

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #64
Milton School Board Meeting
Emma Ramsey Building
August 10, 2016

MEETING MINUTES

Board Attendees: Douglas Shute, Chairperson, Luella Snyder, Stefanie Berry, Peg Hurd
Excused: Paul Steer

SAU Representatives: Earl Sussman, Nathan Castle

Members of the Public: Larry Brown, Bob Carrier, Barbara Hughes, Ann Kebler, Scott Currier

1. Call to Order/ Flag Salute
 - a. Called to Order at 6:00
 - b. Flag Salute
2. Public Comments/Visitors
 - a. Barbara Hughes: Please make sure that people speak up to be heard in the video
 - b. Larry Brown: Confirmed Chairman Doug Shute was correct in his interpretation on RSA 91-A:3 prior to entering non-public sessions
3. Minutes of prior meetings
 - a. 7/13/2016
 - i. Motion to approve – Stefanie Berry, Second – Lue Snyder
 - ii. Approved 4/0
 - b. 7/27/2016
 - i. Motion to approve with corrections – Stefanie Berry, Second - Lue Snyder
 - ii. Approved 4/0
 - c. 7/27/2016 non-public
 - i. Motion to approve – Doug Shute, Second – Stefanie Berry
 - ii. Approved 4/0
4. Superintendent's Report – Bits and Pieces
 - a. Superintendent Sussman asked Jeni Mosca of Somersworth to set up a meeting regarding further discussion on combining administration services in FY 2017
 - i. She has not responded as yet
 - b. SAU withdrawal plan shows a proposed maintenance budget of \$40,000 but the items listed on that line add up to \$43,549
 - c. A meeting has been set up with Principals Scott Currier (Nute), John Safina (MES) and Steve Gagnon of BackBay Networks to discuss/address tensions and concerns between the schools and BackBay services
 - d. At the NH Department of Education Summer Summit, Principal Scott Currier worked with his team regarding Nute's goals for next year
 - e. Joey Nichol from the NH Department of Education was introduced to speak about the opportunity for Nute to receive another School in need of Growth (SIG) grant
 - i. The total monies available to NH are \$1.3M for 2015 and \$1.2M for 2016, to be appropriated for school years 2016/2017 and 2017/2018
 1. NH's request for the grant money is in the Federal Government's "pipeline" for approval

- ii. The grant monies are available to Nute HS only because of its status as a Priority School
 - 1. The data used to determine Nute as Priority School are from 2011, 2012 and 2013 testing results because they were the last years the same standardized test was administered
- iii. The intent to apply form needs to be filled out in order to have Nute placed in the “pool” of other NH schools applying for the grant
 - 1. Joey is holding a meeting in Manchester on Friday, 8/19 for schools to write the draft grant proposal to outline Nute’s problem of practice based on a needs assessment and the monies requested
 - 2. Every school applying will get at least \$50,000 per year
 - 3. Title I requirements are acceptable to be included in the problem of practice
 - a. Purchase new curriculum, books, computers, fund travel to other schools, professional development
 - 4. Scott Currier already has ideas for use of monies
- iv. Discussion/questions
 - 1. Barbara Hughes: Do separate grants need to be written for funds from each year?
 - a. No, one grant covers funds from the 2015 and 2016 monies
 - 2. Barbara Hughes: If request \$300,000 for year 1 and \$250,000 for year 2, does all of the \$300,000 need to be used in year 1?
 - a. No, it’s a 5 year grant so monies will carry over
 - 3. Lue Snyder: Can our needs be switched part way through the 5 years?
 - a. Yes, the problem of practice would just need to be changed
 - 4. Larry Brown: If new computers are purchased through the grant for Nute, can the “old” computers be sent to MES?
 - a. Yes, MES is also a Title I school
 - 5. Lue Snyder: Could extra programs be purchased for computers to offer advanced classes?
 - a. Yes, as they would be used to challenge and/or bring up students’ achievement
 - 6. Earl Sussman: Stated his concern with using the monies for Professional Development
 - a. Staff turnover – train them and then they leave
 - b. Loss of academic time - teachers out of classrooms
- v. Motion to go ahead with letter of intent – Stefanie Berry, Second – Peg Hurd
 - 1. Further discussion wanted before approving the go ahead
 - 2. Joey Nichol said approving the letter of intent only gets us to the next step
 - 3. Motion approved 3, abstention 1 (Lue Snyder)

