

**Lamoille North Supervisory Union and
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District Board
Minutes of Meeting
February 10, 2020**

Board Members Present: Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet; Cambridge: Mark Stebbins, Laura Miller, Jan Sander, Bill Sander (phone), Bernard Barnes, Sue Prescott (arrived at 6:45 p.m.); Eden: David Whitcomb (phone), Jeff Hunsberger; Hyde Park: Patti Hayford, Tina Lowe; Johnson: Angela Lamell, Katie Orost, Lauren Philie, Mark Nielsen (Chair); Waterville: Bart Bezio

Board Members Absent: Hyde Park: Chasity Fagnant, Lisa Barry; Johnson: Bobbi Moulton

Administrators Present: Catherine Gallagher, Deb Clark, Michele Aumand, Wendy Savery, Brian Pena, Denise Maurice, Erik Remmers, Jan Epstein, Melinda Mascolino, Mary Anderson, David Manning

Minute Taker: Sue Trainor

Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment: Chair Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. B. Sander made a motion, seconded by Stebbins, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

LNSU/LNEMUUSD Routine Business: Consent Agenda Items

Minutes of the January 27, 2020, meeting; January 13, 2020, Safety & Wellness Committee

Meeting: Hunsberger made a motion, seconded by Barnes, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Orders: Miller made a motion to approve the Board Orders, seconded by J. Sander. The motion passed unanimously.

CTE Presentation: Remmers began the presentation by stating he wanted to provide the Board with information about the Career and Technical Education program (CTE) so they could serve as ambassadors for the Tech Center. He stated the Center was moving toward highlighting both the career and college pathways that were provided through CTE. Remmers provided data that highlighted the fact that 48% of prospective students wanted to hear information about CTE from their school counselor. While Remmers would continue to have events at schools to discuss the program, data showed that counselors and teachers were important to the success of increasing enrollment.

Remmers outlined what CTE delivered on. The programs at CTE provided real high school experience and students were not disconnected from the high school. Students had opportunities to earn college credit and explore different careers of interest. Real world skills were provided with students receiving hands-on training, mentoring and internships from employers in the community. In research provided, 91% of parents of students in CTE believed their child was getting a leg up on their career, compared to only 44% of prospective parents. Finally, CTE provided real options for college and rewarding careers. Remmers noted that research showed that 61% of the parents of CTE students had goals for the children to go on to college, while 62% of the CTE students had college as a goal. CTE could provide real world skills, hands-on training, practical knowledge, leadership and confidence that would help them in college or in a career. Remmers stated there was a perception that you wouldn't get into college if you went through technical education and he showed a video of university representatives stating they would definitely consider CTE students. Remmers stated that CTE opened doors for students and moving on to college was possible.

Miller stated she was very supportive of the Tech Center. She asked if there were programs that GMTCC did not offer that other Tech Centers did. Remmers stated the current program was closely aligned with some of the more advanced programs offered throughout the state. The AOE was looking at the employment needs across the state and was offering ideas and suggestions of programs to offer. Remmers also noted he would need to return to the Board to discuss the application for the Perkins 5 grant. One of the things that would need to be done in order to access those funds was to perform a

comprehensive local needs assessment within the community. This would involve reviewing the needs of local employers, the needs of the labor market, and the needs of parents and students across the partner schools. This would be a good time to look at program options that would address those needs.

Approve LUMS Short-Term Social Studies Substitute: Savery asked the Board to approve the hiring of Caleb Kinlaw as a short-term social studies substitute teacher. This position would be just under 1.5 months. The full salary would be \$46,000; therefore, the prorated salary would be \$5,700. Savery outlined the candidate's experience. J. Sander made a motion, seconded by Stebbins, to approve the hire. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve LUMS Long-Term Special Educator Substitute: Savery asked the Board to approve the hiring of Raymond Mascolino as a long-term special education substitute. It would be for approximately a month and the salary would be pro-rated based on a salary of \$53,350. Barnes made a motion, seconded by J. Sander, to approve the hire. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve JES Paraeducator Pay Rate: Manning reported they did not have a candidate at this time.

HPES 1:1 Program Bid Approvals: Pena asked that the Board approve the sole bid of \$34,377 from Apple for Strategy 13. Stebbins made a motion, seconded by Hunsberger, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously. Pena then asked that the Board approve the modified bid from Apple of \$57,800 for Strategy 14. Stebbins made a motion, seconded by Philie, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously. Funding for both of these would come from the approved School Improvement Grant.

