

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 12, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Newington Public School.

PRESENT:

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

School Board Members

Not Present: Mr. Jack O'Reilly

Administrators: Salvatore Petralia, Superintendent
Kelli Killen, Assistant Superintendent
Amy R. Ransom, Assistant Business Administrator
Sarah Reinhardt, Special Education Director
Peter Latchaw, Principal

Other Staff Present: Tracy Dumais, Secretary to the Superintendent

Visitors: None

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the public minutes of May 8, 2018 were approved. Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the non-public minutes of May 8, 2018 were approved. Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Petralia notified the Board that a mailing was received on May 29th which was addressed to all school board members in SAU 50. The mailing contained a letter titled "An End to Gun Violence in Schools" and attached to the letter were several pages of signed petitions from citizens across the seacoast area. Board members who wish to have a hard copy of the mailing can contact Ms. Dumais at the SAU office.

Mr. Petralia shared that he had received a letter from Commissioner Edelblut regarding the outcome of a recent special education matter. The letter and the case will be discussed during the non-public session of this evening's meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the manifest for May 5, 2018 through May 18, 2018 was unanimously approved in the amount of \$56,860.98. Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Russo the manifest for May 19, 2018 through June 8, 2018 was unanimously approved in the amount of \$98,957.41. Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

Ms. Ransom provided an update on the current FY 2018 fund balance. Ms. Ransom noted that the budget is currently at 2%. She indicated the major changes in this month's financial statements reflect the Portsmouth tuition invoice and that one Newington student is no longer attending Portsmouth High School. The statement also show that \$12,910 was transferred from the end of the year fund balance to the general fund, which will be used to cover the district's 20% portion of the NH Public School Infrastructure grant. The Board approved this transfer during the May 8, 2018 Newington School Board meeting. It was also reported that \$28,464 will be returned to the town of Newington.

The Board thanked Ms. Ransom for the financial update.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Petralia informed the Board that he and other NH superintendents were notified on May 11th that there is an additional \$10 million dollars through HB 1451 to provide additional funding for school building safety and security upgrades.

Dr. Joyce asked if there were any additional needs not being covered by the original grant. Mr. Latchaw noted that all the items he had requested had been approved through the initial application process. Dr. Joyce asked if the school had exterior motion-activated lights. Mr. Latchaw confirmed that while the school has an exterior camera system, there are no motion lights. Ms. Ransom noted that the schools normally have lights at the front and back entrances. Mr. Petralia stated that he will work with both Mr. Latchaw and Ms. Ransom to review potential items and/or needs that would qualify under this grant and will keep the Board informed throughout the process.

Mr. Petralia thanked Board members for their participation at the May 23rd SAU 50 Joint School Board Meeting and School Board Orientation held at Maude H. Trefethen School in New Castle.

Mr. Petralia also thanked Sarah Reinhardt for working with legal counsel to revise the non-resident tuition agreement, which will be presented to the Board during the Unfinished Business section of this evening's meeting.

The Board thanked Mr. Petralia for his report.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Ms. Killen provided an update on end-of-year professional development, pupil services, and STAR Assessment results all pertinent to Newington Public School.

Ms. Killen noted that she is currently working on the results of the spring STAR assessment and will share the results at the July school board meeting.

Ms. Killen shared that she visited the freshmen class at Portsmouth High School on May 21st. She noted that she wished she would have done this sooner because it was a great experience. She will be submitting a full report to the Assistant Superintendent at SAU 52 and also to the school boards at the next meeting.

Dr. Joyce asked how the Newington students were doing at Portsmouth Middle School. Ms. Killen reported that the students are doing well and that she will visit the 7th grade class at a future date.

Ms. Killen provided the totals for the 2018 pupil services end-of-year report for the Newington district.

Program	Number of Students K-8
Home Education	4
ESOL	1
Homeless Education	0
504	5

Ms. Killen provided the Board with an update on staff professional development not offered through the school/district, such as educational courses, workshops, and conferences. The total amount spent on this type of professional development for this year was \$3,312. A total of \$4,450 was spent in 2017.

The Board thanked Ms. Killen for her report.

Assistant Business Administrator's Report

Ms. Ransom had no further information to report to the Board at this time.

