resolution on a separate form.

Deadline for Submission to NHSBA: October 22, 2012

The _____ School Board submits the following proposed Resolution for Consideration at the 2013 NHSBA Delegate Assembly:

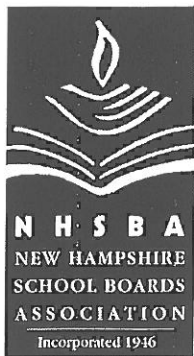
RATIONALE: (Please limit your rationale statement to the space provided, single-spaced, typewritten. This is a required part of the process of submitting a Resolution for consideration by the 2013 *NHSBA* Delegate Assembly. This rationale statement will be presented to the Assembly with the proposed Resolution and the recommendation of the *NHSBA* Board of Directors.)

Signature of School Board Chair

Date

Please remember that proposed Resolutions must be submitted by a majority vote of the local member School Board, not by individual members of the School Board or members of the school district staff.

For additional information, please contact:
Theodore E. Comstock, Executive Director and General Counsel
New Hampshire School Boards Association
25 Triangle Park • Suite 101 • Concord, NH 03301
Telephone: 603/228-2061 • NH Toll Free: 1-800/272-0653 • Fax: 603/228-2351
Web Site: <http://www.nhsba.org> eMail: sklesq@aol.com



Phone: (603) 228-2061
or (800) 272-0653
Fax: (603) 228-2351

<http://www.nhsba.org>

Board of Directors

Christian Lund
President, Mascenic Regional

John Widmer
1st Vice-President, Gov. Wentworth Regional

Dr. Anthony Pastelis
2nd Vice-President, Rochester

Ross Deachman
Immediate Past President, Pemi-Baker Regional

"CALL" FOR NHSBA RESOLUTIONS

To: All School Board Chairs
All Superintendents

From: Theodore Comstock, Executive Director

Date: September 17, 2012

Note: This mailing is being distributed to Superintendents and School Board Chairs only. It is also available via the NHSBA web site www.nhsba.org. Please duplicate and disseminate to other members of the school board.

Does your school board have a resolution NHSBA should consider?

Any successes that we realize in the Legislature are due to the participation of our membership throughout the year. It begins with the collection of proposed resolutions in the fall for eventual consideration at our annual Delegate Assembly in January. Proposed resolutions are submitted to the NHSBA Board of Directors for review and recommendations. These suggestions then go to the Delegate Assembly for final action.

NHSBA's positions on major education legislative and regulatory matters are directed by the Official Resolutions adopted by our Delegate Assembly each year. The process of adopting Resolutions is always a major part of our Delegate Assembly (scheduled for January 12, 2013) and represents one of the most important activities of our Association for the entire year.

The purpose of this memorandum is two-fold. First, this is to be considered the "official call" for Resolution proposals from our member School Boards. All member Boards are encouraged to submit proposals for consideration by the Delegate Assembly. Resolution proposals can cover any education topic viewed as appropriate by the School Board and are generally stated as:

NHSBA supports ... or NHSBA opposes...

The Resolution can be directed toward the State Legislature, Congress, the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education, the Association itself, or others as you deem appropriate. Resolutions may be proposed by majority vote of a member School Board, but not by an individual member(s) of a School Board, non-member School Boards, or any School District or SAU staff member.

Executive Director
Dr. Theodore E. Comstock
sklesq@aol.com
NH School Boards Association
25 Triangle Park Drive, Suite 101
Concord, NH 03301

Please be as clear and concise as possible with the wording of your resolution so the intent, as well as the requested action, is understandable. The attached form, using appropriate format, should be used to provide the resolution as well as a brief rationale or explanation of the purpose of the resolution.

All proposed Resolutions must be returned to NHSBA by October 22, 2012 for review by the NHSBA Board of Directors. The proposals, including the Board of Directors' recommendation for action on each proposal, will be redistributed in total to all member districts for review at least 30 days prior to the Delegate Assembly. This will allow ample time for Boards to discuss all proposed Resolutions and give direction to the Board's Delegate to the Delegate Assembly on how to vote on a given proposal.

Remember, proposed resolutions must be received in the NHSBA office no later than October 22, 2012.

The second purpose of this memorandum is to provide you with a copy of the NHSBA current set of Resolutions as adopted by the 2012 Delegate Assembly (see attached) and the 2012 NHSBA Policies, Resolutions and Statements of Belief Manual. We encourage you to review the enclosed materials to see whether the subject matter of a resolution that you contemplate submitting is already covered by existing resolutions. This will save you time, and you can then be assured that your idea for a new resolution has already been addressed by actions of previous delegate assemblies. The subject matter (e.g. funding, governance, etc.) of the enclosed resolutions are categorized for your easy reference.