February 17, 2020, Special Meeting to Approve Bond Bids: Clark informed the Board that there were two bids for the gym, cafeteria, and stage project. Clark requested that a special meeting be held at 6:00 p.m. on February 17, 2020 in advance of the Annual Meeting. The architect would present their bids and summaries. Board members agreed to the request.

Central Office Report: Clark reported that pages 23 and 24 of the annual report had needed to be corrected. A notice was being placed in the paper letting people know of the error. The corrections were not material to the bottom line. Savery stated she had been meeting with elementary teachers throughout the district, particularly in the areas of math and literacy. She also had attended two district-wide full day meetings dealing with science and social studies curriculum, with two more full day meetings to be held before the break. Savery was also working on the consolidated federal grant, as well as working with administrators on upcoming information on writing new continuous improvement plans both for the district as well as the schools.

Gallagher reported that Mr. Sheppard had recently written a letter to the editor of the local newspaper about the District's budget. This was something he did every year. Gallagher stated that Clark would be responding to his letter. Gallagher noted he had been invited to speak as part of the public comment section of the Board meeting. Sheppard had stated the District had 1,835 students. In fact, there were 1,926 students. Sheppard also stated that Central Office was bloated. Gallagher noted that over the past ten years only one FTE has been added to Central Office. There were 26.26 students per non-instructional staff and 175.09 students per principal. Gallagher outlined other clarifications that would be part of Clark's response. She stated it had become necessary to provide this clarity because voters needed the correct information.

Gallagher then went on to discuss what was happening with another superintendent and what she believed was turning into a witch hunt. Gallagher stated this had turned into a slanderous mess. She noted that she had been hearing comments about her own behavior from community members. She also occasionally heard comments from Board members but always responded by saying she thought everyone should be judged on the work they did serving the students.

Gallagher then spoke of the sportspersonship that she witnessed with the JV and varsity basketball teams, noting the students were great models of civility when an opposing player had been injured. The District was excited about rolling out the new website in April. Gallagher noted that some students were expressing interest in different ways in the Confederate flag. To some it was a history lesson, to some it was a way to understand lineage, and for some it was not used for great intentions. Gallagher stated it was their duty to help educate the students about this issue.

Principals/Director Updates:

Belvidere/Waterville: Epstein reported on a leadership team meeting that had just been held. Over the year they had focused on restorative practices and today a team leader modeled a repair circle. The team had noted that it had been going very well at the school this year. Eventually students would be modeling these circles in other classrooms. Epstein interviewed an art teacher and was hoping to be able to hire this person. Epstein noted that several authors would be coming in over the next month.

Cambridge: Anderson reported they had held the National Geographic GeoBee. Three girls took the top three spots, with Koiya Aadi taking first place. The 5th and 6th graders went to Smugglers Notch for the entire week, thanks to Cambridge Rotary. This week the 4th graders would be going. The Big Change Round Up was now taking place and money was being collected. Anderson had been observing classrooms a great deal lately and noted how heartened she was to see a long-time teacher trying out a new technique to teach her students.

Eden: Mascolino stated they still hadn't filled the food service position. There was a lack of qualified candidates so they were considering hiring a long-term substitute. Karyl Kent had been at the school daily to help. The school had completed the first round of the Star Renaissance Math Assessment. They had better results than they'd had from some other assessments. They were reviewing data in the assessment program in order to provide Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruction. Mascolino informed the Board she had attended the Waddington Leadership Institute last week. Participants used self-evaluation tools and survey feedback from peers and supervisors to look at any weaknesses and to create a plan to address them. The first Winter Sports Day had been cancelled but the Winter Carnival had been great. Natalie Warnock would be joining each of the classrooms to begin a writing project.

Johnson: Manning reported that he was encouraged by the fact that over the past five years staff meetings had transitioned in such a way that staff members were leading discussions and in charge of the meetings. The MTSS Committee was planning a training at the March staff meeting, based on the results of a survey of teachers who had requested assistance. Manning stated the student council presented a list of rules they would like to see modified or changed for 6th grade students. Manning was impressed by how realistic the suggestions were. He would be meeting with the 5th and 6th grade teachers to review the suggestions and make a decision as to what to agree to.

Middle School: Denise Maurice noted that much of what was going on in the middle school now was about building community and teaching students how to interact with each other. In the World of Difference training they were working on an activity called rumor clinic. It demonstrated how rumors were started, how they grew, and how hurtful they could be. Maurice noted that team leaders were reporting on how restorative practices were being implemented.

Other Business: Aumand showed a video of a race run by Elle Purrier, granddaughter of Beth Bailey who was a Board member for years. Purrier broke the 37-year American indoor mile record.

Adjourn: Bezio made a motion, seconded by Barnes, to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.