

**NEWINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
School Administrative Unit 50  
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Phone (603) 422-9572 Fax (603) 422-9575

The regular monthly meeting of the Newington School Board took place on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Newington Public School.

**PRESENT:**

School Board Members: Dr. Mark Joyce  
Mr. Jack O'Reilly  
Mr. Chris Russo

Administrators: Salvatore Petralia, Superintendent  
Kelli Killen, Assistant Superintendent  
Mindy Ryan, Business Administrator  
Peter Latchaw, Principal

Other Staff Present: Samantha Fuller, Secretary to the Superintendent

Visitors: Beth Brown, NPS Teacher  
Anne Brady, Special Education Teacher  
Samara Robertson  
Jacklyn Garbino

**CALL TO ORDER** – Dr. Joyce called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the public minutes of January 7, 2020 were approved. Vote: 2-0-1*

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the public minutes of February 4, 2020 were approved. Vote: 2-0-1*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Petralia informed the Board he had received a letter of retirement, to be discussed during the Personnel section of the agenda.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the manifest for February 15, 2020 through March 6, 2020 was approved in the amount of \$141,825.67. Vote: 3-0*

## **RECOGNITION OF GROUPS OR INDIVIDUAL VISITORS**

Mr. O'Reilly welcomed to the meeting Ms. Beth Brown, NPS Kindergarten/Grade 1 Teacher; Anne Brady NPS Special Education Teacher, and community members Samara Robertson and Jacklyn Garbino.

## **REPORTS**

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Petralia shared school districts across the state are monitoring the recent outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus. Area superintendents received updates from the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), the New Hampshire Department of Education and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The situation will continue to be monitored closely and additional updates will be added as needed.

The film Screenagers: The Last Chapter was shown on Tuesday, March 3rd at Rye Junior High School to an audience of forty parents across the SAU. Following the film, a panel of experts led a question and answer session with the audience.

Mr. Petralia shared in his written report several house bills that were mentioned at a recent Southeasters' Meeting held last Thursday at Hampton Academy.

Mr. Petralia shared correspondence from the New Hampshire School Board Association regarding upcoming workshops. The New Hampshire School Boards Association, in collaboration with Primex and Health Trust, offering a training series for elected officials titled "Academy for Good Governance." Board members that would like to participate in the workshop, may contact Samantha Fuller to register.

Mr. Petralia reminded the board of upcoming meeting dates.

### **Assistant Superintendent Report**

Ms. Killen provided draft copies of the STEM curriculum to be voted on at the April meeting. The curriculum is divided in to three grade spans; K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. The STEM curriculum is based on the Next Generation Science Standards: Engineering Design. These standards and practices require students to go through a design process to find solutions to problems. Students apply science, technology, and math concepts and skills to the design and the solution thus applying and transferring their learning from the other disciplines. The curriculum was based on standards from the College of Career Readiness and Standards for Science and collaborated on by SAU 50 STEM teachers.

Dr. Joyce commended Ms. Killen on completing seventy-four classroom visits to date.

### **Financial Report**

Ms. Ryan reported the fund balance currently stands at 3%, approximately \$68,000.

### **Principal's Report**

Mr. Latchaw shared that Northeast Passage (UNH program) had completed the first week of its program with Newington students. For more information on the Northeast Passage program visit <https://www.nepassage.org/teaching-research/program-university-new-hampshire>

Mr. Latchaw highlighted that Ms. Annie Brady, NPS Special Education teacher was awarded a Clipper Grant. The project will incorporate the design, building, and debuting of an outdoor recreation space/path to support student regulation and sensory needs, regardless of student motor abilities. Teachers, students, and community members will collaborate in order to design and install the outdoor play space.

Mr. Latchaw noted the upcoming Cosmic Bowling Event on March 22nd 4-6 PM, a fundraiser to benefit NSS. Tickets for the event are \$15.00 each (\$7.50 of each ticket will go back to NSS). He thanked NSS, especially Kristin Poulin for organizing this event.