Feel free to call me if you have any questions about the Resolution's adoption process or on any proposed Resolution you may be considering. NHSBA staff is always ready to help your board get the issues of importance to you on NHSBA's agenda. Don't hesitate to call us.

I cannot over-emphasize the importance of this activity to the direction of NHSBA in the year ahead. I hope you consider this a very high priority. It really is important!

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

New Hampshire School Boards Association

Resolutions for 2012

Adopted by the 2012 **NHSBA** Delegate Assembly – January 14, 2012

Education Funding:

1. **NHSBA** opposes legislation that would directly or indirectly divert state costs or responsibilities to local school districts, including unfunded state aid programs (e.g. catastrophic aid and building aid), and the state share of retirement contributions. (2011)

Local Control and School District Autonomy:

2. **NHSBA** supports new legislation or administrative rules that impose penalties against school district employees who breach their employment contracts. (2011)
3. **NHSBA** opposes any branch of New Hampshire government adopting or supporting curriculum standards that usurp state's rights and de-emphasize and limit local control of curriculum and local school board oversight. (2011)
4. The **NHSBA** supports legislation to allow local school districts to retain a percentage of their year-end unreserved fund balance in the same manner as local municipal governments. (2011)

School Safety:

5. **NHSBA** supports legislative action to remove the unfunded mandated provisions of RSA 193-F, Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention. The imposition of these new mandates and their related financial costs, without additional state funding, violates the New Hampshire Constitution, Part First, Article 28-a. (2011)

Public Pension System:

6. **NHSBA** supports the continuing existence of the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS). The NHRS should be strong, secure, solvent, and fiscally

sustainable. To achieve this goal, NHSBA supports legislation that will strengthen NHRS's solvency, including legislation to change how an employee's average final compensation is determined. NHSBA supports a calculation using an average of the highest five years for all employees retiring after July 1, 2016. NHSBA further supports legislation requiring that all NHRS rate increases, above those attributable to the \$2.4 billion unfunded liability agreed to by public employers in 2007, be shared equally between employees and employers. (2011)

Accountability:

7. The Strafford School Board, on behalf of all school districts in New Hampshire, would like the **NHSBA** to petition to change the date of the NECAP state testing from an October testing date to a date in May. (2012)

*New Hampshire
School Boards Association*

*Policies, Resolutions
and
Statements of Belief
Manual*

January 2012

By Procedure Adopted Unanimously at Delegate Assembly, November 4, 2006
And Following Action of the January 14, 2012 Delegate Assembly

New Hampshire School Boards Association

25 Triangle Park – Suite 101
Concord, NH 03301
603/228-2061 • www.nhsba.org

Overview of Action Taken at the 2006 Delegate Assembly

The resolutions contained herein have been adopted for three consecutive years by a vote of the Delegate Assembly. Such resolutions become a continuing commitment of the Association and part of this document, *Policies, Resolutions and Statements of Belief Manual*. This practice is based on the proposal adopted unanimously at the 2006 Delegate Assembly on November 4, 2006:

Whereas **NHSBA** takes consistent positions on certain issues that repeatedly come before the Delegate Assembly as re-adopted resolutions, and

Whereas these issues deserve special recognition for their continued importance as long-standing positions,

Be it therefore resolved that any resolution adopted for at least three continuous years be moved to the **NHSBA** Policies, Resolutions and Statements of Belief Manual.

**RESOLUTIONS QUALIFYING FOR INCLUSION IN THE
POLICIES, RESOLUTIONS AND STATEMENTS OF BELIEF MANUAL**

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Perennial Resolutions of the New Hampshire School Boards Association

I - School Choice

- I:A• NHSBA supports the utilization of public education funds solely for public school purposes as determined by the local school boards. (1991)

- I:B• NHSBA urges the NH Legislature and Congress to oppose any efforts to subsidize elementary or secondary private, religious or home schools with public tax dollars. Specifically, NHSBA opposes the creation of vouchers, tax credits and tax subsidies that in any form are targeted to the tuition or expenses for non-public K-12 schools. Rather than diverting scarce tax dollars away from our public school classrooms, NHSBA urges the NH Legislature and Congress to support improvements in our public schools and meet current funding obligations and promises, benefiting the vast majority of America's children who are educated daily in our public schools. (2005)

