

**GILFORD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022
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The Gilford School Board held a meeting on May 2, 2022 in the Gilford High School Library. Present were Board members Jeanin Onos, Kyle Sanborn, Audra Kelly, Nicole Hogan and Jessica Jacques. Gilmanton representatives were Adam Mini and Michelle Heyman. Administrators present were Superintendent Beitler, Amie Leigh, Danielle Bolduc, Peter Sawyer, Tim Goggin, Sean Walsh and Anthony Sperazzo.

Opening

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

Public Hearing

Chair Onos opened the public hearing and stated that the PTA would like to make a donation of up to \$20,000 in playground equipment. The orders for the equipment have not been placed and pricing is changing rapidly.

The Elementary School would receive a 2nd tire swing and replace the basketball hoops and backstops (2).

The Middle School would receive replacement basketball hoops and backstops (2). They will also receive a 20' ga-ga pit and four square mats.

Chair Onos opened public comment. There was no public comment.

On a motion by Nicole Hogan and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to accept the donation of up to \$20,000 from the PTA.

Approval of Minutes

Kyle Sanborn motioned to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2022 meeting with corrections. Nicole Hogan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Public Comment

Chair Onos opened the public comment session.

Skip Murphy handed a Right-to-Know request to the Board members and asked how much money has been spent on his lawsuit regarding policy JBAB.

Michelle Tyler suggested bringing back the Zoom option for Board meetings.

Kristen Marshall congratulated the new Board members and spoke about the Gifted and Talented legislation.

Stacy Erlick and four students from the Belmont Friends of Football spoke in support of continuing the Football MOU with Belmont that the 4-5 sophomores from Shaker be allowed to finish their high school football careers.

Belmont Superintendent Mike Tursi spoke in favor of continuing the Football MOU with Belmont.

There being no further comment, Chair Onos closed the public comment.

Student Recognition

Anthony Sperazzo introduced Matt Demko. Matt highlight the spring play & cast participants. Anthony Sperazzo introduced Denise Sanborn and Lyvie Beyrent who shared highlights from all State Band & Choir. Anthony Sperazzo introduced the Scholastic Art award winners. The Board commended all the students for their achievements.

Superintendent's Report

Student Learning

Superintendent Beitler stated that the remote learning survey data has been broken down by school and he included those graphs in the packet. At the middle and high school there is a clear majority of parents that want to continue this practice. At the elementary school it is a closer split but still parents seem to think we should continue the remote learning days. He recommended that we continue with remote learning days and perhaps the Leadership Team offer some recommendations for parameters around the use of remote learning days.

At 7:05 p.m., Audra Kelly left the meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding snow days and included the following:

- Build in some traditional snow days
- Remote learning has come a long way
- Kids are more comfortable with technology
- Maybe a we should look at a blend of blizzard bags and remote learning
- Pre-record lessons
- Consider the type of weather when making the call
- Not all homes are conducive to remote learning
- How much learning is happening on hot days in late June?

Nicole Hogan motion to add two traditional snow days, with the first snow day being a traditional snow day and the second one would be at the discretion of the Superintendent. Kyle Sanborn seconded the motion for discussion.

Superintendent Beitler explained that we notify staff and families the day before a remote learning day so that everyone can be prepared.

The motion passed with a 5-1 vote. Kyle Sanborn was the opposing vote.

Families and Communities

Superintendent Beitler stated that he has a request from the NHIAA for the Gilford School Board to put into writing that we are dissolving the Football MOU between the Shaker and Gilford School District's at the end of the 2022 football season. In November of 2021 the Gilford School Board voted to move forward with dissolving the MOU and he notified the Shaker Superintendent of our intention. In December of 2021 parents and players from Shaker attended the Gilford School Board meeting to request that the 4-5 sophomores from

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Shaker be allowed to finish their high school football careers. At the request of the Gilford School Board Superintendent Beitler wrote a letter to NHIAA asking if the MOU was dissolved and Gilford football moved from division 2 to 3, would Shaker players be allowed to finish their high school football career. NHIAA is now asking for a letter from the Gilford School Board stating that only Gilford students would be allowed to participate after the MOU is dissolved.

Rick Acquilano informed the Board of the reasons why Gilford is seeking to dissolve the MOU.

