

Hampton Falls School Board - Public Hearing and Regular Meeting (Tuesday, June 9, 2020)

Generated by Rhonda Evans on Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Members present

Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

Superintendent Bill Lupini, Assistant Superintendent David Hobbs, Executive Director of Student Services Caroline Arakelian, Business Administrator Matt Ferreira and LAS Principal Beth Raucci

Absent: Greg Marrow

Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM

1. Call to Order

Procedural: A. Roll Call

Chairman Parish opened the meeting at 6:34 by reading the following statement:

As Chair of the Hampton Falls School Board, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are: a) Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means: We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting.1 All members of the Hampton Falls School Board, have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 646 876 9923 and Webinar ID 924 3378 7604 or by clicking on the following website address: (listed on the agenda) <https://zoom.us/s/92433787604?pwd=NUIYUGUvVCtrZ3dpQzZXNOYydHVJdz09>

b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting:

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the website of the SAU 21 Office at www.sau21.org.

c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access:

If anybody has a problem, please call 603-926-8992 ext. 103 or email at revans@sau21.org

d) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting:

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law

Procedural: B. **Pledge of Allegiance** - The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion: C. Public Hearing on the Trust Fund

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:37 p.m.

It was learned that the current freezer and refrigerator combo unit is 30+ years old, incurring a number of repair bills every year. Replacing the unit was part of the budget process and was determined to be brought forth to be paid for from the Expendable trust. The new unit is also a different size and so construction costs will be involved.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:40 p.m.

2. Minutes

Action, Minutes: A. **May 12, 2020 School Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2020, school board meeting.

Motion by John Bailly, second by Jason Farias.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

3. Reports

Information: A. **Finance Report**

Matt Ferreira reviewed the finance report. No significant changes from last month.

A couple questions were asked about tuition and travel lines within the Special Education lines. A brief discussion was held on the available funds that will fund the expendable trusts that were approved at the March election. Unexpected Special Education costs were also discussed relative to the budget process.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Procedural: A. **Public Comment** - No comments were heard.

5. Continuing Business

Information: A. **Administrative Update on the Return to School Task Force**

Dr. Lupini reported on the Return to School Task Force. There is a Joint Board briefing scheduled for Monday, June 15th, to provide an update. We will not have any answers but want to update the Board on what we know to date. An employee only forum will be held on Tuesday, June 16th, at 11:00 a.m. followed by a community forum along with SAU 90 at 6:00 p.m. The Task Force will meet on Thursday to review all questions, comments and concerns raised from the forums.

Some items we have learned from the working groups that are not scenario dependent include the need for a robust technology infrastructure and to include the same upload and download speeds, a "toolbox" of online platforms for k-8 classrooms to use, a

daily remote schedule for online learning that matches between districts and also for synchronous learning, grading and performance, and policy and procedures for students and staff coming into school when sick. Surveys need to be done around transportation and some have reported that parents and staff have concerns about coming back to school when it opens in the fall. We are still waiting on a state report and hopeful to have it by June 30th but reporting from the state level has been slow in the past. The calendar will need to be reviewed to create more professional development time at the beginning of the year. There is also the possibility of finding more time for professional development if we change the instruction time to hours versus days in respect to the calendar.

Questions and discussions from the Board included whether the NHSBA can provide guidance if state doesn't. We are trying to work together with neighboring SAU's knowing we have teachers that live in those communities and our schedules will affect everyone's ability to come back to school. Technology requirements were discussed for remote learning and whether the State will provide assistance in that regard. Discussed whether the current upgrade at LAS will meet those requirements. A more robust infrastructure is needed. We may need to upgrade bandwidth with provider. Also discussed the possibility of parents not wanting students back in buildings as well as expectations, accountability and structures that would be needed to continue with remote learning.

LAS Principal Beth Raucci recognized the retiring Kindergarten teacher Janice Cassidy. Earlier today she was presented with the engraved pewter bowl from the Board and was very appreciative of the tradition.

She reported that a reverse parade was held with students and families for a fabulous send-off for the graduating 8th grade students. It was very personal and intimate and recognized each graduate. Memory boxes were handed out and were well-received. A tribute video was created to honor each graduating student.

