

**GILFORD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MONDAY MARCH 4, 2019
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The Gilford School Board held a regular meeting on Monday March 4, 2019 at the Gilford Elementary School Library. Present were board members Rae Mello-Andrews, Jeanin Onos, Karen Thurston, Gretchen Gandini, and Chris McDonough. Representing Gilmanton was Michelle Heyman and Frank Weeks. Administrators present were Kirk Beitler, Scott Isabelle, Anthony Sperazzo, Peter Sawyer, Danielle Bolduc, Tim Goggin, Sean Walsh and Steve Tucker.

OPENING

School Board Chairperson Rae Mello-Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Superintendent Beitler confirmed posting of the meeting.

Jeanin Onos made the motion that the Board approve the minutes of the February 4, 2019 meeting. Gretchen Gandini seconded the motion. Corrections were made. The motion was then voted in the affirmative. Jeanin Onos made the motion that the Board approve the minutes of the February 7, 2019 meeting. Gretchen Gandini seconded the motion. Motion to accept passed unanimously. Gretchen Gandini made the motion that the Board approve the minutes of the February 19, 2019 meeting. Jeanin Onos seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

Champion for Children

Superintendent Beitler recognized Gigi Johnson as the recipient of the 2019 Champion for Children award for the District. The Champions for Children award program was established by New Hampshire School Administrators Association as a meaningful way to recognize New Hampshire citizens who have given distinguished and voluntary public service to benefit children.

ASVAB Presentation

Sergeant Anderson, representing the NH Army National Guard, did a presentation for the Board on the standardized test that every applicant for the National Guard has to take. The test is called the ASVAB which stands for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery. The test is designed to help students determine their strengths so they can determine what career path is best suited for them and where the students will be most likely to succeed.

The test measures knowledge in eight areas:

- General Science - Life, earth, space and physical sciences
- Arithmetic Reasoning - Ability to solve basic math and word problems
- Word Knowledge - Ability to grasp the meaning of words through synonyms
- Paragraph Comprehension - Ability to understand written material
- Mathematics - Math concepts and applications
- Electronics - Electrical current, circuits, devices and electronic systems
- Auto and Shop - Car maintenance and repair, and wood and metal shop

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- Mechanical - Principles of mechanical devices, structural support, properties of materials

The ASVAB takes 3 ½ hours to complete and is taken at school. Sergeant Anderson reviewed the test options with the Board. He noted that in the 11 years he has been in the National Guard, he has earned 43 college credits. Other discussion included:

- No cost to the District
- Results are mailed to counselors
- Test can be taken from 10th – 12th grade
- Same test as ROTC
- Tests are optional
- Plymouth and Inter-lakes are the only district's in the Lakes Region administering the test

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Beitler reviewed his written report.

Superintendent Beitler reviewed the Blizzard Bag Day survey results with the Board. The overall results from the survey indicated that the first Blizzard Bag Day was successful with 83% of students participating. Discussion ensued regarding the fact that the second Blizzard Bag Day was more manageable and learners had more of a sense of the expectations.

Superintendent Beitler asked the Board to select a date to meet with GEA to have a presentation from Health Trust on insurance options for employees. The meeting will be scheduled for March 21, 2019 at 5:00 at the SAU office.

Rae Mello-Andrews inquired who the new chairperson is of the Emergency Preparedness Committee. Superintendent Beitler replied that Tim Goggin and Sean Murphy are the new co-chairs of the committee.

Principals' Reports

Gilford Elementary School

Principal Danielle Bolduc reviewed her written report and referred to Assistant Principal Sean Walsh who reviewed the discipline data with the Board. Mr. Walsh presented the data and answered questions from the Board. Mr. Walsh felt that overall, it's been a good year. The Board questioned some of the higher numbers on the report and Mr. Walsh explained that it is one student with multiple offenses and they are working with the student.

Gilford Middle School

Principal Peter Sawyer reviewed his report as written adding kudos to the coaches and organizers of the Unified Hoops Alumni Game. Mr. Sawyer and Mr. Walsh reviewed the discipline data with the Board.

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Gilford High School

Mr. Sperazzo presented his report as written. Mr. Sperazzo asked the Board for approval for Dan Caron, Technology and Engineering teacher, to apply for a Tanger grant in the amount of \$2,400. The money will be used to purchase a 3D printer and five rolls of filament. On a motion by Gretchen Gandini and a second by Jeanin Onos, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request.

