

Concord School District
Board of Education
Regular monthly meeting
February 6, 2017

Board members: Clint Cogswell, Tom Croteau, Nathan Fennessy, Barb Higgins, Alana Kimball, Jennifer Patterson, Maureen Redmond-Scura, Pam Wicks; student representatives Esther Elonga and Rebecca Proulx

Board member absent: Jim Richards

Administrators: *Superintendent Terri Forsten, Assistant Superintendent Donna Palley, Business Administrator Jack Dunn, Director of Human Resources Larry Prince, Director of Facilities Matt Cashman*

Agenda Item 1. Call to Order

Board President Clint Cogswell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of Agenda

Superintendent Forsten asked to amend the agenda to add an action item to consider the \$12 million loan resolution, and to add a non-public meeting after Agenda Item 12, Public Comment.

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the revised agenda (motioned by Nathan Fennessy, seconded by Tom Croteau).

Agenda Item 3. Presentation by Beaver Meadow School (BMS) students

Principal Michele Vance introduced student Ambassadors Isabella Langley, Sara Martel, Casey Thompson, Laney Watts, Ava Mullen, who explained their roles and presented an abbreviated version of a BMS monthly all-school meeting. Ambassadors are student role models who have daily responsibilities assisting in several areas. They showed a brief video, sang a song the entire school had sung together for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, discussed BMS "featured artists," discussed the Global Read Aloud, which included "skype-ing" with classes in Virginia and California and communicating with the author about the book they were reading; shared information about their recycling program; performed a song from "Peter Pan."

Mr. Cogswell noted teachers Sharon Nicosia, Clint Klose and John Hatab in particular for their high-quality, dedicated work with students.

Agenda Item 4. Public Comment– agenda items only

There were no comments.

Agenda Item 5. Recognitions

Student Board representative Esther Elonga noted that the CHS drama club recently presented three sold-out shows of *Godspell*. Auditions are now being held for the May show, “Into the Woods.” Bedford High School invited CHS students to do a “TedTalk” on Feb 18 at Bedford High School, about how to create their own “Be the Change” club. Students in the ELL program will be undergoing ACCESS testing in the next week, to measure their progress learning American English. Scholarship Day on February 11 will help students apply for scholarships and review their scholarship essays; volunteers will come in to help students at this time. The Be The Change Club is planning a youth leadership summit on March 18; its purpose is to expose students to different forms of leadership and inspire them to become leaders.

Student Board representative Rebecca Proulx noted that 34 of 423 students in the senior class (8%) were honored by NHIAA for their athletic excellence and academic achievement; students must play two sports and have B+ average to be eligible. A SOCK (Save Our Cold Kids) drive to improve conditions of homeless people will be held soon, collecting socks mainly for preschoolers and families. Spirit Week will be held from Feb. 20-24, ending with Winter Carnival. She noted that the Techno Dance had its highest attendance so far, and raised money for the senior class.

Tom Croteau recognized student representative Esther Elonga, who sang the National Anthem for the New Hampshire Legislature in January.

Agenda Item 6. Approval of Board Minutes

Mr. Cogswell reviewed the minutes of the annual organizational meeting and regular monthly meeting on January 3.

He also reviewed the minutes of the Public Hearing on January 18, which was about the \$12 million bond that will fund various projects, and the minutes of the Special Board meeting on January 18.

The Board voted 8–0 to approve the minutes of the organizational meeting and the regular monthly meeting on January 3, the Public Hearing on January 18 and the minutes of the Special Board meeting on January 18 (moved by Barb Higgins, seconded by Maureen Redmond-Scura).

Mr. Cogswell reviewed the minutes of the Legislative Breakfast on January 27, noting that the conversation is always a highlight of the year.

He also reviewed the minutes of the opening budget presentation on February 1, noting that this will be a very challenging budget season.

Mr. Cogswell noted that Patrick Taylor has graciously agreed to serve again as Deputy School Board Clerk.

The Board voted 8-0 to approve Patrick Taylor as Deputy School Board Clerk (moved by Mr. Cogswell, seconded by Ms. Patterson).

Agenda Item 7. Personnel

Larry Prince presented several staff nominations.