- The team is struggling in competition.
- Other teams have 80 players and we have 40.
- Rick has worked with Belmont to try and increase their participation in the program.
- We are considered the largest DII school with the combined enrollments of Gilford/Belmont.
- We have been petitioning the NHIAA since 2015.
- There is a safety issue.
- We have made a tremendous effort to try to make it work.

Kyle Sanborn stated that our responsibility is to our district. We have to look out for our students.

After more discussion, Kyle Sanborn motioned to dissolve the MOU at the end of the 2022 school year. Nicole Hogan seconded the motion for discussion. The motion failed with a vote of 3 – 3. Nicole Hogan, Michelle Heyman and Adam Mini were the opposing votes.

Chair Onos said she would like to continue to look at avenues for the 4 Belmont players.

After more discussion, Nicole Hogan motioned to petition the NHIAA to dissolve the MOU after the 2022 season. Kyle Sanborn seconded the motion, which passed with a 4-2 vote. Michelle Heyman and Adam Mini were the opposing votes.

Superintendent Beitler has put together a nine person interview committee for the middle school principal search. He is hopeful to start interviews in the second week of May and have a finalist by the end of May or beginning of June. He would like to have a finalist to meet with himself and a Board member prior to nomination to the entire Board. He sought feedback from the Board on the process. In the past, there was one board member on the committee.

Resource Management

To go along with the end of year calendar, Superintendent Beitler suggested that it would be good to get some summer dates on the calendar for a July Board retreat and an August meeting or two, depending on hiring.

Superintendent Beitler reminded community members, parents and students to please give input on ESSER III at esser@sau73.org. We are planning on meeting with the ESSER committee members this month and have recommendations for the Board in June. Superintendent Beitler shared ESSER III assurances with the Board for approval. This is needed for approval of the grant activities. He requested approval to sign off and submit the assurances.

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After discussion, Kyle Sanborn motioned to authorize the Chair Onos and Superintendent Beitler to sign the ESSER III assurances. Jessica Jacques seconded the motion, which passed with a 4-0-2 vote. Michelle Heyman and Adam Mini abstained from the vote.

Superintendent Beitler also shared the General Assurances for the Board's review and approval. These General Assurances are for fiscal year 2023 related to Federal grant programs that pass through the NH Department of Education during the 2022-2023 school year. District's that receive federal funds are required to present these to the School Board and sign off on each page.

Kyle Sanborn motioned to authorize Superintendent Beitler and Chair Onos to sign the General Assurances for fiscal year 2023. Nicole Hogan seconded the motion, which passed with a 4-0-2 vote. Michelle Heyman and Adam Mini abstained from the vote.

Principals' Reports

Danielle Bolduc, Peter Sawyer and Anthony Sperazzo submitted their reports as written.

Adam Mini thanked Anthony Sperazzo for the efforts being made to reach out to Gilmanton to discuss ways to have a leadership group for incoming Gilmanton students.

At 8:25 p.m., Audra Kelly returned to the meeting.

Handbook changes were shared with the Board.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of cell phones and other electronic devices in the classroom. Jessica Jacques stated that we need to teach responsible use. The Board questioned the need for cell phones in schools. Kyle Sanborn stated he is opposed to any cell phones at all in the classrooms. Michelle Heyman suggested bringing the topic to the student leadership which the Board was in favor of.

Business Administrator Report

Amie Leigh presented her report to the Board as written and highlighted the following:

- Ken Mulleavey met with Pest-End Exterminators from Plaistow to get suggestions on deterring the geese from the Meadow's fields. Amie shared a suggested treatment plan for consideration. The entire year would require 7 treatments at \$2,595 per spray = \$18,165 for the full year. We will have references and testimonials soon if this is an interest of the board to consider.
- The oil market has opened for purchases and today's rates closed at \$3.43 per gallon. We are currently budgeted at \$2.90. That is .53 cents more per gallon and we purchase 100k gallons. We will be \$53,000 over budget. While we may not need all 100k gallons based on temperatures. This will impact our year end fund balance for 22-23 fiscal year. We can lock in now or wait until May/June to see if the market changes.

