

**GILFORD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022
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The Gilford School Board held a meeting on March 7, 2022 in the Gilford High School Library. Present were Board members Gretchen Gandini, Jeanin Onos, Kyle Sanborn, Audra Kelly and Karen Thurston. Gilmanton representatives were Johnna McKenna and Michelle Heyman. Administrators present were Superintendent Beitler, Amie Leigh, Danielle Bolduc and Anthony Sperazzo.

Opening

School Board Chair Gretchen Gandini called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Superintendent Beitler confirmed posting of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Jeanin Onos motioned to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022 meeting with corrections. Karen Thurston seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a 7-0 vote.

Jeanin Onos motioned to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting. Karen Thurston seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a 5-0-2 vote. Johnna McKenna and Michelle Heyman abstained from the vote.

Public Comment

Chair Gandini opened the public comment session. There was no public comment.

Student Report

Madison Stoddard, Sam Cheek and Katie Stickland updated the Board on the Candidates Night, Winter Carnival, the food drive and the scheduling process for classes for the 2022-2023 school year.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Beitler thanked Gretchen Gandini and Karen Thurston for their years of service. Karen Thurston served the Board for 10.5 years and Gretchen Gandini served for 6 years. He presented them with flowers and a gift of maple syrup from the Gilford Elementary School sugar shack.

Student Learning

Superintendent Beitler informed the Board that the high school robotics team continues to grow in membership; currently we have 10 students involved. The robotics team has secured two grants from the NH DOE and sponsorship from a community organization. We have 14 teachers involved in our Performance Assessment Work Group right now and hope to offer this professional development in the summer. The leadership team has discussed defining learning loss for the ESSER III grant and they think data points could be attendance, NWEA results, NHSAS results, PSAT, SAT results, teacher input and not meeting competency.

Discussion regarding learning loss included:

- Quarantining has affected learning.
- Is there an opportunity to have smaller classes?

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- There is no direction from the DOE to define learning loss.
- We need to look at reading comprehension.
- Mental health considerations – feeling supported & safe.
- Scholarships & transportation for summer programming.
- Staff are really burnt out – they have gone above and beyond.
- At the end of the day, teachers have to disconnect.
- Organizational trauma

Families and Communities

The PTA is offering a free virtual Tech Talks for parents on April 12th at 7:00 PM. Parents will learn how to monitor their children's online presence and how to teach them to be responsible digital citizens.

The CDC has updated the requirements for masking on school buses. We will be mask optional on buses.

Superintendent Beitler said that we have now had two remote learning days due to weather and it seems like it would be a good opportunity to survey students, parents and teachers about the use of remote days. Audra Kelly stated that she does not feel like this is affective. She would like to see a survey. Jeanin Onos said we would need to make sure everyone is aware of what the calendar would look like.

Superintendent Beitler stated that we had surveyed parents when we first started Blizzard Bags. The Board agreed to send a survey to parents.

Safety and Facilities

Superintendent Beitler stated that the Meadows deed has been placed in the Boards Google drive and on the website under the School Board tab and documents. This gives information about the property and what the parameters are related to the school district use of the property.

Karen Thurston stated that she asked Sue Allen to come to the meeting to clarify some misinformation regarding the property.

Sue Allen shared the following:

- There are 67 acres.
- The property was offered to the Town first but they were not interested.
- The deed states that the intent of the property is to serve the children of the Gilford School District.
- The property is owned by the Gilford School District.
- Other groups/teams can use the field because there are Gilford School District students on those teams.
- There was a stipulation that if it were not used for this purpose, the property would revert back. It was a 5-year stipulation that is now over.
- There is a trust fund set up for donations.
- Donations would be made payable to the trust.
- The Meadows Committee is advisory only and reports to the Gilford School Board.
- Any money donated to the fund is dispensed based on School Board decisions.

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Principals' Reports

Danielle Bolduc and Anthony Sperazzo submitted their reports as written.

Discussion ensued regarding the cell phone policy at GHS. Anthony Sperazzo said it was at the discretion of the teacher as they are used as an iPad, for Google and a calculator. There are very few discipline referrals for phones. Kyle Sanborn stated he does not see a purpose for cell phones in a classroom. Gretchen Gandini felt it could contribute to learning loss.

Data Review

Superintendent Beitler shared a presentation on NWEA Assessments, NHSAS scores and AP test performance. Discussion ensued regarding the results. There is a new formation of a District Data Team.

Business Administrator Report

Amie Leigh presented her report to the Board as written.

February Budget Entries

Amie Leigh shared the February budget entries as follows:

- Entry #25 – To cover contracted services cost from supply lines for facilities medical leave
- Entry #26 – To cover increased cost in facilities PD expenses. Entered backwards.
- Entry #27 – Reversing entry for #26
- Entry #28 – Replacement entry for #26
- Entry #29 – ARP IDEA Grant Budget Entry

On a motion by Gretchen Gandini and a second by Jeanin Onos, the Board voted to approve budget entries 25-29 as presented in the March 2, 2022 memo with a 5-0-2 vote. Michelle Heyman and Johnna McKenna abstained from the vote.

ESSER Report

Superintendent Beitler shared the input that he received regarding the use of ARP ESSER III funds. The categories were developed by the State. He took the information that was received from the community and tried to fit it into each category. He stated that we would like to get moving on summer academics and enrichment activities, as we need to start planning. Amie Leigh stated that some districts are having public hearings. Michelle Heyman opinioned that we really need to look at what is happening in the classroom.

Policies – Second Reading:

EBCA – Crisis Prevention & Emergency Response Plans – On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Karen Thurston, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

FAA – Annual Facility Plan - On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Karen Thurston, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

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IHBG – Home Education Instruction & Access to Curricular and Co-Curricular Programs - On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Karen Thurston, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

Public Comment

Bethany Cote commented on learning loss stating that learning loss needs to be addressed in core classes. We need to attract and retain top teachers. Teachers need to be better supported. What monetary things can we do? Maybe extra planning time or offer free tuition to their children. Paras do not make a livable wage.

Adam Mini commented that kids are not passionate about school. We need to engage both parents and students.

Non-Public Session

At 7:33 p.m., on a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Gretchen Gandini, the Board voted to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3II (c). A roll call vote was taken as follows: Gretchen Gandini, yes; Jeanin Onos, yes; Audra Kelly, yes; Kyle Sanborn, yes; Karen Thurston, yes; Michelle Heyman, yes; Johnna McKenna, yes.

At 8:28 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 February 7, 2022 7:17 p.m. session indefinitely.

On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Sanborn
School Board Secretary