II - Education Funding

- II:A• NHSBA proposes that the state fully fund all state education aid formulas before the funding of any other state obligation. (1994)

- II:B• NHSBA supports reducing the threshold for determining the local share of a catastrophic aid special education placement to 2 times the state average elementary and secondary costs of general education. (1998)

- II:C• NHSBA supports Building Aid at a level of no less than 55% for all School Districts in the State for bonds. (2000)

- II:D• NHSBA resolves that the New Hampshire Legislature solve the educational funding crisis in a fair and equitable manner throughout the state and that all education monies so raised be distributed to school districts for the purpose of educational funding. (2001)

II:E• NHSBA proposes that the state develop an equitable and sustainable tax plan dedicated solely to education for the purpose of fully funding a constitutionally adequate education for all students in the state. (2002)

II:F• NHSBA opposes the dramatic and unpredictable changes in educational funding each year – often with solid information only coming to the school districts after the balloting or school district meetings are done.

The **NHSBA** opposes any new educational funding legislation, passed and enacted by the Legislature, which takes effect any earlier than the next biennium. School boards cannot be expected to work with legislation passed after the budget cycle for the following year is completed. (2005)

II:G• NHSBA urges the Legislature to utilize the resources of the NH Department of Education, including the Department’s statistical data, to define a curriculum that comprises an “adequate education” in the State of NH, and further to calculate the actual cost of an “adequate education,” and to develop an Adequate Educational Funding distribution formula which is consistent with the spirit of the Claremont decisions. (2005)

II:H• NHSBA urges the State to fully fund any minimum standards which require districts to offer kindergarten. (2005)

II:I• NHSBA opposes legislation that would directly or indirectly divert state costs or responsibilities to local school districts. (2006)

II:J• The **NHSBA** opposes any constitutional amendment that vacates the spirit and intent of the Claremont and Londonderry lawsuits and attempts in any way to limit or redirect funding in a manner that is contrary to the New Hampshire Supreme Court’s ruling and present interpretation of the New Hampshire Constitution. (2008)

II:K• NHSBA opposes transfer of the responsibility to provide and fund a free and appropriate education (FAPE) for special education students from resident districts to attending districts when a non-resident student is placed in a district by a parent. (2008)

II:L • The NHSBA supports the full and traditional funding, by the NH Legislature and the Governor, of State Building Aid, a program that has effectively created local and state partnerships in financing school building improvements that benefit all students of New Hampshire, and which should be considered a significant part of fulfilling the State's Constitutional duty to provide an adequate education to all children. (2010)

II:M • NHSBA opposes the recent change in statute that decreases the state share of local employer retirement costs. NHSBA calls for the immediate return of the state share of local employer retirement costs for teachers, police and fire to 35% for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, as well as maintaining this commitment in the future. (2010)

III - Health Care Funding

III:A • NHSBA supports a statewide effort to work with legislative bodies to address the spiraling costs associated with health care benefits borne by the school districts in New Hampshire. (2005)

IV - Charter Schools

IV:A • NHSBA proposes that for any charter school authorized by the State Board of Education, state aid entitlements under RSA 198:42 should be paid directly to the charter school from state funds which are separate from local district grants. (2006)

IV:B • NHSBA proposes that the State Department of Education develop evaluation and accountability criteria for the state's charter schools to ensure their financial stability as well as sound educational objectives. (2006)

V - Local Control and School District Autonomy

- V:A**• NHSBA supports legislation to lower the mandated 2/3-majority vote for passing a bond article to 60% for all school districts. (1997)
- V:B**• NHSBA supports the continued ability for Cooperative School Districts to adopt apportionment formulas based on locally determined factors. (2000)
- V:C**• NHSBA urges the Legislature to review the practices, decisions, and potential bias against public employers by the PELRB. (2000).
- V:D**• NHSBA supports amending current law to allow school districts to establish a non-lapsing contingency fund to meet the cost of unanticipated expenses. (2001)
- V:E**• NHSBA supports legislation that allows local governing bodies to indicate their recommendation on any warrant article, in addition to those recommendation requirements already specified in the municipal budget law, RSA 32. (2006)
- V:F**• The NHSBA supports the NH Legislature amending the “SB 2” process to allow a legislative body to specifically vote by a supermajority of 60% on a Warrant Article to create and fund a program that would then continue beyond the single year and its costs would be included as part of the following years default budget. (2008)
- V:G**• NHSBA opposes the 2008 change in statute implementing an “Evergreen Clause” in all negotiated contracts. This new requirement mandates the continuation of any pay plan after the expiration of a contract when a successor agreement has not been reached. Such provision exceeds previous standards and usurps local control, significantly tipping the balance of negotiations. NHSBA calls for the repeal of this new requirement, RSA 273-A:12, VII. (2009)
- V:H**• NHSBA opposes any mandated teacher salary schedule requiring all districts in the state to pay salaries based on a common state schedule. (2009)

