

**Lamoille North Supervisory Union and
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union District Board Meeting
GMTCC - CEC
October 8, 2018**

Members Present: Cambridge: Mark Stebbins, B. Sander, Laura Miller, Bernard Barnes; Eden: David Whitcomb, Jeff Hunsberger; Hyde Park: Tina Lowe, Lisa Barry, Patti Hayford; Johnson: Katie Orost, Angela Lamell, Mark Nielsen, Eve Gagne

Members Absent: Belvidere: Angie Evans; Cambridge: J. Sander, Sue Hamlyn-PreScott; Hyde Park: Chasity Fagnant; Johnson: Bobbie Moulton; Waterville: Amanda Tilton-Martin

Others Present: Catherine Gallagher, Deborah Clark, Michele Aumand, Melinda Mascolino (arrived at 6:54 p.m.), Janet Murray, Chris Damato, Diane Reilly, Brian Schaffer, Wendy Savery, Denise Maurice, Sherry Lussier, David Manning, Jade Hazard, Griffin Koss, Lori Lisai, Chris Bologna, Susan Hennessey

Minute Taker: Sue Trainor

Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment: Vice Chair Nielsen called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m. Hunsberger made a motion, seconded by Barnes, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

LNSU/LNMUUSD Routine Business - Consent Agenda Items:

Minutes of September 24, 2018: Stebbins made a motion, seconded by Barnes, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Schoology – LUMS Presentation: Savery explained that Schoology was a learning management system that the middle school had been piloting for the last three years. Schoology supported the proficiency-based system and personalized learning plans and was a tool to encourage and support students to be more motivated, engaged and accountable for their learning. The system provided parents, students and teachers immediate access to information on a student's mastery of learning goals at any time and was both a communication portal and an information hub. The decision was made this year to implement Schoology in grades K-12, starting with the middle school this year, the high school next year, and elementary schools by the third year.

Lori Lisai and Chris Bologna from LUMS and Susan Hennessey from the Parent Institute were present to provide more details on the system. Lisai explained that Schoology's mission was coherence, collaboration, communication, community, and consistency. Lisai believed that opening this system district-wide would be incredibly important as far as being able to collaborate with other schools. Bologna noted he had been using this system for about five years. Bologna then demonstrated a variety of aspects of the system, including tracking the mastery of a subject through a matrix in each of the proficiency indicators. Demonstrations of the student and parents' view of the portal were provided. Bologna noted his desire would ultimately be to have all social studies classrooms collaborate with lessons for students.

Lisai noted there were some teachers at Hyde Park 6th grade were currently experimenting with the platform and Reilly added there was a 5th grader who was taking lessons through Nick Allen's Schoology course. Lisai noted that Schoology supported a variety of media very well as opposed to other learning management systems. This allowed for students to demonstrate their learning in different forms. Gagne asked if peers could tutor each other or do homework together through the system. Bologna stated that was possible. Clubs could be organized through Schoology and discussions or questions could be addressed within those clubs. Bologna then discussed privacy issues with the program, stating that several years ago he had experienced some issues. Since then the issues had been resolved. Savery stated there had been discussions of privacy, and the District, with Hazard's help, had tried to cover all the bases.

Attorneys had been consulted in all matters relative to privacy related to Schoology. Miller asked if this system offered more than PowerSchool. Bologna stated it did. Bologna explained that PowerSchool was a student information system and a warehouse for student data. PowerSchool generated progress reports and report cards to parents. Schoology was a learning management system, more focused on organizing learning content in a digital space, and allowed students to engage with that content digitally. In response to Miller, Savery stated that while they were piloting the program they had been using a free version of Schoology. The Mastery Tracker piece of the system cost \$5,000 for 500 students. Savery stated feedback from students on the Mastery Tracker was that they valued the ongoing feedback available to them and the immediate access to their grades rather than having to wait until the end of the semester.

Committee Update: Gallagher reported that the Health and Wellness Committee had met and nominated Moulton as Chair. The Committee discussed the SU-wide Wellness Committee action steps. This group would advise the SU-wide Committee. Additionally, they had been offered free mental health first aid for anyone interested in participating. There would be a full day in January and a full day each month thereafter so that anyone interested could access it.

Central Office Report: Gallagher reported the Spelling Bee would take place on 10/9/18. All elementary schools would participate. Gallagher would be meeting with staff at each of the schools to discuss concerns about the potential number of snow days. The fourth round of water testing was now done at Eden. Eden had still tested with the same amount of 9.1 parts per trillion of a chemical, significantly below the health advisory. Eden would continue quarterly testing but would no longer use bottled water. Vermont's standard for treating water was when water tested at 20 parts per trillion, with the federal standard being 70 parts per trillion.

Clark reported that in February they would be going through a school nutrition program administrative review at one or two schools. Audit fieldwork had been completed. Clark was hoping to have a draft available in a few weeks. Financial reports for the SU and LNMUUSD should be available at the second meetings of the month so the Finance Committee could review them before they went to the full Board.

Elementary Principal Updates:

Hyde Park: Reilly reported they had held the Farm to School Dinner at the Hyde Park school, with 100 people in attendance. Reilly stated that everyone was settling in to the classrooms. The Mud Run was held last week and the students raised over \$10,000 for the Lamoille Area Cancer Network.

Johnson: Manning stated the school was participating with a program for families in need that would provide meals for students to take home on the weekends. There was a cap of 90 students, but the school would be starting slowly with the neediest families. There were a number of requirements and logistics in providing the service, so they would be starting with 30 meals. The program was through Vermont Foodbank and was starting in October. Manning then reported on staff meetings that involved staff members acknowledging a colleague who had done something positive. Manning noted that as the principal he was only able to witness a small amount of staff interactions with each other or students. This practice of acknowledgement was now becoming routine and appreciated at staff meetings.

Middle School, High School and GMTCC Principal/Director Updates:

Middle School: Savery reported the middle school was monitoring the progress of students at the six-week mark. The monitoring helped to identify which students were struggling and needed support or which students were doing exceptionally well and might need to be challenged in a different way. Progress reports would be sent to all parents following the review. Parent-teacher conferences were coming up in November.

High School: Schaffer reported that Homecoming took place this past weekend. The Homecoming dance and bonfire had been attended by a good amount of the school. Schaffer also noted there was a student-led pep rally and Schaffer expressed appreciation to the student leadership for putting together a great Homecoming Weekend.

Tech Center: Lussier reported they had their second First Friday Assembly. The main speaker at the Assembly was Colin Ryan, a comedian/financial advisor. It was cyber security month, so the computer technology class made a presentation on not being hacked. The Allied Health group received an anonymous donation for registration fees to attend the Vermont Cerebral Palsy Conference. Fall was celebrated in Jeffersonville and the Land Trust held a celebration with 100 to 150 people in attendance. The new HVAC instructor was doing a wonderful job. Lussier stated the 9th graders were attending classes at the Tech Center and learning about three different programs, with the Friday class instructing on employability skills.

Other Business: Koss encouraged Board members to attend Haunted High in October and the school musical in November.

Adjourn: Hunsberger made a motion, seconded by B. Sander, to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.