

**GILFORD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2018
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The Gilford School Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at the Gilford Elementary School -Tocci Library. Present were board members Gretchen Gandini, Rae Mello-Andrews, Jeanin Onos, Karen Thurston and Chris McDonough. Representing Gilmanton were Michelle Heyman and Malcolm Macleod. Administrators present were Kirk Beitler, Danielle Bolduc, Scott Isabelle, Peter Sawyer, Anthony Sperazzo, Steve Tucker and Brenda McGee. Student Representative was Greg Madore.

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

Karen Thurston made the motion that the board approve the minutes of the August 20, 2018 meeting. Chris McDonough seconded the motion and after discussion of corrections it was voted in the affirmative. Chris McDonough, Michelle Heyman and Malcolm MacLeod abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENT No public comment was offered.

REPORTS Superintendent Report
Kirk Beitler reviewed his written report as follows.

Gilford School District Goals

Student Learning - We just received results from the State Science Assessment and will have a presentation for the Board at the October meeting. The data will be reviewed with the Principals and Curriculum Director on Monday, September 10th in order to prepare the information for teachers and Board members. An orientation was held on August 30th for substitute teachers, to provide information about our schools and the new attendance system. The system has now been introduced District wide.

Families and Communities - Superintendent Beitler shared the 2018/2019 strategic plan, with a request to review and approve. Rae-Mello Andrews will discuss more about the time commitment in her report. We will be sharing our curriculum, instruction and assessment work at the joint meeting with Gilmanton on October 1st at GHS. The District's float won 2nd prize in the OHD parade, was then presented with a ribbon and a \$30.00 check, which was donated to the Gilford Got Lunch program.

Resource Management - Superintendent Beitler and Scott Isabelle met with the Budget Committee on August 30th to review the financials for 2017/2018 year end.

Safety and Facilities - Scott Isabelle will share information regarding the Infrastructure/Safety Grants. The Meadows Committee will continue their work on permanent restrooms and locker rooms for both teams (home/visitor). Their first meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on September 12th at the SAU office.

Chris McDonough made the motion that the Board approve the Gilford School District goals. Gretchen seconded the motion which was voted in the affirmative. Malcolm MacLeod abstained.

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Student Council Report

Greg Madore stated that the year is off to a good start. He discussed the changes in the grading system, which is now based on 90% Summative Assessment / 10% Homework. This was needed in order to stay up with the current times. The Council's goal for the year is to have more participation in school activities by involving all students & staff members.

Gilford Elementary School

Danielle Bolduc reviewed her written report.

- The first day of school went well. Although the classrooms were very warm, teachers and students remained focused on learning.
- Staff was welcomed back on Tuesday with a community meeting.
- Open House on August 28th was very successful.
- PTA hosted a kindergarten "meet up" on August 22nd at the Imagination Station.
- Sugar House project will be completed before the season begins.

Gilford Middle School

Peter Sawyer reviewed his written report.

- A very positive start to the year.
- Summer Math Academy was attended by 72 students.
- We will host a Lego League competition on November 17th.
- Students will now have the option to take home Chromebooks with a signed agreement, similar to the HS.
- NELMS Conference - 4 students will attend
- Nomination for Teacher of the Year – Amber McLane
- Theater Camp this summer had its' most successful season ever.

Gilford High School

Anthony Sperazzo reviewed his written report.

- Opening of school went smoothly.
- Jump Start program was August 22nd.
- Kelly Gaspa was the guest speaker at Meet the Coaches Night on August 6th, to discuss making healthy choices.
- Abigail Warren won 3rd place in the ASMA contest in ceramics.
- "Making Learning Personal" is the theme for this year. Staff is reading "The Innovator's Mindset".
- Scott Hutchinson, English teacher, will release his 2nd book titled *Moonshine Narratives*.

Friday Football under the lights had great participation from the community. Discussion ensued regarding the revenue for parking fees; where it goes and what the other options are. Also, Rae Mello Andrews asked whether the students are required to pay a parking fee and Mr. Sperazzo replied no.

Curriculum Director Report

Steve Tucker reviewed his report.

