

These minutes are subject to School Board Approval

Goffstown School District
Goffstown, New Hampshire

School Board Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2009

School Board Members, Present

Keith Allard
Sue Tremblay
Philip Pancoast
Jeffrey Tate
Lorry Cloutier
Ginny McKinnon
Phillip Kendall (arrived at 7:56 PM)
Kyle Carreau, Student Representative

Administration, Present

Stacy Buckley, Superintendent
Ray Labore, Business Administrator
MaryClaire Barry, Asst. Superintendent
Brian Balke, Asst. Superintendent
Frank McBride, GHS Principal
Jim Hunt, MVMS Principal

Call to Order

Keith Allard called the meeting to order at 7 PM and led the Board and public in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Manifest Approval

Sue Tremblay made a motion to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,332,161.26. Phillip Pancoast seconded. Ray Labore gave a brief overview of the manifest. ***VOTE All in Favor MOTION PASSED***

Correspondence

- Substitute Report
- Regional Education Laboratory, Entrance Age of Kindergarten, article for Board review

Public Comment

Donna Pinard asked about the NEAS&C Report, what the timeline was. Stacy Buckley stated the report has been submitted and they are waiting to get it back. Mrs. Buckley stated the SAU has sixty days to make the report public after getting it back.

Donna Pinard stated after March, 2008, when she was still a 7th grade teacher, they had an assistant principal who disappeared, nothing was said to employees, and rumor was she ended up in a basement office at the SAU to fulfill her contract. Mrs. Pinard stated if this could be done, then they could do without another for taxpayers. Keith Allard stated the School Board would not talk about personnel matters in public, but he could say the assistant principal was not put in the basement at the SAU.

MVMS: Out-of-State Field Trips Administration/Finance Committee Report

- Team 8-1: Salem, MA (10/28/09), Witch Dungeon Museum, Witch History Museum, NE Pirate Museum
- Team 6-1: Boston, MA (10/28/09), The Tomb
- Team 8-2: Salem, MA (11/06/09), Witch Dungeon Museum, Witch History Museum
- Team 6-2: Boston, MA (11/18/09), The Tomb

- Music Department: Boston, MA (04/01/2010), Boston Symphony Orchestra Rehearsal
Ginny McKinnon made a motion to approve the field trips as presented. Lorry Cloutier seconded. VOTE All in Favor MOTION PASSED

GHS – Overnight Field Trip

Ginny McKinnon made a motion to approve the NHASC Fall Conference trip to Waterville Valley on November 6-7, 2009. Sue Tremblay seconded. VOTE All in Favor MOTION PASSED

Long Term Substitute

Stacy Buckley brought forward, for Board information, the following long-term substitute:

- Amanda Hayes, Glen Lake, for Kendra Tisbert

Track Change

Stacy Buckley brought forward, for Board information, the following track change:

- Joshua Lewis, GHS, B+15 to MA

Budget Presentation

Jim Hunt, MVMS Principal, gave an overview of the data that drives and forms the middle school budget. Mr. Hunt stated there would be an enrollment deduction of 59 students next year, 45 of those from Grade 5; this would result in having two fewer core teachers assigned to the 5th grade. Mr. Hunt stated 6th grade would be increasing by one section and one of the two 5th grade positions would move forward into 6th grade as a means to sustain appropriate teacher/student ratios. Mr. Hunt stated next year the teacher/student ratio for the entire school would be 24 students to 1 teacher. Mr. Hunt reviewed staffing at MVMS: 39 core subject teachers assigned to teams (next year there will be 38), 15 special education teachers, 17 unified arts teachers, 3 guidance counselors, 1 information specialist, 1 nurse, 1 curriculum coordinator, 1 special education coordinator, 1 principal, 2 assistant principals, and three secretaries. Mr. Hunt stated he would highly recommend adding a .17 special education secretary to make a year round position, as special ed services include remarkable detail and tracking, especially in the summer. Mr. Hunt stated other staffing changes he was recommending included moving one of the two 5th grade teachers to world language due to high enrollment there, a full-time math specialist (would reduce reading specialists by one and move that one to math) and two lunch/recess monitors (2 ½ hours a day/180 days, \$11,600 estimated cost). Stacy Buckley stated the GEA has filed a grievance that we are no longer providing monitors for lunch, so they put this back into the budget, and the Board can decide whether to cut or keep the line item. Dan Cloutier stated there were lunch monitors at MVMS for about three years, then they were gotten rid of, and the grievance is because teachers were asked to supplement the job; there is now a request for two in budget. Keith Allard stated that was correct. Mr. Allard stated the grievance hearing on this is tentatively set for November 2nd.