After discussion, Kyle Sanborn motioned to lock in now at \$3.43 per gallon or the current market rate on May 3, 2022. Audra Kelly second the motion, which passed with a 5-0-2 vote. Michelle Heyman and Adam Mini abstained from the vote.

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Amie Leigh stated that we're seeing an overall savings of \$5,700 as a combined total of budgeted amounts vs. bids and current quotes. The large project for our bathroom counter tops at the HS and MS came in \$14,000 over budget and window replacement at the SAU came in \$4,400 over budget. The Water room concrete repair came in \$5,600 under budget as did the stair tread replacement at \$5,477 and carpeting replacement \$1,625. These were the largest overages and savings, again overall the total is just over \$5,700 saved.

Adam Mini motioned to approve the project that are in the 57 accounts. Kyle Sanborn seconded the motion which passed with a 7-0 vote.

Amie Leigh requested advanced approval to make the budget entries in 22-23 to cover the increases per line as needed from the savings in other lines, allowing us the go ahead to move forward with the projects that came over \$2,000 in budgeted costs.

On a motion by Audra Kelly and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted 5-0-2 to approve the advance approval of \$2,000 for budget entries in 22-23 as requested. Michelle Heyman and Adam Mini abstained from the vote.

Amie Leigh presented the May budget entries as follows:

- Entry #35 – To reclass funds from contracted services and tuition for replacement & new special education equipment as request by Esther Kennedy
- Entry #36 – To reclassify AV Materials to regular teaching supplies as requested by Peter Sawyer
- Entry #37 – Updating approved ESSER Activities

On a motion by Audra Kelly and a second by Jessica Jacques, the Board voted 5-0-2 to approve budget entries 35, 36 & 37. Michelle Heyman and Adam Mini abstained from the vote.

Meadows Committee Update

Amie Leigh stated that the Meadows Committee met last Wednesday to discuss the 22-23 warrant article for phase 3 exterior work. After a discussion about the lack of bid participation in regular district projects and cost of building materials, the committee would like to request that this project be paused for 22-23 school year and propose July 1, 2023 as the start date. By doing so, the hopes of being able to complete the project for the allotted \$75,000 could be more possible than they would be with the current market. The voted warrant article stated that we had 5 years to finish this project, June 30, 2028.

The committee will be meeting quarterly going forward for 22-23 school year. The next meeting will be held on September 14, 2022.

On a motion by Jessica Jacques and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted 5-0-2 to pause the project for the 22-23 school year. Michelle Heyman and Adam Mini abstained from the vote.

Policies – First Reading

IKAH – Grading Disabled Students: Grades K-12

IKFC – Alternate Diploma for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

DAF-P –Employee Time and Effort Reporting Procedures

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KED – Facilities or Services – Grievance Procedure (Section 504)

Policies – Second Reading:

IKAA – Interdisciplinary Credit - On a motion by Kyle Sanborn and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

IKFA – Early Graduation – On a motion by Kyle Sanborn and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

IKFAA – Correspondence Study - On a motion by Kyle Sanborn and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the withdrawal of the policy.

IMAH – Daily Physical Activity - On a motion by Kyle Sanborn and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

DBJ – Transfer of Appropriations - On a motion by Kyle Sanborn and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

Emergency Plan for Sports Related Injuries and Additional Protocols for Athletics Participation - On a motion by Kyle Sanborn and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

Public Comment

Chair Onos opened the public comment session.

Carol Young-Podmore spoke in favor of remote learning days for the elementary school. She stated that there is a lot of preparation and planning that goes into remote learning days.

Skip Murphy spoke about the Board offering a time when residents can ask questions.

There being no further comments, Chair Onos closed public comment.

Non-Public Session

At 9:15 p.m., on a motion by Kyle Sanborn and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3II (c). A roll call vote was taken as follows: Nicole Hogan, yes; Jeanin Onos, yes; Audra Kelly, yes; Kyle Sanborn, yes; Jessica Jacques, yes; Michelle Heyman, yes; Adam Mini, yes.

At 10:15 p.m., the Board came out of non-public session.

Jeanin Onos motioned to seal the minutes of 9:28 p.m. non-public session. Audra Kelly seconded the motion which passed with a 5-0 vote. At 10:16 p.m., on a motion by Jessica Jacques and a second by Audra Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Audra Kelly

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School Board Secretary