Mr. Tucker reviewed information on the competency-based education system. He explained what it actually is and why the country is moving away from a time-based system. The High School has already transferred to this system and the Middle School will be transitioning this year. While discussing these changes, Gretchen Gandini asked how it will affect the report cards. Mr. Tucker

REPORTS

replied that they are unsure right now, but are devising a plan. He also stated they hope to finalize by the end of this month and will be holding parent forums. Discussion ensued.

Technology Update

Brenda McGee reviewed the District's plan.

- Expand the use of technology
- Provide resources to support the curriculum/needs of the school.
- Promote responsible use of technology.
- Increase consistent communications.
- Provide a secure network and adequate infrastructure.
- Improve efficiency and use where applicable.
- Provide adequate staff to support technology.
- Consider hiring a Level 1 Tech support/Integrator for the District.
- Develop a data security plan per RSA 189:66, IV

Business Administrator's report

Scott Isabelle reviewed his report.

He presented information on the three Infrastructure Grants, that were approved by the Department of Education. These grants will reimburse the District up to 80% of the costs, but the projects must be completed by April 1, 2019. There is \$30,000 available from summer projects, which would be used to offset the remaining costs. If the Board approves the grants, the District will have to contribute \$17,232 from the General Fund (which is based on a 20% reimbursement). The secure entry project for GES has already been completed and we're awaiting reimbursement. Chris McDonough inquired about those funds once they're received. Mr Isabelle would like to proceed, so the Notice of Public Hearing can be posted. Rae Mello-Andrews asked for a vote; all in favor to approve.

He then proceeded to notify the Board of two new significant expenses not in the current budget:

- GMS/GHS sprinkler system needs repair, estimated at \$61,000.
- NHDES has new requirements for water testing every five years - awaiting an estimate from Gilford Well. If emergency repairs are needed this year, monies from the Capital Reserve Fund along with the balance from the Project Fund could be utilized and then have a warrant article to appropriate replenishing the monies used from the CRF.

Mr. Isabelle stated that he is in hopes to have more information on all of this for the October meeting. Discussion ensued.

Chair Report

Chair Rae Mello-Andrews reviewed the following items:

- Joint Board meeting will be held at GHS on October 1st.
- Governor Sununu appointed a committee to look into changing the start of school "statewide" to the day after Labor Day. Discussion ensued.
- Strategic Planning - Rae expressed her interest in selecting Candidate Kathleen McCabe from PSU as being the most cost effective and the fact that we already have a relationship with the University. Rae stated that she is focused on trying to keep the timeframe limited for those who will be on the Steering Committee. She also requested to let her know if interested in serving on the Committee.

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REPORTS Superintendent Beitler mentioned that he has worked with all three of the candidates.

POLICY REVIEW AND REVISION Superintendent Beitler brought forward the following policies for second reading:

- JH - Attendance, Absenteeism and Truancy – Chris McDonough made a motion to accept the policy as written and Karen Thurston seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- JLF - Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect – Gretchen Gandini made a motion to accept the policy as written and Chris McDonough seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- JICJ - Use of Communication Devices – Chris McDonough questioned the current policy and what the general practice is. Discussion ensued. Rae Mello-Andrews noted that “Document GEA” was not referenced on any of the policies, so a decision was made to discontinue the review and have the correction completed for the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT No public comment was offered.

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION
RSA 91-A:3 II** At 8:08 p.m., Chris McDonough made the motion to enter non-public session pursuant to the provisions of RSA 91-A:3 II(a). Karen Thurston seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RE-ENTER PUBLIC
SESSION** At 8:27 p.m., the board re-entered public session.

On a motion by Karen Thurston and a second by Jeanin Onos, the board voted unanimously to seal the minutes of the 8:35 p.m. section of the August 20, 2018 non-public session with a vote of 4-0. Chris McDonough, Michelle Heyman and Malcolm MacLeod abstained.

On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Gretchen Gandini, the board voted to seal the minutes of the 8:47 p.m. section of the August 20, 2018 non-public session with a vote of 4-0. Chris McDonough, Michelle Heyman and Malcolm MacLeod abstained.

ADJOURNMENT At 8:28 p.m., on a motion by Karen Thurston and second by Jeanin Onos, the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Gretchen Gandini
School Board Secretary**