Mr. Latchaw noted the Jump Rope for Heart event (now called Kid's Heart Challenge) took place Feb. 7th with a presentation by the American Heart Association on the importance of being yourself, being physically active, avoiding sugary beverages, and coloring your plate. Students participated in a final celebration on February 19th at 2:00 pm. The NPS school community raised over \$3000.00 for the American Heart Association.

Mr. Latchaw commended the Destination Imagination team for placing first in all three categories at the regional DI competition. The team will move forward to the State competition on March 23, 2020. Ms. Lodge and Jennifer Philbrick are coaching a team of 3rd-5<sup>th</sup> grade girls. The team has chosen to compete in the Technology Challenge. The technology problem has team members creating a device that uses one or more fields of technology to solve a problem. There is also scenery that is impacted by the problem that the team needs to incorporate 3 different forms of technology to solve the problem. The teams then has 8 minutes to do both and also tell a story that has a well developed beginning, middle and end.

Mr. Latchaw shared that March Maker Madness is scheduled to take place the week of March 16-20<sup>th</sup>. The experiential learning week allows for students to engage in multiple, consecutive days of project-based, experiential discovery and learning. Students choose from a menu of course offerings designed by our NPS staff. Courses will cover a diverse array of interests. A community showcase will take place Friday, March 20 from 2-3 PM.

Mr. Latchaw informed the Board of the recent purchase of an UltraViolet Cleaner for the building. He reiterated that earlier in the all surfaces, door handles, lockers etc. had been scrubbed and disinfected.

Mr. Latchaw shared that a fifth grade student that had recently won the NPS Spelling Bee placed in the top 15 during the state competition.

### **Board Reports**

**Policy** - The Board was provided recent required policies (as part of the December NHSBA policy update) for review and to be voted on at the March meeting.

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board voted to approve for adoption the following required policies: AC-Non Discrimination, Equal Opportunity Employment and District Anti-Discrimination Plan; ADC/GBED/JICG-Prohibitions Regarding Use and Possession of Tobacco Products, E-Cigarettes and E-Liquids in and on School Facilities and Grounds; IHAMA Teaching About Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco and JLDBB-Suicide Prevention and Response. Vote: 3-0*

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board voted to approve for first reading the following recommended policies: BEDG-Minutes, EBCA-Crisis Prevention and Emergency Response Plan; EH Public Access to School District Records; EH-R Administrative Procedures for Public Access to District Records "Right to Know Requests;" GBD-Employment of Non-Certified Personnel; JLCFA-Feminine Hygiene Products. Vote: 3-0*

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board voted to approve for adoption the following revised policies: GCG-Part time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment; JH-Attendance, Tardiness and Truancy Policy; KGD-Use of School Facilities for Motor Vehicles. Vote: 3-0*

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS - None**

**PERSONNEL**

Mr. Petralia shared with the Board a staff resignation of Ms. Keri Winsor from her position of Special Education Aide which will go into effect on March 13, 2020.

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo the Board accepted with regrets the resignation of Ms. Keri Winsor effective March 13, 2020. Vote: 3-0*

Mr. Petralia noted that Mr. Latchaw had already recommended Mr. Devon Brunner as a Special Education Para to replace the vacant position, for a seamless transition.

Mr. Petralia presented the Board with a Letter of Retirement from Ms. Cheryl Berman. Ms. Berman has been part of the SAU 50 for 27 years. Mr. Petralia reiterated that she would be greatly missed.

Mr. Latchaw stated that Ms. Berman was an exceptional leader in the foreign language program and bringing the cultural experience into the classroom. He agreed that she would be a tough spot to fill.

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board accepted with regret and congratulations the intent to retire at the close of the 2019-2020 academic year of Ms. Cheryl Berman. Vote 3-0*

**OTHER**

Dr. Joyce reminded those in attendance the Annual District meeting would be held Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The Newington School Board meeting will follow immediately after the Annual District Meeting.

**NON PUBLIC SESSION** - None

**ADJOURNMENT**

*On a motion by Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board adjourned their meeting at 5:37 p.m. Vote: 3-0*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Samantha Fuller  
Secretary to the Superintendent

*Approved by the School Board*  
Vitual Meeting - Approval

*4/14/20*  
Date