

**SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**February 15, 2012**

A regular meeting of the Sanborn Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, February 15, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Nancy Ross in the School Board Room, Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, NH.

The following were recorded as present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Kurt Baitz  
Janice Bennett, Vice-Chairperson  
James Doggett  
Rebecca Hallisey  
Nancy Ross, Chairperson  
Katherine Ulcickas, Student Council Representative

EXCUSED: Thomas Gasse  
Dr. Brian Blake, Superintendent of Schools

ADMINISTRATORS: Jennifer Pomykato, Director of Student Services  
Carol Coppola, Business Manager

REVIEW AGENDA

a. Signage added under Unfinished Business, e. Money for Advertisement added under New Business

MINUTES

Mr. Doggett moved to approve the February 1, 2012 minutes, public and non-public, seconded by Ms. Bennett. The vote was 4-0-1 (Baitz-Abstain).

MANIFEST

The following manifest was signed by the School Board: Accounts Payable #28 - \$365,324.07, and Payroll 17 - \$722,239.66.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

None

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Miss Ulcickas reported on next week's Winter Carnival schedule and two fund raisers, a canned food drive and Penny Wars. She also reported that 21 polar bear plungers raised \$4336 to be donated to Special Olympics.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENT

Ms. Ross reminded everyone about the March 13 voting day and asked that the whole community come out and please vote and that your vote matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wendy Miller of Newton referred to last week's Deliberative Session and suggested that more than one word answers be given when a member of the community asks specific questions – she asked for thorough answers.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**a. Signage** – The Board discussed the black/white and color photocopies of Colcord Hall and Gilmore Cottage that Mr. Doggett prepared for the signage. Judy Rubin of the HDC stated that the committee and she prefer the color pictures. She also suggested an Eagle Scout project to make umbrella shades to protect the signs from the sun and Principal Stack said he would speak to the advanced word working class for sign protection as well. The consensus from the Board was that the HDC will choose the sign colors and the sign maker will cleanup and sharpen the images for the finished product.

NEW BUSINESS

**a. Graduation Date** – Mr. Stack asked for approval for a Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> graduation date for seniors and added that the last date for all classes pending any additional snow days will be June 15<sup>th</sup>. He said that weather permitting, the ceremony will be held outside on the Library lawn at 6 pm. Mr. Doggett motioned to approve the June 8<sup>th</sup> date with a second by Ms. Bennett followed by a vote of 5-0-0.

**b. Online Learning Center Job Description** – Mr. Stack described the staff support job position as a supervisory role to aid the 125 students taking advantage of online classes from various locations. In answer to a question from Mr. Baitz about who takes these courses, he said that the majority are **not** special education students and that half are working towards credit recovery, one quarter to satisfy the competency requirements within a subject even if they had a passing grade and one quarter for credit accrual. He added that 40 seniors are currently taking online courses so they can graduate. Ms. Ross asked where this person would work and when the position would begin – he replied in the Library conference room and that the position needed to be filled as soon as possible. Ms. Bennett commented that she thought that not requiring the position to hold a teaching certification was a weakness given the scope and range of the job and was told by Ms. Pomykato and Mr. Stack that the role was to organize and supervise students, not to teach the subject materials. Ms. Coppola answered Mr. Doggett’s question as to how the position would be paid for (out of this year’s budget by changing priorities). Mr. Baitz expressed his concern that 40 seniors seemed to be scrambling with online courses to be able to graduate and asked if online classes were easier than the classroom or viewed as such. Mr. Doggett motioned to adopt the job description with a second by Ms. Hallisey and the vote was 5-0-0. Mr. Doggett motioned to approve filling the position through the end of the school year with a second by Ms. Bennett followed by a 5-0-0 vote.

**c. Policies** – Ms. Bennett motioned to approve the following policies for Second Reading: KEB, KA, KB, KB-R with a second by Ms. Hallisey. Mr. Doggett brought up the awkward verbiage on the last sentence of policy KEB and the Board agreed to add the words “or Chairman of the School Board” at the end of the sentence. The vote to approve the policies was 5-0-0.

