

**North Hampton School Board - Regular Meeting (Thursday, April 2, 2020)**

Generated by Rhonda Evans on Friday, April 3, 2020

Approved by the Board - May 14, 2020

**Members present**

Erin Stanton, Gregg Duffy, Thomas von Jess, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson

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

**Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM****1. Call to Order**Procedural: A. **Call to Order at 5:30 p.m.**

Superintendent Bill Lupini opened the meeting with the following statement:

As Superintendent of SAU 21 and as presiding Chair until the Reorganization of the North Hampton 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 North Hampton 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 908 778 414 or by clicking on the following website address: (listed on the agenda) [zoom.us/j/908778414?](https://zoom.us/j/908778414?pwd=eDNuTk1qcFVHQVI1MzM5WHNBUS9Idz09)

pwd=eDNuTk1qcFVHQVI1MzM5WHNBUS9Idz09

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](http://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 603-926-89920 ext. 0 or email at [revans@sau21.org](mailto: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.

A roll call was taken for attendance. When each member stated their presence, they also stated whether there was anyone in the room with them during the meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

**2. Reorganization**Action, Procedural: A. **Election of the Board Chair**Move to nominate Gregg Duffy to serve as the Chair of the North Hampton School Board.

Motion by Erin Stanton, second by Thomas von Jess.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Gregg Duffy, Thomas von Jess, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson

Dr. Lupini then turned the meeting over to the Board Chair, Gregg Duffy.

Gregg Duffy welcomed everyone and thanked the SAU staff for all they have done. He stated it was phenomenal and above average compared to what he was learning from family and friends in others states.

Action, Procedural: B. **Election of the Board Vice-Chair**Move to nominate Tom von Jess to serve as the Vice-Chair of the North Hampton School Board.

Motion by Erin Stanton, second by Nermina Peterson.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Gregg Duffy, Thomas von Jess, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson

Action, Discussion, Procedural: C. **School Board Committee Appointments**

Chairman Duffy provided an overview of the expectation of each committee appointment for the new members.

The Board reviewed the committees as follows:

SAU Operations Committee - Martin Tavitian

SAU Operations Committee Alternate - Erin Stanton

SAU Policy Committee - Tom von Jess

SAU Policy Committee Alternate - Nermina Peterson

\*It was noted that the following four assignments listed are not needed for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year (SEA Negotiations, SEA Negotiations Alternate, SESPAs Negotiations, and SESPAs Negotiations Alternate).

Facilities Committee - Martin Tavitian

Facilities Committee Alternate - Nermina Peterson

BudCom - Tom von Jess

BudCom Alternate - Nermina Peterson

NHSBA Delegate - Tom von Jess

School Council - Gregg Duffy / Erin Stanton

Channel 22 - Erin Stanton  
Legislative Liaison - Tom von Jess  
CIP (Town Committee) - Erin Stanton  
Safety Committee - Martin Tavitian

Motion to approve the above listed Committee appointments.  
Motion by Thomas von Jess, second by Gregg Duffy.  
Final Resolution: Motion Passed  
Yes: Erin Stanton, Gregg Duffy, Thomas von Jess, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson

### 3. Approval of Minutes

Action, Minutes: A. **March 5, 2020 Regular Meeting**  
Motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2020 regular meeting.  
Motion by Thomas von Jess, second by Erin Stanton.  
Final Resolution: Motion Passed  
Yes: Erin Stanton, Gregg Duffy, Thomas von Jess  
Abstain: Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson

### 4. Correspondence / Commendations

Information, Procedural: A. **Correspondence / Commendations**  
Principal Snyder stated that she has several commendations but will include them in her presentation later. Everyone has been amazing. The staff are rock stars.  
Chairman Duffy again thanked the SAU and gave a shout out to Principal Susan Snyder and her staff, the front office, the teachers, and everyone. He expressed that he is still amazed that only one day of school was missed. Congrats to all staff that got the remote learning up and rolling so quickly.

### 5. Questions and Comments from those in Attendance

Procedural: A. Public Comment  
Board paused to allow for any one attending the meeting via phone or online to ask questions or make a comment. None were given.

### 6. Education Update

Information: A. **School Council**  
Principal Susan Snyder reported that the school council met on March 10th before the closure. A staff survey was sent out but is being set aside due to the current situation. There is a plan to continue. Discussions included attendance and PLCs (Professional Learning Community) for next year. This year's PLC work has been centered around curriculum development and improving organization.

### 7. Continuing Business

Information: A. **Update on COVID-19 relative to School Closure**  
Dr. Lupini noted that weekly Joint board meetings are being held regularly providing updates for all Joint Board members and community alike. The Joint Board adopted a remote learning calendar at their meeting this past Tuesday detailing a 4-day remote learning for students with Friday's being Professional Development/Planning days for staff. The announcement of the calendar has received very positive feedback from parents and staff.  
A community forum was held online last Saturday with over 100 community members listening in attendance. Another one is scheduled for this Saturday. We will continue holding them until the end of remote learning. Principals may be asked to join as many questions may be best directed towards them.

