

Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District
Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2017

Members Present: Belvidere: Angie Evans; Cambridge: Laura Miller, Mark Stebbins, Heather Hobart; Eden: David Whitcomb (Chair), Jeff Hunsberger; Hyde Park: Chasity Fagnant, Lisa Barry; Johnson: Angela Lamell, Heather Rodriguez, Bobbi Moulton, Katie Orost; Waterville: Amanda Tilton-Martin

Members Absent: Cambridge: Bill Sander, Sue Prescott; Hyde Park: Andrew Beaupre, Patti Hayford; Johnson: Mark Nielsen

Others: Deb Clark, Michele Aumand, Charleen McFarlane, Brian Pena, Brian Schaffer, Jan Epstein, Mary Anderson, Melinda Mascolino, David Manning

Minute Taker: Sue Trainor

Call to Order, Adopt the Agenda, Announcements and Public Comment: Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 6:26 p.m. Clark stated there would be no Board Orders at this meeting, as they were still working on providing a document that would be meaningful. Clark said that Mark Nielsen sent his apologies for not being at the meeting. Additionally, there was no physics teacher to move forward with at the high school, so that would be removed from the agenda.

Routine Business: Consent Agenda Items

Minutes of the July 10, 2017 Meeting: Tilton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Moulton, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve New Hire: LUHS Spanish Teacher

Schaffer requested that a motion be made to approve the administration's recommendation to hire Marvin Ramirez as a 1.0 one-year, non-renewable contract to teach Spanish at the High School. Orost made a motion, seconded by Moulton, to approve the hire.

Schaffer explained this was the second recommendation being brought forward for this position. He noted he had experienced challenges this year in the hiring process, stemming from the rate of pay and competitive districts in and around the area. Schaffer stated they had seen some excellent candidates come through, but more appealing offers were being offered to the candidates. Schaffer informed the Board that Ramirez was an experienced teacher, having worked at Lyndon in a small elementary setting as well as substituting in the Burlington and Essex area, and he had solid references. Orost asked why this was a one-year non-renewable position. Schaffer stated he had a provisional elementary licensure. The AOE would be able to provide an emergency certification. Schaffer stated that he supported the candidate, but wanted to provide the school a safety net in the event certification did not come through. The motion to approve the hiring passed unanimously.

Eden Central School Paraeducator: McFarlane informed the Board that Mascolino had hired Ila Arnold as a preschool paraeducator. Arnold had a good deal of experience and McFarlane requested that her salary be based on five years of experience. Arnold had worked a number of years at Puffer, both in the program and as the Assistant Director. Additionally, she ran her own daycare program. Janet Murray was familiar with Arnold's program. Miller asked what the difference in pay was. McFarlane said with the approval, the hourly rate would be \$12.38/hour. Without the approval, it would be \$11.45/hour. Hunsberger made a motion, seconded by Tilton-Martin, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Manning then informed the Board that at the last meeting the Board had approved increasing the Administrative Assistant applicant's starting salary. However, that applicant did not accept the position, as the pay wasn't high enough. Another applicant was hired.

Meal Price Increases: Clark informed the Board that meal prices had not been raised in several years. The State had a calculator that was used to ensure that food service systems didn't go out of business or cost too much to the taxpayer. The following increases were read into the record:

Eden: The student breakfast was currently \$1.50. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$1.75
The student lunch was currently \$2.75. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$3.00

The adult breakfast was currently \$2.25. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$2.50
The adult lunch was currently \$4.00. No increase requested.

Hyde Park: The student breakfast was currently \$1.50. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$1.75
The student lunch was currently \$2.75. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$3.00
The adult breakfast was currently \$1.75. Requesting an increase of \$0.75 to \$2.50
The adult lunch was currently \$3.50. Requesting an increase of \$0.10 to \$3.60.

Johnson: The student breakfast was currently \$1.50. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$1.75
The student lunch was currently \$2.75. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$3.00
The adult breakfast was currently \$2.00. Requesting an increase of \$0.50 to \$2.50
The adult lunch was currently \$3.75. No increase requested.

Waterville: The student breakfast was currently \$1.50. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$1.75
The student lunch was currently \$2.75. Requesting an increase of \$0.25 to \$3.00
The adult breakfast was currently \$2.00. Requesting an increase of \$0.50 to \$2.50
The adult lunch was currently \$3.50. Requesting an increase of \$0.10 to \$3.60.

Lamoille Union: The student breakfast was currently \$1.75. No increase requested.
The student lunch was currently \$3.00. No increase requested.
The adult breakfast was currently \$2.50. No increase requested.
The adult lunch was currently \$3.75. No increase requested.

