

Unofficial Until Approved by the Board

SAU 21 Joint School Board - Meeting and Weekly Update (Tuesday, April 28, 2020)

Generated by Rhonda Evans on Monday, May 4, 2020

Members present

Erin Stanton, Greg Parish, Gregg Duffy, Henry Marsh, Jessica Brown, Jim Kime, John Bailly, Leslie Lafond, Michael Rabideau, Rebecca Burdick, Sharon Gordon, Thomas von Jess, Heidi Taracena, Jason Farias, Jennifer Hubbard, Kelli Hueber, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson, Tony Delano

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

Absent: Mark Lane, Greg Marrow, and Forrest Carter, Jr.

Meeting called to order at 5:04 PM

1. Call to Order

Procedural: A. Roll Call

Chair Jim Kime opened the meeting by reading the following statement:

As Chair of the SAU 21 Joint 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 SAU 21 Joint 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 # 929-205-6099 and Password 934 207 489 or by clicking on the following website address: (listed on the agenda)

<https://zoom.us/j/930260178?pwd=ZVRXM3NXNEdOY3NKVC82SVBJM1dKZz09>

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.

Roll call was taken.

2. Superintendent's Update

Information: A. Update on School Closures

Dr. Lupini reported that discussions at this morning's Principals meeting were spent talking about end of year celebrations. We are still waiting on a document that was promised from the Commissioner's office with recommendations. We believe they are trying to coordinate the guidelines with the Governor stay at home order. Principals are trying to be very creative with graduations and celebrations honoring the students. Some items being discussed are online/virtual experiences, lawns signs, cap and gown distribution and yearbook distribution. Weekly letters to high school students and families from Principal McGowan and Superintendent Lupini are providing more information. This Saturday's weekly community forum will feature our principals from our K-8 schools.

Our attention is beginning to focus on the return to school and creating a road map as to how that can happen. Committees will need to be formed, the type of work to be done, and timelines for reentry are all items being considered as part of this work.

Dr. Hobbs reported that the curriculum focus has changed to summer and fall programming and what things will look like in order to return. Some interesting conversations have begun about ways to address recovery of skills. Some specifics being discussed included ELO's at the high school level, Math scheduling and what the high school master schedule will look like and creating flexibility for skill development to address gaps in learning. The Curriculum Committee discussions involve structures that will be needed, emulating a school day schedule and setting parameters for these items. Other discussions consist of weekly contact with students, participation rates and how much is too much. Lack of contact may result in a wellness visit from local police to ensure student well-being.

Dr. Arakelian addressed student participation as well. The current pandemic prevents typical student engagement. Contact may be attempted by teachers, guidance counselors, assistant principal or other administrators depending on whether an IEP is involved or not. In some situations DCYF will be contacted. Concern was raised about how the students will advance on to next grade. It was explained that some kind of remediation is being considered for incoming classes. We are trying to focus on skill building for next level due to no face to face right now. The administration acknowledges that this is not an ideal situation. This is an emergency way of delivering instruction.

We are also waiting on announcement from state for summer programming. This information has been promised by May 15. Usually summer programming has already been set up by now. We have to assume/plan for remote learning for the summer. Different models are being considered. We are trying to employ as many staff members as possible. There may be some

exceptions made for students with significant needs, if possible.

Matt Ferreira reported that he and Dr. Lupini have met with some town administrators. The discussions focus on the challenges ahead due to this pandemic from a revenue prospective. We are providing insight from the school prospective. Meetings have been held with Hampton, South Hampton, Hampton Falls and Seabrook. Next week's meeting will be with North Hampton. A common theme is that no one really knows the degree of this crisis concerning finances. Some are looking at 2008 numbers and aftermath. Items being reviewed are the number of residential properties in escrow, residential versus business, and the number of retirees in the communities.

All four towns were appreciative the school reached out. Conversations have been positive acknowledging that we're all one community.

We do anticipate receiving guidance from the state on CARE funds and qualifying expenditures. We are monitoring district accounts and will review more in depth with each individual board at their upcoming meetings. We are not bringing forth any unanticipated projects with any remaining year-end funds. There will be additional costs associated with the reopening of buildings. We will need to develop a plan once guidance is received from the State. We realize that school will look differently in the fall.

Other concerns and discussions raised by the Board involved student assessments to determine where students are academically and summer programming. Dr. Hobbs responded that time in the classroom will allow teachers to assess. The competency reporting will provide more information and works better with the current environment. A Summer Survey is being compiled to determine if there is motivation to continue online learning throughout the summer. Some questions to consider for students and staff are who is available? and who is willing to participate?

Action: B. **Summer Food Service Proposal**

Matt discussed food insecurity and reviewed the proposal with the board. The seamless summer program normally requires seating to be provided but exceptions are being granted due to the coronavirus pandemic. Two meals per student are being provided per day and the numbers keep trending up as to the amount of students being served. There is a need to continue the program after school ends on June 4 and to provide meals until the start of the school in the fall.