Catherine Baylus, Language Arts Teacher, Rundlett Middle School, \$32,589, M-1, one year only, prorated 133 days. Cathy replaces Jodi Ostrowski (133 days at M-14 = \$57,476) – LOA. Budgeted at \$57,476

Holly Denoncourt, Special Education Teacher, Concord High School, \$22,740, M-2. Holly replaces Meagan Comstock (88 days at M-3 = \$23,916) – LOA. Budgeted at \$34,501

Katie Griffin, Special Education Teacher, Broken Ground School, \$19,179, 50% at M-10, one year only, prorated 105 days. Katie is filling this vacancy for the remainder of the school year. Budgeted at \$23,390

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the staff nominations as presented (moved by Ms. Redmond-Scura, seconded by Ms. Patterson).

Larry Prince presented a winter coach nomination.

Shawn Moseley, RMS Wrestling Supplemental Coach, Rundlett Middle School, \$917, 75% of Step 3, Group 14, 3.0%. Shawn replaces Mark Feigl (RMS Assistant Wrestling Coach)

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the coach nomination as presented (moved by Mr. Croteau, seconded by Ms. Higgins).

Amanda Bacher, Girls Freshman Lacrosse Coach, Concord High School, \$2,446, Step 3, Group 11, 5.5%. Position not filled 16-17

Brian Chase, Girls JV Softball Coach, Concord High School, \$3,057, Step 3, Group 8, 7.5%. Brian replaces Kathleen O'Connor

Jenna Tewksbury, Girls JV Lacrosse Coach, Concord High School, \$ 2,650, Step 1, Group 8, 6.5%. Replaces: Skylar Stavros

Spring coach nomination: Katherine Weeks CHS Girls Freshman Softball Coach, \$2,242, Step 2, Group 11, 5.5%

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the coach nominations as presented (moved by Ms. Redmond-Scura, seconded by Mr. Fennessy).

Mr. Prince asked for a vote to approve the list of returning coaches for the spring.

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the list of existing coaches (moved by Mr. Fennessy, seconded by Ms. Higgins).

Agenda Item 8. Communications and Policy Committee

Communications and Policy Committee chairperson Jennifer Patterson presented the report of the meeting on January 11. She noted that the committee reviewed a number of policies, including Policy #122 Treasurer and Policy #123 Clerk Duties, which have been deferred for a legal opinion and future discussion. She reviewed the discussion about and changes to the four policies that were before the Board for a first reading: Policy #121 Election of Officers; Policy #124 School Board Standing Committees; Policy #530 Wellness; and Policy #711 Student Transportation.

Mr. Fennessy asked how busing for Concord residents in private schools worked in practice. Ms. Patterson described the concept of a central gathering point. Superintendent Forsten noted that 5-10 students at Bishop Brady ride District buses, and 20-30 elementary students at St. John's Regional School ride District buses.

Mr. Fennessy suggested additional discussion of Policy 711 Student Transportation Services to consider changes in walking distances in the context of the budget. Ms. Patterson noted that additional changes could be made in this policy in the future, and that there may be a legal requirement for the walk zone distances. Superintendent Forsten noted that both walking distances and transportation fees could be discussed during the budget work sessions.

Ms. Patterson also noted that Policy #121 Elective Board Officers and Policy #124 School Board Standing Committees had very minor changes, including the addition of references to NHSBA policies.

Ms. Patterson reviewed the two policies before the Board for a second reading: Policy #683 School, Family and Community Partnerships and Policy #684 Family and Community Engagement with Respect to Title I Programs. There was no further discussion of these policies.

The Board voted 8-0 to adopt revisions to Policy #683, as revised (moved by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Ms. Redmond-Scura).

The Board voted 8-0 to adopt Policy #684, a new policy (moved by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Ms. Redmond-Scura).

Agenda Item 9. Joint City Council/School Board Committee

Joint City Council/School Board Committee chairperson Maureen Redmond-Scura presented the report of the meeting on January 20, which was a discussion of factors impacting the school district budget; factors related to the discussion of full-day kindergarten; steam heating costs and the cost of conversion from steam to natural gas;

city valuation rates; the impact of lost tax revenue from the Steeplegate Mall; the new City Economic Development Office; the status of the opioid crisis; the impact of the new women’s prison on the city and the schools; and joint marketing efforts.