The Board discussed the comments Mr. Sperazzo shared that were made by students and staff regarding the 90/10 grading practice implemented this year. Chris McDonough stated that some of the comments from students indicated that they were stressed and expressed anxiety. Mr. Sperazzo responded that this was discussed with team leaders as well as conversations with students. Mr. Sperazzo stated that it is brand new and we are watching the anxiety piece.

Tim Goggin informed the Board of the Vape presentations on March 7th for students. There will be three presentations during the school day and a 6:00 p.m. presentation at night in the Auditorium for the general public to attend.

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Report

Steve Tucker presented his report on Grading and Reporting and reviewed the purpose of grading. “The purpose of grading is to describe how well students have achieved specific learning expectations based on evidence gathered from assignment, assessment, or other demonstrations of learning. Grades are intended to inform parents, students and others about learning successes and to guide improvements when needed.” Discussion ensued on Mr. Tucker’s presentation. Superintendent Beitler stated that these are conversations we are having with teachers. Mr. Tucker asked the question “is the grade inspiring the student to do better.”

Business Administrator Report

Scott Isabelle informed the Board that he met with Chris Hayes and John Fauci in Gilmanton regarding the frustration on where the finances are at the end of the year. Mr. Isabelle is now meeting with Gilmanton on a quarterly basis as we go forward to review the financials.

Mr. Isabelle referred to the memo to the Board stating that the first round of lead testing in Gilford Elementary School was completed on December 19, 2018 and it was discovered that two locations had test results of 15 parts per billion or higher and required remediation.

The faucets were replaced on February 1, 2019 and retested on February 4, 2019. The test results were received on February 8, 2019 and they were negative. The faucets have been placed back in service.

Testing at the Gilford High School and Gilford Middle School was conducted on February 27, 2019. We are expecting the laboratory test results in about two weeks.

Mr. Isabelle reviewed some options for school busing. He stated that we are in the first year of a 5 year contract with First Student. We cannot break the contract unless they default on the contract and then they have 30 days to correct it. If the District had no money at all for busing, then we could get out of the contract as well. The immediate problem is the doubling up of buses as well as a shortage of buses for field trips. Mr. Isabelle

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suggested we look at mixed use vehicles. If the District owns or leases the vehicle, a staff member can drive it without being required to have a CDL license. A mixed use vehicle cannot transport students to and from school. Mr. Isabelle stated that specifics are not clear regarding the approved use and he has a call into the State to get some clarification. Mr. Isabelle said we can start working on a cost analysis if the Board approves.

Chair Report

Rae Mello-Andrews reminded the Board that voting day is next Tuesday, March 12, 2019 and we will need a Board member who is not on the ballot to help count the votes at 7:00 p.m. when the polls close.

Policy – First Reading

Mr. Beitler brought forth the following policy for the first reading.

JFAB – Non-Resident Tuition Policy. After some discussion, this policy is being returned to the Policy Committee for review.

Polices for Review – 2nd Reading

Mr. Beitler brought forth the following policies for the second reading.

BEDG - Minutes – The policy was sent to the GEA for feedback on February 13, 2019. No further feedback was received. Gretchen Gandini made a motion to approve; Karen Thurston seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

BEDB – Agenda Preparation and Dissemination – The policy was sent to the GEA for feedback on February 13, 2019. No further feedback was received. Chris McDonough made a motion to approve; Jeanin Onos seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

EBCA – Crisis Prevention and Emergency Response Plans – Policy was sent to GEA for feedback on February 13, 2019; no feedback was received; Chris McDonough made a motion to approve; Gretchen Gandini seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

JIH – Student Searches and Their Property – Policy was returned to the policy committee for review of language consistency.

JIH-R – Search of Students – Policy was returned to policy committee for review of language consistency with policy JIH.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

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Non-Public Session

Non-Public – RSA 91-A:3II (a) *The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.*

At 7:50 p.m. Gretchen Gandini made a motion to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II(a) Jeanin Onos seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

At 8:56 p.m., the Board came out of non-public session.

On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Gretchen Gandini, the Board voted unanimously to seal the minutes of the 7:55 p.m., February 4, 2019 non-public session.

Adjournment

Motion was made at 8:56 p.m. by Jeanin Onos to adjourn the meeting; Chris McDonough seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Gretchen Gandini
School Board Secretary**