Principal's Report

Mr. Latchaw shared with the Board that he and the Newington staff are reviewing the NH state assessment and also the school-based assessment to analyze this year's student growth. Mr. Latchaw hopes to have the report completed by the July school board meeting.

The grade 6 students visited Portsmouth Middle School (PMS) on June 8th. The students had lunch with the current 6th grade students at PMS, visited 7th grade classrooms, and met with Principal Phil Davis. Mr. Latchaw noted that Mr. Davis will also schedule another tour for the incoming 7th grade students and their families in August.

Mr. Latchaw thanked the Newington Community for attending the *Concert in the Park* and BBQ on June 7th to celebrate the retirement of Mary Reddick. Ms. Reddick has been teaching for 45 years, with 14 years at NPS and has been instrumental in creating a special education program at NPS that is child-centered and provided a platform for students to be successful.

School Safety Update

On May 24th, the NPS students and staff participated in an evacuation and reunification drill. After the drill, Mr. Latchaw meet with the Safety Committee, which includes members of the police, fire and other town departments to review and reflect on the drill. Mr. Latchaw noted that he has updated several components of the NPS evacuation plan and the reunification process and would share the plan with the Board members during non-public session if interested.

The Board thanked Mr. Latchaw for his report.

Unfinished Business

Non-Resident Tuition Agreement

Ms. Reinhardt presented the Board with a revised copy of Newington's non-resident tuition agreement, which was recently reviewed by legal counsel. She noted that the agreement includes updated information to reflect changes in the laws, particularly with special education. It was also noted that the agreement is valid for one school year and that non-resident students will need to reapply each year. Legal Counsel suggested that the SAU consider revising all non-resident tuition agreements/applications to be identical to one another.

Mr. Latchaw noted that the tuition deposit was increased from \$500 to \$1,000 and asked what the reasoning was for the increase. Ms. Reinhardt stated that the increase was suggested by legal counsel and was also based on comparisons with other schools in the state. Mr. Latchaw worried that the increase could be problematic for some parents/guardians. Dr. Joyce suggested that the deposit remain at \$500 at this time. The Board agreed with this suggestion.

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board approved the revised Newington Public School non-resident tuition agreement, and amend the deposit amount from \$1,000 to \$500. Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

Policy JFAB* - Admission of Non-Resident Pupils

Ms. Reinhardt also presented a revised copy of the JFAB policy for the Board to review. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to approve the policy draft for 1st reading.

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board approved the revised Policy JFAB - Admission of Non-Resident Pupils, for 1st reading. 2:0 (1 absent)*

New Business

Nomination of Professional Staff

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board approved the nomination of Annie Brady as the Special Education Teacher/Case Manager for the 2018-2019 school year. 2:0 (1 absent)

Art Curriculum (Adoption)

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce., the Board adopted the revised Art Curriculum. Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

Other

Dr. Joyce proposed that the Board begin reviewing the agreement between the Newington Public School and Portsmouth Middle School and whether or not Newington students should have a choice between attending Portsmouth or Rye Junior High.

Future Meeting Dates

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce., the Board agreed to cancel the July 10th and August 14th Newington School Board meetings and will hold the regular school board meeting and summer retreat on July 31st at 4 p.m. at Newington Public School. Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

- Year-End Celebration & Grade 6 Graduation – June 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
- Last Day of School – June 20, 2018
- SAU 50 Policy Committee meeting – June 22, 2018 at SAU 50 Central Office at 10:00 a.m.
- Newington School Board & Retreat – July 31, 2018 at NPS at 4:00 p.m.
- First Day of School – August 28, 2018
- Labor Day Recess – August 31 – September 4, 2018
- Newington School Board Meeting – September 11, 2018 at NPS at 5:00 p.m.
- SAU 50 Joint School Board meeting – September 26, 2018 at NPS at 6:30 p.m.

NON PUBLIC

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board entered non-public session at 5:50 p.m., in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

RECONVENE

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board returned to public session at 6:08 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (c). Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

On a motion by Mr. Russo, seconded by Dr. Joyce, the Board sealed the non-public minutes, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (c). Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Dr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Russo, the Board adjourned their meeting at 6:10 p.m. Vote: 2:0 (1 absent)

Respectfully Submitted,
Tracy Dumais


Secretary