Principal Raucci is serving on the Crisis and Response team geared towards staff mental health & wellness. A healthy classroom starts with a healthy teacher.

The Student materials drop-off and pick-up went very well.

Grading letters will be sent out early next week. K-4 is complete, but they are waiting for Power School to complete the higher grades.

Building is cleaned, everyone is out, everyone is wearing masks and very respectful. Some are fearful of coming back and overwhelmed on how we will pull this off next year.

The board asked whether staff would be willing to do Summer school on their own. Teachers are focused on communication among each other in regard to instructional methods and plans to support the kids moving forward. There is discussion on collaborating teachers among grade levels to assist with students transitions and fulfilling gaps in instruction due to remote learning. Extended School Year (ESY) will be done remotely and some parents are open and eager for more instruction while some are ready for a break from remote learning.

6. New Business

Action: A. Withdrawal from Building Maintenance Expendable Trust

Motion to withdraw \$37,275 from the building maintenance expendable trust for the purchase and construction installation of a new freezer and refrigerator for the school nutrition program.

Motion by Greg Parish, second by John Bailly.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

Action: B. Award of Bid - Wireless Upgrade

Bids were sent to thirteen (13) vendors, three (3) attended the walk-thru and only two (2) submitted bids. One of the bids received did not meet the specification. This was project included in the 2020-2021 budget.

Motion to award wireless upgrade project bid to Whalley Computer Associates in the amount of \$40,771.68.

Motion by John Bailly, second by Jason Farias.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

Action: C. Award of Bid - Freezer and Refrigerator

Bids were sent to five (5) vendors and only one (1) submitted a bid. There is also a construction component for this project of \$9,825 which falls under RP threshold. This is being awarding to Gray contractors. The project was specked out through the School Nutrition and Facilities directors based on the kitchen and facilities needs with a range of 30 years. The current refrigerator/freezer is in excess of 30 years old. Part of the new unit will sit outside the building similar to a unit at WHS. Bollards be placed around it to protect it.

Motion to award bid for the purchase of a replacement kitchen freezer/refrigerator to Kittredge Equipment in the amount of \$27,450.

Motion by John Bailly, second by Jill Swasey.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

Information: D. **2021 Deliberative Session Date** - The Deliberative Session date is scheduled for Tuesday, February 2, 2021.

Information: E. **2021-22 Budget Development Timeline**

The timeline for budget development was reviewed. The budget will be available to the school board by November 5th, with the expectation to spend about a month finalizing in order to have it prepared for Deliberative Session in February.

Information: F. **2020-2021 DRAFT Meeting Calendar** - The list of all Board meetings for the upcoming year was reviewed.

Action: G. **Summer Hiring**

Motion to authorize the Superintendent to hire staff with contracts during June, July and August and to bring the names of the new hires to the August and/or September board meeting for ratification.

Motion by Jill Swasey, second by Jason Farias.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

Information, Procedural: H. **Nomination** - to be discussed in non-public.

7. Non-Public under RSA 91-A:3 II (a-e)

Action: A. **Roll Call to enter Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b).**

Motion to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) at 7:47 p.m.

Motion by Jill Swasey, second by Jason Farias.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

Discussion, Information: B. **Nomination: M. Nadeau**

8. Resume Public Meeting

Action, Procedural: A. **Resume Public Meeting after the Non-Public Session.**

Motion to close non-public session and resume the public meeting 8:43 p.m.

Motion by John Bailly, second by Jason Farias.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

Action: B. **Recommendation: Middle School Math**

Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of Matthew Nadeau for the Middle School Math position for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion by Jill Swasey, second by Jason Farias.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey

9. Next Meeting Date

Information: A. **Joint Board Meeting and Update - Monday, June 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

Information: B. **Joint Board Policy Committee Meeting - Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.**

Information: C. **Hampton Falls School Board Meeting - Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**

10. Adjourn

Action: A. **Adjourn the Meeting**

Motion to adjourn the meeting 8:44 p.m.

Motion by Jason Farias, second by John Bailly.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Greg Parish, John Bailly, Jason Farias, Jill Swasey