V:I• NHSBA urges the NH Legislature to make changes in the language of NH RSA 189:1 and NH RSA 189:24 that will allow local school districts the authority to make their own decisions in defining a school calendar that complies with both the spirit and the letter of the law. The recommended changes are as stated below:

189:1 Days of School. – The school board of every district shall provide standard schools for at least 180 days in each year, or the equivalent number of hours if approved by the commissioner of the department of education as required by the New Hampshire Department of Education Regulations, at such places in the district as will best serve the interests of education and give to all the pupils within the district as nearly equal advantages as are practicable.

189:24 Standard School. – A standard school is one approved by the state board of education, and maintained for at least 180 days in each year, or the equivalent number of hours if approved by the commissioner of the department of education as required by the New Hampshire Department of Education Regulations, in a suitable and sanitary building, equipped with approved furniture, books, maps and other necessary appliances, taught by teachers, directed and supervised by a principal and a superintendent, each of whom shall hold valid educational credentials issued by the state board of education, with suitable provision for the care of the health and physical welfare of all pupils. A standard school shall provide instruction in all subjects prescribed by statute or by the state board of education for the grade level of pupils in attendance. (2009)

VI - School Safety

VI:A• NHSBA supports legislation which excludes public schools from being designated as neutral ground for visitation purposes for children of parents undergoing a divorce procedure by legal or other administrative orders. (1998)

VI:B• NHSBA supports efforts to enact legislation which would require notification to school districts of restraining orders related to a student's behavior. (1999)

VII - Accountability

VII:A • NHSBA believes that all components of state testing (English Language Arts, Writing Prompt, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) should continue to be given annually at the end of the school year with appropriate and immediate steps being taken to ensure that these test results are received by school districts no later than the following July 1. Valid data to assess school performance relies on measuring individual student progress: NH should adopt gain score or value-added measures as the principal means for determining AYP. If NH does not adopt gains-score or value-added measures as the principal means for determining AYP, then annual testing should take place at the beginning of the school year so that information may be used instructionally during the year. (1998)

VII:B • NHSBA supports the inclusion of only students who have enrolled in a district continuously for the previous school year in the numbers calculated for AYP as defined by NCLB. (2005)

VII:C • NHSBA supports a review of NH's accountability and performance measures as well as standards established for the NH state assessment program. (2009)

VIII - State Board of Education

VIII:A • NHSBA supports the State Board of Education's focus on Attracting and Retaining Quality Educators in New Hampshire, as highlighted in its recommendations reported May 2001. NHSBA urges the State Board to continue this effort as well as monitoring all New Hampshire teacher-training programs to ensure that an adequate supply of new and highly qualified educators is available in New Hampshire. (1998)

VIII:B • NHSBA proposes that the Department of Education develop and maintain a database of available grants and other funding mechanisms to assist local school districts in their grant writing efforts and funding of locally determined programs. (2002)

- VIII:C** • NHSBA urges the State Board of Education to conduct a statewide study of the “traditional” school calendar utilized by most public school districts in New Hampshire and to issue a summary report of its findings, conclusions and recommendations. (2003)
- VIII:D** • NHSBA urges the NH State Board of Education to adopt Standards of NH School Approval which emphasize qualitative standards rather than quantitative standards. (2003)
- VIII:E** • NHSBA proposes that the New Hampshire State Board of Education require that kindergarten be established as a minimum standard for New Hampshire public schools. (2003)
- VIII:F** • NHSBA supports the development and implementation of poverty indicators for Title I eligibility, which best reflect the current distribution of children from low income families in the public schools across the State and maximizes the number of districts eligible for Title I funds. (2003)
- VIII:G** • NHSBA supports the concept and duties of the State Board of Education as established in RSA 21-N:10-11. In its capacity to review all programs, advise on goals and hear appeals, the State Board of Education should have the authority to appoint the Commissioner of Education as well as confirm the Deputy Commissioner and division directors nominated by the Commissioner of Education. (2005)
- VIII:H** • NHSBA opposes the changes in student assessment at the state level which are resulting in fewer content and skill areas tested, especially the loss of the writing assessment. Basing assessment decisions on availability of funding rather than on what is best for the students of New Hampshire is not something that NHSBA can support. (2005)
- VIII:I** • NHSBA supports legislation raising the age of compulsory attendance in school for children who have not graduated from age 16 to age 18. Such change in statute shall also require the establishment, and funding, per NH Constitution, Part Two, Article 28-a, of programs to support students at risk, including dropout prevention programs and other alternative options that allow students to continue a program of study to complete their high school

education. (2006)