**d. Deliberative Session** – Ms. Coppola gave a recap of the Session by saying that about 70 people were present and asking good questions about the operating budget and the Seminary project. She felt that the Essential News had effective outreach in communicating to the public about both topics. Mr. Baitz commented that it was too bad more people do not show up to this meeting and took his hat off to Ms. Bennett, saying that her presentation on the Seminary project was her “finest hour”. Ms. Hallisey said that she listened to a few comments after the meeting that were supportive of the budget and seminary proposal but that they wanted more detailed answers. Ms. Ross added that she was also duly impressed with Ms. Bennett at the Deliberative Session and thought it was a very positive meeting.

**e. Money for Advertisement** – Ms. Bennett showed the Board the program for the West Side Story play and said that they are selling advertisements to be published on the programs to raise money. She read the prices for several ad sizes. Ms. Bennett motioned to buy a \$25 dollar ad, seconded by Mr. Doggett which after discussion was changed to a full page \$35 ad. The Board discussed this

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

type of support vs. the larger proposed budget for the Drama department in next year's budget. Ms. Bennett will write the Board ad and the vote to approve was 5-0-0.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED/SENT

None

WRITTEN INFORMATION

None

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING

PR Committee report

Policy Committee report

NECAP report

PUBLIC COMMENT

**Judy Rubin** of Kingston related how the Community Day of Caring originated back in 2001 as a student initiative headed by Allie Ross and Chris Citorik that continues today as a tradition of service. She shared stories from interactions between students and grateful community members. She added that she was bowled over by the large number of seniors scrambling to complete credits before graduating and wondered why they aren't getting what they need from a traditional classroom. She said that students need to be taught the consequences of actions and hoped the online courses wouldn't be seen as an easy alternative.

**Cheryl Gannon** of Kingston added her concern to that of the previous speaker's about the large number of seniors working on credit accrual/recovery before graduation and also hoped that online classes are not viewed as a way out of classroom learning. She said that youth are losing the ability to relate one on one in this age of technology. She asked how a student can pass a class but not pass the competencies within the class. Ms. Gannon said that she felt the operating budget was not fully addressed at the Deliberative Session and that responsibility belongs to the Budget Committee. She added that the session was filmed with a digital camera and wondered if it could be posted on the district website before the vote.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMENT

**Ms. Pomykato** replied to public comment about not passing a competency while getting a passing grade. She explained that 40 seniors is a large number and that the problem can be attributed to the grading change that occurred this year (to competency based grading) and that you can pass a class overall and still not quite be competent in one particular area of the subject. **Mr. Doggett** replied to a public speaker about publishing digital recordings on the district website (which then has to be saved in perpetuity like the minutes) vs. video broadcast on a locally sponsored channel which does not. He said that the district will have to speak to legal counsel about that.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The next regular meeting of the **Sanborn Regional School Board** will be held on **Wednesday, March 7, 2012** at 7:00 pm at the Sanborn Regional High School, Room 100, 17 Danville Road, Kingston.
- b. The **Second (Voting) Session of the Annual School District Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, March 13, 2012**, from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm in the Swasey Gymnasium (Sanborn Seminary Campus) for Kingston voters and in the Newton Town Hall for Newton voters.
- c. The next **Public Relations Committee Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, February 22, 2012** at 8:00 am at the SAU Office, 178 Main Street, Kingston.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

- d. The next **Policy Committee** Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 22, 2012** at 9:00 am at the SAU Office, 178 Main Street, Kingston.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3 IIc – Personnel and Legal

Mr. Doggett motioned to enter into non-public session at 8:48 pm. Ms. Sargeant polled the Board.

Respectfully submitted by,

Therese Sargeant  
School Board Secretary

*Minutes of school board meetings are unofficial until approved at a subsequent meeting of the school board*