Dr. Lupini reported that the Superintendents have asked the Governor to provide them with any additional information regarding the possible extension of school closures in a more timely manner. The consensus was that it was very stressful receiving the Governor's last announcement so close to the expiration date of the original closure period. It takes time to people to acclimate to this.

Conversations are happening about what that extension could mean in regard to graduations, summer school and the beginning of next school year.

Dr. Hobbs reported that they are continuing to collect data around student participation rates. Everyone has gotten much better with expectations of what can be accomplished by utilizing Monday through Thursday as instructional days. Fridays will allow teachers time for collaboration and planning. The new calendar along with the expectation guidelines for teaching and learning has made it much healthier on everyone, teachers, students and parents. More face to face time is being encouraged while also realizing everyone is stressed with the uncertainty happening today.

Staff certifications are ongoing. Conversations are still being held around grading and assessments. A meeting was held today with curriculum coordinators, assistant principals and teachers to continue moving this conversation forward.

Further discussion was held on the expectation for face to face instruction. Principal Snyder reported that it is already happening with real-time instruction. The challenge will be in its sustainability and maintaining student engagement over time. The Board asked about the ability of keeping consistence and the capability of matching the online school day with the regular in-school day was discussed. Is it unrealistic to think this could happen?

Principal Snyder responded that there are so many more variables and challenges with remote learning such as individual family schedules, some parents are also working from home, challenges with younger students, and adolescents appear to be doing more work in evenings versus daytime.

She then shared a PowerPoint presentation further detailing what NHS has been doing with remote learning such as a daily schedule, Google classrooms, SeeSaw platform, examples of school-wide UA projects available for students, teacher videos, time suggestions for assignments, grade level share sites, and student creativity projects.

The Board asked about strategy and what the final goal is.

Dr. Lupini explained that this is new for everyone and it will be reassessed every week. Remote learning is not going to replicate a typical school day at this time.

Principal Snyder explained that we can provide opportunities and our goal is that the students improve, but we may not get to the same place we would have if we were in the school building. Our challenge is to identify what we can do well with this format and also what we will need to do when we are back in the classroom in order to catch up.

It was noted that we need to be flexible with this and make sure our staff gets the support they need in order to be successful.

Matt Ferreira noted that we are maintaining very limited access to the building. A strict schedule will be provided for teachers to have access to the building for items they may need from their classrooms. The buildings were sanitized last week by professional remediation company.

Caroline Arakelian reported on the meals being provided. Families can pick up meals on M-W-F from WHS and Seabrook. NHS residents are invited to pick up from Winnacunnet. A delivery service schedule is available on the SAU and NHS website. Families do not need to sign up. The number of meals requested continue to grow each day.

Tracy Griffenhagen, Special Education Director, reported that they are holding weekly Special Education staff meetings, one-to-one meetings with Case Managers, twice a week updates with the DOE to give guidance. Meetings with students are handled differently depending on the need. Students are receiving specialized instruction. Staff is leveraging video conferencing while being aware of parents schedules and students needs. They have embraced technology.

Dr. Arakelian added that the Bureau of Student Support has been working hard and fast to get restrictions lifted and guidance in place so related services can take place. Special Education meetings continue to happen and are within the guidelines that are in place.

Erin Stanton expressed her thanks and appreciation to the staff and administration for going above and beyond her expectations. She also stated that as a family with students in Kindergarten through grade 8, doing the 6-hour day for all grade levels the same as an in-school day is extremely difficult for all.

Becca Carlson, Curriculum Coordinator, addressed attendance concerns. They hesitate making attendance mandatory as there are often circumstances that are beyond a students control. They are leaning towards expected attendance.

## 8. New Business

Procedural: A. **New Business** - nothing to discuss

## 9. Policy

Procedural: A. **Policy** - nothing to discuss

## 10. Written Reports

Information: A. **Finance Report**

Matt Ferreira provided the YTD expenditure and revenue reports. He explained that no significant variances exist from previous months. We are closely monitoring any savings that may be recognized due to the school closures.

## 11. Personnel

Procedural: A. **Personnel** - nothing to discuss

## 12. Next Meeting Dates

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

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

Information: C. **Joint Board Meeting** - Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. It was also mentioned that weekly updates are occurring on the status of the school closures and remote learning due to COVID-19.

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

Action, Procedural: A. **Roll call for Non-Public under RSA 91-A:3 II (a-e)**. Not needed.

## 14. Resume Public Meeting

Action: A. **Resume the Public Meeting**. Not needed.

## 15. Adjourn

Action, Procedural: A. **Adjourn**

Tom von Jess welcomed new members Nermina Peterson and Martin Tavitian and also congratulated Gregg as the Board Chair. He thanked every one for everything that they have done during this uncertain time.

Gregg Duffy extended his congratulations to Nermina Peterson and Martin Tavitian as well. Welcome aboard to this very interesting start.

Motion to adjourn the meeting 6:52 p.m.

Motion by Thomas von Jess, second by Gregg Duffy.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Erin Stanton, Gregg Duffy, Thomas von Jess, Martin Tavitian, Nermina Peterson