VIII:J • NHSBA supports a Department of Education funded study on the impact on performance of extended learning opportunities and those extended learning opportunities' relationship to the funding formula. (2009)

IX - Federal Legislation:

IDEA

IX:A • NHSBA urges the U.S. Congress to appropriate funds to pay 40% of the cost of implementing IDEA, and to fully fund any additional requirements in the area of special education and to provide financial impact statements. (1990)

IX:B • Since its original enactment in 1975, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) has played a pivotal role to assure that students with disabilities receive the services they need for their success. NHSBA supports and applauds the efforts and goals encompassed by IDEA's mission.

As our Congress considers the reauthorization of IDEA, NHSBA believes attention should be directed at components of the program that are moving away from the original mission of educating children to a mission that involves a wider range of functions. NHSBA believes that for special education to achieve its potential in today's environment, several areas should receive attention. NHSBA proposes that federal reauthorization of IDEA address these specific priority concerns in the following areas:

- federal funding - Congress should fully fund the federal share of IDEA as a mandatory program;
- teacher recruitment and retention - federal law should create and encourage incentives for new teachers seeking special education certification;
- administration and paperwork - federal law should ease the current complex paper trail aimed at documenting compliance as well as allowing greater flexibility in the IEP process;
- due-process hearings - federal law should provide for adequate notice of issues and good-faith mediation

- related services - federal law should identify the financial role of other governmental units rather than fix all costs for related services on the narrow portion of the tax base that just serves education;
- private placements - federal law should focus on whether a substantive deprivation of educational opportunities exists in the public setting before consideration of private placement;
- safe learning environment - federal law should allow local school district personnel the flexibility and discretion to make appropriate discipline determinations that are in the best interests of all students when it comes to disciplining children with disabilities;
- over identification - federal law should clarify the definition of those disabilities that can result in over identification. (2002)

IX:C• Should the special education mandates of the state of New Hampshire exceed the federal special education requirements, then the state of NH should fully fund those mandates that exceed federal requirements to the local school districts. (2009)

IX:D• **NHSBA** supports amending New Hampshire's special education statute so that only the state legislature, not the state board of education via rulemaking or any other process, decides when it is appropriate for state law to exceed federal law. (2010)

No Child Left Behind

IX:D• The New Hampshire School Boards Association (**NHSBA**) supports and applauds the stated objectives of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. While welcoming the interest of the federal government in joining school boards in the effort to improve public education, **NHSBA** objects to several key provisions in NCLB that are unworkable, too costly and inconsistent with effective efforts to raise student achievement. Specifically, **NHSBA** supports amendments to NCLB and revisions to Department of Education regulations that will provide full funding as well as flexibility in order to address the barriers facing local educational agencies (LEAs) in the successful and effective implementation of NCLB, including:

- provide federal funding consistent with the levels authorized for education programs and the expanded information systems that are needed;

- permit alternative methodology for determining AYP targets and progress for students with disabilities, and for students with limited English proficiency;
- authorize alternative assessments for students with limited English proficiency and for students with disabilities beyond that of “significant cognitive disability”, and provide flexibility to states as to the number of students whose alternative assessments may be counted for AYP purposes;
- allow students with disabilities to take tests at their actual reading level and then include their scores for calculation with the corresponding grade level;
- provide states more flexibility in measuring AYP in smaller districts with small subgroups. In calculating AYP, students identified in more than one group may be represented in the count for each group as an equal fraction totaling one student, ensuring that a small number of students are not over-represented.
- provide states flexibility to adopt gain score or value-added measures for determining AYP;
- provide for waivers and extensions for LEAs in meeting the qualification requirements for teachers and paraprofessionals;
- when public funds under Title II, Part A are provided by LEAs to private school children, teachers, and other educational personnel for educational services on an equitable basis and in a timely manner, those private schools should be held to the same accountability standards that apply to public schools;
- ensure that the current law and subsequent revisions recognize that education is primarily a state and local responsibility.

If the Congress and the Department of Education do not make the proposed revisions to NCLB and its regulations, then Congress should suspend implementation of the relevant aspects of the law until the changes are made.
(2003-2009)