Agenda Item 10. Joint Capital Facilities / Instructional Committee

Instructional Committee chair Alana Kimball presented the report of the meeting on January 25, which was a presentation by HMFH Architects about the process they will follow to develop the educational specifications study and architectural report. Mr. Cogswell noted that this is an opportunity to look closely at the RMS facility for its strengths and needs. Ms. Patterson noted that the point of the activities is to engage the entire community. Superintendent Forsten noted that those people who are interested are encouraged to contact her, or Mr. Cashman. A few dates in March will be scheduled, to engage a number of people in the visioning process.

Agenda Item 10. Proposed calendar of meetings

Superintendent Forsten discussed the proposed Board committee meetings for February and March.

Loan Resolution

Mr. Croteau made the following motion:

(1) That under and pursuant to the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, N.H.R.S.A., as amended, and any other enabling authority, there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of \$12,000,000 in order to finance the costs of the following capital projects, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto (collectively, the “Projects”):

Project Description	Amount
Heat Conversion Projects at Abbot-Downing, Christa McAuliffe, Rundlett Middle School, and Concord High School	\$9,000,000
Computer Hardware and Software Technology	\$1,000,000
School Buses	\$1,000,000
Child Care Building Renovation/Replacement/Relocation	\$1,000,000

(2) To meet this appropriation, the District Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Education, is authorized to borrow \$12,000,000 under the Municipal Finance Act, as amended, and any other enabling authority and issue Bonds of

the District (the "Bond") in the principal amount of \$12,000,000, and notes in anticipation thereof.

(3) As the amounts indicated above for each project are necessarily estimates, the Business Administrator, may allocate more funds to any one or more of such projects, and less to others, so long as, (i) in the judgment of the Business Administrator, each of the projects described above can be completed within the total appropriation made by this vote, and (ii) if such allocation occurs after the funds are borrowed, that such allocation shall not result in funds being allocated to a project with a useful life that is shorter than the term for which such funds were borrowed for.

(4) That the Clerk of the School Board and the signers of the Bond are each hereby authorized to take any and all actions necessary or convenient to carry out the provisions of this vote, including delivering the Bond against payment therefore.

(5) That all things heretofore done and all action heretofore taken by the School Board and its officers and agents in its authorization of the Projects and their financing are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

(6) That the expected useful life of each of the Projects being financed by the Bond is hereby determined to be as follows:

Project Description	Useful Life (Years)
Heat Conversion Projects at Abbot-Downing, Christa McAuliffe, Rundlett Middle School, and Concord High School	30
Computer Hardware and Software Technology	5
School Buses	10
Child Care Building Renovation	30

(7) This vote shall take effect upon its passage.

<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Life Expectancy</i>
ADS Heat Conversion (ADS, CMS, RMS, CHS and CRTC)	\$9,000,000	20+ Years
CRTC Childcare Facility	\$1,000,000	20+ Years
Type A, C & D Buses	\$1,000,000	10+ Years
iPad Replacement and Chromebooks	\$1,000,000	5 Years
TOTAL	\$12,000,000	

1. The Board voted 8-0 to approve the borrowing of \$12 million in a bond as presented on January 18, 2017, referencing DOCUMENT AM59074406.1-R (moved by Mr. Croteau, seconded by Ms. Patterson).

Mr. Fennessy asked for clarification why the Board appeared to be re-visiting this issue. Mr. Dunn noted that the School District Charter does not mention that a public hearing on the loan resolution needs to be placed in the newspaper, but State law does require this; so the exact action taken by the Board in December needed to be re-done.

Agenda Item 11. Public comment

There was no public comment.

Ms. Patterson made a motion to move into non-public session at 8:15 p.m. under RSA 91-A:3 II (d) that states: "Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community."

The Board voted 8-0 on a roll call vote to move into non-public session at 8:15 p.m. under RSA 91-A:3 II (d) (motioned by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Fennessy) to discuss a property matter.

Ms. Redmond-Scura moved to come out of non-public session at 8:34 p.m.

The Board voted 8-0 to come out of non-public session (motioned by Ms. Redmond-Scura, seconded by Ms. Patterson).

TO SEAL:

The Board by roll call voted 8-0 to seal the minutes under RSA 91-A:3 II (d) – property matter (motioned by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Ms. Redmond-Scura).

Agenda Item 12. Adjournment

The Board voted 8-0 to adjourn (motioned by Ms. Redmond-Scura, seconded by Ms. Patterson).

The Board adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Croteau, *Secretary*