The State of NH waiver has not yet been approved but there is confidence at the state level that it will be. Current estimates for summer meals are at 400 students for 80 days of meals which includes food, supplies, labor and delivery with the bulk of funding expected to be reimbursed. The estimated financial impact is approximately \$155,000 with approximately \$20,000 out-of-pocket expenses. The SAU has initiated a GoFundMe account and with less than 5 days of initiation we have raised close to \$8,000. The recommendation is for the Joint Board to approve the continuation of meals for students throughout the summer. As the crisis progresses, more families may become more food insecure. Families do not need to qualify for anything in order to receive the meals for their students.

Motion to approve operation of an SAU 21 summer food service program for 2020.

Motion by Leslie Lafond, second by Martin Tavitian.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Greg Parish, Gregg Duffy, Henry Marsh, Jessica Brown, Jim Kime, John Bailly, Leslie Lafond, Michael Rabideau, Rebecca Burdick, Sharon Gordon, Thomas von Jess, Heidi Taracena, Jason Farias, Jennifer Hubbard, Kelli Hueber, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson, Tony Delano

Information: C. **Memorandum of Agreement** - to be discussed in non-public session.

Information: D. **Non-Union Staff Vacation Time** - to be discussed in non-public session.

Information: E. **NHSBA Upcoming Webinars**

Dr. Lupini reported on the upcoming webinars being offered by the NHSBA in place of the in-person sessions that had perviously been scheduled and asked for new members to participate.

3. Questions and Comments from those in Attendance

Procedural: A. **Public Comment** - none received.

4. Non-Public Under RSA 91-A:3 II (a-e)

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

Motion to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) 6:06.

Motion by Michael Rabideau, second by Heidi Taracena.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Greg Parish, Gregg Duffy, Henry Marsh, Jessica Brown, Jim Kime, John Bailly, Leslie Lafond, Michael Rabideau, Rebecca Burdick, Sharon Gordon, Thomas von Jess, Heidi Taracena, Jason Farias, Jennifer Hubbard, Kelli Hueber, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson, Tony Delano

Discussion, Information: B. **Memorandum of Agreement**

Discussion, Information: C. **Non-Union Staff Vacation Time**

5. Resume Public Meeting

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

Motion to end the non-public session and resume the public meeting 6:31

Motion by Michael Rabideau, second by Henry Marsh.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Greg Parish, Gregg Duffy, Henry Marsh, Jessica Brown, Jim Kime, John Bailly, Leslie Lafond, Michael Rabideau, Rebecca Burdick, Sharon Gordon, Thomas von Jess, Heidi Taracena, Jason Farias, Jennifer Hubbard, Kelli Hueber, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson, Tony Delano

Action: B. **Memorandum of Agreement**

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Seacoast Education Association, governing temporary modifications to the collective bargaining agreement through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion by Jessica Brown, second by Nermina Peterson.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Greg Parish, Gregg Duffy, Henry Marsh, Jessica Brown, Jim Kime, John Bailly, Leslie Lafond, Michael Rabideau, Rebecca Burdick, Sharon Gordon, Thomas von Jess, Heidi Taracena, Jason Farias, Jennifer Hubbard, Kelli Hueber, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson, Tony Delano

Action: C. **Non-Union Staff Vacation Time**

Motion to allow all SAU 21 non-union employees and administrators to roll-over all remaining 2019-20 vacation days to June 30, 2021, as a one-time exception.

Motion by Thomas von Jess, second by Leslie Lafond.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Greg Parish, Gregg Duffy, Henry Marsh, Jessica Brown, Jim Kime, John Bailly, Leslie Lafond, Michael Rabideau, Rebecca Burdick, Sharon Gordon, Thomas von Jess, Heidi Taracena, Jason Farias, Jennifer Hubbard, Kelli Hueber, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson, Tony Delano

6. Future Meetings

Information: A. **South Hampton School Board Meeting - Thursday, May 7, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.**

Information: B. **North Hampton School Board Meeting - Thursday, May 7, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**

Information: C. **Seabrook School Board Regular Meeting - Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.**

Information: D. **Hampton Falls School Board Meeting - Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**

Information: E. **Operations Committee Meeting - Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.**

Information: F. **SAU 21 Joint Board COVID-19 Update - Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

7. Adjourn

Action: A. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn the meeting 6:38 p.m.

Motion by Leslie Lafond, second by Nermina Peterson.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Greg Parish, Gregg Duffy, Henry Marsh, Jessica Brown, Jim Kime, John Bailly, Leslie Lafond, Michael Rabideau, Rebecca Burdick, Sharon Gordon, Thomas von Jess, Heidi Taracena, Jason Farias, Jennifer Hubbard, Kelli Hueber, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson, Tony Delano