5. Financial Reports

- a. The Monthly Expense and Revenue Reports for FY 2016 are not complete as not all expenses and revenue have been received
- b. Questions/Comments:
 - i. Lue Snyder: What is the number of homeless students on the transportation line?
 - 1. Ann Kebler: Will need to look into this and report back to Board

- ii. Peg Hurd: Would like to review the Food Service contract before entering into next year's
- iii. Barbara Hughes: Does the bottom line loss (\$43,673) mean that the School District subsidizes meals?
 - 1. Yes
- iv. Earl Sussman: Will look at statistics over the past 3 years for Free and Reduced lunches
- v. Scott Currier: What is the amount billed to parents for meals but not paid at the end of the year?
 - 1. \$5,000
- vi. Larry Brown: The deficit when food service was administered by the District was ~\$83,000 so the deficit has decreased due to staff salaries and benefits being eliminated
- vii. Earl Sussman: Will have Nate Castle contact the Food Service provider to attend a Board meeting to discuss the contract

6. School Board Business

- a. Updates to the Milton School District Policy Manual were received from the NH School Boards Association
 - i. The Policy Committee (Stefanie Berry and Lue Snyder) will be meeting to review the Policy Manual
- b. Goals
 - i. Hire a School Clerk
 - ii. Look at a Bus Coordinator for SAU Withdrawal
 - iii. Prepare the Damon House for Milton SAU staff
 - iv. Look at personnel for SAU Withdrawal
 - v. Structure Board meetings more closely to Robert's Rules of Order
 - vi. Increase school based student counseling
 - 1. Look at the number of students serviced by Community Partners
 - 2. Look at also using Sweetser for additional resources for counseling
 - vii. Set up Teacher Forum meetings
 - viii. Closely review the Food Service contract before signing FY 2017's
 - ix. Gather pertinent information for Teacher Contract negotiations
 - 1. Speak with School Care regarding Health Insurance plans
 - 2. Conduct an assessment of teachers' salaries and health benefits compares to other towns
 - x. Increase parent and townspeople attendance at Board meetings
 - xi. Have informal meetings prior to town meeting to educate townspeople about the school budget
 - xii. Look into registering Nute with the Federal Registry of Historical Buildings
- c. Health Care
 - i. Nate Castle reviewed the current cost of plans and what teachers contribute

7. Old Business

- a. SAU Planning
 - i. Ann Kebler: Questioned the \$3000 on the withdrawal proposal sheet for GED tuition to the program in Union – Milton uses the facility in Dover
 - ii. Stefanie Berry: Expressed that the Board needs to be more transparent regarding the SAU withdrawal

- iii. Larry Brown: Recommended that a Budget Committee member meet with the Board regarding the SAU withdrawal proposal
 - b. Other
 - i. Barbara Hughes: What is the status of moving the sprinkler systems from Lockhart Field to the new MES field
 - 1. The Parks and Recreation Committee would have the answer
 - ii. Earl Sussman: There has been only 1 applicant for the MES Librarian position – he will be meeting with this person on 8/16
- 8. Committee/Board Member Reports
 - a. Peg Hurd provided Board members with a written report regarding her attendance at the NH Department of Education 3 day Summer Summit as the Professional Development Committee member
- 9. Public Comment
 - a. None
- 10. Nonpublic Session pursuant to RSA 91-A-3II a,b,c
 - a. Motion by Luella Snyder, second by Peg Hurd – approved - Doug Shute, Stefanie Berry, Lue Snyder, Peg Hurd
 - b. Entered nonpublic session at 8:00pm

Respectfully Submitted
Peg Hurd
Acting School Board Clerk