Clark noted that Eden and Johnson were the two schools who currently had free meals for all students under the CFP Program. This program was for schools that had a poverty level above 50%. Fagnant asked if that program was continuing. Clark said it was and that the State paid for all meals. Manning explained that each meal was reimbursable and that 94% of the Johnson students ate lunch at the school. Miller asked why the Board was increasing the rates to those schools if they weren't paying for it. Clark stated they still needed to increase the rate in case the school fell below the qualifying poverty level. Orost made a motion, seconded by Moulton, to approve the rates as stated. The motion passed unanimously.

Review HVAC Bid for Johnson Elementary School: Clark explained that Johnson's HVAC system had been an issue for years and, as part of the bond, funds had been set aside to upgrade the system. The bids had gone to five vendors, and two responded. Alliance Mechanical bid \$48,183 and Control Technologies bid \$43,615. Laflam had recommended going with Control Technologies. Clark confirmed that Laflam had experience working with Control Technologies. Orost made a motion, seconded by Moulton, to award the bid of \$43,615 to Control Technologies for the Johnson Elementary School HVAC upgrade. The motion passed unanimously.

Central Office Report: Aumand reported to the Board that the August 14th meeting would be the Board Retreat. The meeting would be held at Johnson State College beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Administrator Report: There were no reports.

Committees Meet: The Committees began meeting at 6:45 p.m. The Board reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Policy: First Review of the Following Recommended VSBA Policies: Student Conduct and Discipline -
Orost requested that Board members review the policy and provide recommendations for changes prior to the next meeting.

Finance: Miller reported that the Committee had recommended that Pena provide a copy of the Five Year Strategic Technology Plan to everyone on the Board. She stated this was a well-developed document. It included replacing smart boards with interactive touch panels. Miller was concerned that there was no inventory of their technology at this time. Pena was working with GMTCC to potentially have a student assist in documenting the inventory. Additionally, tech integration at the elementary school level was discussed.

Required and Recommended VSBA Policies Discussion and Possible Action/Adoption

Clark noted these policies had been reviewed previously, were beyond the second reading, and needed to be adopted.

Required Policies/Procedures

Board Member Conflict of Interest
Substitute Teachers
Volunteers and Work Study Students
Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace
Drug & Alcohol Testing: Transportation Employees
Employee Harassment
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Compliance
Tobacco Prohibition
Education Records
Student Alcohol and Drugs
Transportation
Limited English Proficiency Students
Firearms
Participation of Home Study Students
Student Attendance
Pupil Privacy Rights
Federal Child Nutrition Act Wellness Policy
Policy on the Prevention of Harassment, Hazing and Bullying of Students
Model Procedures on the Prevention of Harassment, Hazing and Bullying of Students
Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirements (PBGRs)
Grade Advancement: Retention, Promotion & Acceleration of Students
Responsible Computer, Network & Internet Use
Title I Comparability Policy
Animal Dissection
Class Size Policy
Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Policy
Travel Reimbursement

Recommended Policies/Procedures

The Role of Policy
Policy Dissemination, Administration and Review
In-District Transfer Policy

Whitcomb asked Stebbins what the VSBA had to say about this. Whitcomb noted that minutes of those meetings couldn't be read because they weren't public. He noted the VSBA was a 501(c)(3) and should provide minutes. Stebbins sought clarification on what Whitcomb was asking for. Stebbins then informed Whitcomb that required and recommended policies had not been part of any of the agendas of the meetings he had attended since last October. The VSBA had not had any say on these policies. Stebbins assumed these policies had been taken off the website and modified as necessary. Whitcomb stated he believed the VSBA should be doing their job. Stebbins stated this particular work should be done at the Board level and, in fact, it wasn't the VSBA's job to write the District's final policies. Whitcomb stated when he was on the Board policies were discussed at meetings. Stebbins explained that what was being discussed now were issues related to Act 46, governance, and independent school rules. Whitcomb asked Stebbins if he could provide him with minutes of the VSBA's Act 46 discussions. Orost suggested this discussion fell under Other Business.

Clark stated a lot of work had gone into fine-tuning these policies and the Board needed to decide whether to adopt them. Fagnant brought up the fact that several policies weren't voted on at the last meeting because some Board members who weren't able to attend had wanted to discuss them. Aumand explained that Gallagher had discussed the referenced policy with Beaupre. Other superintendents in the area had all adopted the policy as it was written and Gallagher wanted to do the same. Aumand noted changes could be made to that policy later.

Orost made a motion to approve the required and recommended policies as presented. Moulton seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: Whitcomb noted that the MUUSD Board was heading into more activity. He made a recommendation that there be more committee work done outside of these regular meetings. In order to know what was going on at individual schools, he believed more committees would be needed. He asked if people were willing to work on outside committees. Clark suggested this be an agenda item at the Board Retreat. Whitcomb stated that many towns were now discussing merging under Act 46 and they were experiencing problems. The towns were now recognizing what the Legislature had done when they passed this law. Whitcomb believed the Legislature pushed the law through too quickly without having a full study.

Adjourn: Moulton made a motion, seconded by Orost, to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m.