

NEWINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Administrative Unit 50
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The regular monthly meeting of the Newington School Board took place on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the Newington Public School.

PRESENT:

School Board Members: Dr. Mark Joyce (Chair)
Mr. Chris Russo

Administrators: Salvatore Petralia, Superintendent
Kelli Killen, Assistant Superintendent
Peter Latchaw, Principal

Other Staff Present: Samantha Fuller, Secretary to the Superintendent

Visitors: Beth Brown, NPS Teacher

CALL TO ORDER – Dr. Joyce called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the public minutes of May 14, 2019 were approved. Vote: 2-0-1

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the non-public minutes of May 14, 2019 were approved. Vote: 2-0-1

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Petralia presented two communications. He shared a thank you letter addressed to Middleton Building Supply sent on behalf of the School Board. The second, a report from the DOE on a recent SAU 50 site visit to review policy's required for districts to receive federal funds. The DOE report noted that several policies need to be reviewed. Mr. Petralia stated that this would take place when the entire SAU 50 Policy Binder is reviewed this summer by William Phillips, NHSBA attorney.

FINANCIAL REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the manifest for May 9, through May 31, 2019 was approved in the amount of \$94,811.97. Vote: 2-0-1

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the manifest dated June 1, 2019 through June 6, 2019, in the amount of \$5,387.04 was approved. Vote 2-0-1

Mr. Petralia reported an estimated \$115,355 currently in the Unreserved Fund Balance which is approximately 5.3% of the overall 2018-2019 operating budget.

Dr. Joyce reiterated that Fund balances had been voted upon at the annual district meeting to be allocated as \$20,000 into each in the following order; Special Education Trust Fund, Building and Grounds Expendable Trust Fund, and Tuition Trust Fund.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Petralia thanked Newington School Board members for attending the May SAU 50 Joint School Board meeting.

Mr. Petralia stated Ms. Mindy Ryan accepted the position as SAU 50 Business Administrator and will begin her role on July 1, 2019. Ms. Ryan will have a transition period in the coming weeks with Ms. Ransom in order to get familiarized with SAU 50 systems.

Mr. Petralia gave accolades to students for the high assessment results reiterating it is a fine testimony to the school's leadership and staff.

Mr. Petralia highlighted a recent article from the Portsmouth Herald indicating that seven of the top ten 2019 PHS seniors previously attended elementary and middle school in SAU 50.

Mr. Petralia reported that a Middle School Tuition Agreement had been reached between Portsmouth School District and Newington School District reiterating the document had been reviewed by counsel. He asked Board members to sign the agreement.

Mr. Petralia asked that the Board choose a date for the annual summer retreat. The retreat was set for Tuesday, August 13, 2019. The regular School Board meeting will start at 4:00PM with the retreat to follow.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Ms. Killen reported on the status of the three year curriculum plan. Going forward Ms. Killen is hoping to establish a SAU wide curriculum committee.

Ms. Killen stated staff will now participate in PLC programs on early release days so they have the opportunity to work with counterparts from across the SAU 50.

Ms. Killen reviewed the details of the State Assessment scores.

Principal's Report

Mr. Latchaw provided the Board with a summary of the STAR data results.

Dr. Joyce commended Mr. Latchaw on the wonderful graduation celebration.

Mr. Latchaw highlighted several project based learning activities that students recently participated in including several projects that can be seen about the town such as animal crossing signs etc.

Mr. Latchaw asked the Board if they are interested in creating a parent survey to send out. He reminded Board members that in the past this process had been done every three years. The last survey was 2017.

Dr. Joyce suggested surveying parents of middle school and high school students in an effort to gather a more comprehensive understanding of students observed strengths and challenges as they continue on in their educational journey.

Mr. Latchaw expressed his pride in the recent student led teacher/parent conferences as part of the new report card system. Students prepared presentations for the conferences that included examples of what they learned throughout the year, achievements, highlights and challenges.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mr. Joyce welcomed Ms. Brown to the meeting and asked if she had any public comments to present. Ms. Brown thanked the School Board and Administrators, on behalf of the NPS staff for the continued support throughout the past school year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Latchaw updated the Board on the progress of the lead remediation. The plan will be to replace two sink faucets, cap one faucet and replace faucet heads. Mr. Latchaw will gather quotes in an effort for the issue to be fixed prior to July, 1, 2019.

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board voted to approve the authorization of funds up to \$1,500 to replace sinks, capping, and sillcock on several faucets. Vote: 2-0-1

Mr. Petralia presented the Board members with the newly agreed upon Middle School Tuition Agreement with the Portsmouth School District.

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board approved the five year Middle School Tuition Agreement with Portsmouth School District as was reviewed by SAU 50 and SAU 52 legal counsel. Vote: 2-0-1

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Killen presented the draft Data Governance Plan to the Board. She reiterated that in July the new Director of Technology, Brian Grattan, will continue with this project and present a final draft in the fall.

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the draft Newington Data Governance Plan was accepted. Vote: 2-0-1

Ms. Killen presented the updated Newington Employee Handbook and the Employee Benefits Guide to the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Newington Employee Handbook and Employee Benefits Guide were approved. Vote: 2-0-1

Policy

Dr. Joyce recommended the Board approve the four policies up for adoption in order to get them into the SAU 50 Policy binder prior to the binder review process.

On a motion Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board approved the following policies: DAF-Administration of Federal Grant Funds, GBCDA – Background Investigation for Volunteers and Temporary or Contracted Services, IHBDA – Evaluation Requirements for Children with Developmental Delay, and JFAB – Non-resident Tuition Policies. Vote: 2-0-1

PERSONNEL

Mr. Latchaw stated the search process for a BCBA, and PE/Health teacher was ongoing.

Mr. Latchaw stated that he was interested in the possibility of hiring an additional support person for the 2019-2020 academic year. Class configurations continue to change and there is ongoing difficulty finding consistent substitute teachers.

Dr. Joyce recommended Mr. Latchaw gather more information on the topic to present at the Newington School Board retreat.

NON PUBLIC SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board adjourned their meeting at 5:58 p.m. Vote: 2:0-1

Respectfully Submitted,
Samantha Fuller
Secretary to the Superintendent



Chris Russo, School Board Secretary

8/13/19

Date