Jim Hunt reviewed the following proposed budget line items:

- Part-time Lunch Monitors: Increase \$11,600. The health insurance of \$14,492 and retirement amount will be taken out of budget as they would not be eligible.
- IKON Copiers: Decrease \$11,000
- MVMS Music Equipment Rental: Zeroed out to a different line, \$53,500.
- Teacher Laptop Lease: In last year of contract.
- Art Supplies: \$7.63 per student
- Foreign Language: reduced per pupil, \$1.11 per student for general supplies.
- Physical Education: Level budget

- Family Consumer, General Supplies: \$18.53 per pupil, slight increase going into next year.
- Industrial Technology: \$3,390
- Math Supplies, General Supplies: Significant jump. Consumables in textbook account last year are being correctly put in this account this year.
- Grade 5/6 Math Supplies: Added seven additional students to class projections. Dan Cloutier asked about minus signs in lines and related deductions. Ray Labore stated he would get Mr. Cloutier that data, that it was not brought forward in this version.
- Science Supplies: Slight reduction based on enrollment and actual consumption.
- MVMS General Supplies Account: Reduction to \$26,786
- General Supplies, Regular Education Books and Printed Material: Significant jump due to English language arts revision.
- Administrative Cut of Spanish/French Textbooks: Looking to purchase only 25 Spanish books, 25 French books at \$65 each, and teacher resources at \$750.
- Musical Equipment: Slightly higher. One time purchase instead of renting annually.
- One of the outgrowths of increasing rigor in math was introducing Algebra I in Grade Seven, are seeing a cost related to that now. There are now four sections of Grade 8 in Algebra I, one Advanced Algebra, and two Algebra II. Mr. Hunt stated they have also had to buy 25 graphing calculators.
- 25 Flip Cameras: Support technology.
- Laptop Emergency Support Plan: Stacy Buckley stated this has been cut. Dan Cloutier asked that a current list of the IT plan for the district be sent to him.
- Special Education, General Supplies: Significant increase.
- Life Skills Program, Special Ed: Asking for grant funding for elements that were cut.
- LEIP Program: Significant increase; hearing impaired equipment and specialized equipment for the program.
- Engineering, Math, Science Robotics League: Increase; would like to fund two teams at \$1,600.
- Destination Imagination: Small increase of \$200; would like to have parent leaders and staff support.
- \$1500 increase for benches for home/away teams.
- Soccer goals, safety issue, at a cost of \$2,900
- Office of Principal, Printing and Binding: \$4,000 for upcoming year.
- Recommending 24 inch battery-operated floor buffer and buffer machine, have a massive amount of tile in the school. Stacy Buckley stated they would be buying a scrubber this year and a buffer next year.
- Grounds and Maintenance: Significant increase in snow removal and playground mulch (\$1,500 for annual replacement of mulch).
- MVMS Field Trips: Increase of \$7,700; would like to try and restore level of field trip support they had years ago and funds would help restore the program and make equitable to all students.

The School Board thanked Jim Hunt for his presentation.

Frank McBride, GHS Principal, introduced his Administrative Team to the School Board and Budget Committee members. Mr. McBride gave a brief talk on a new proposal they have been discussing involving athletics at GHS and going into Division II. Mr. McBride presented the number of student participants in athletic programs at GHS, compared other schools in NH, and stated there was a very

good chance Goffstown could go to Division II due to enrollments (currently is Division I); the Board will continue to be updated.

Frank McBride introduced Gary Girolimon to discuss the technology portion of the proposed budget. Mr. Girolimon discussed laptops, stating teachers at GHS use their laptops daily, that there are several computer labs at GHS (digital labs, photo labs, art labs, music labs, business labs, technology ed labs, mini labs), which are all done digitally, and five mobile carts with 20-25 laptops on them that teachers can sign out. Mr. Girolimon stated copiers are now networked so large quantities can be done in the most economic way possible and they have specialized printers for specialized students, like graphic arts and the art department. Mr. Girolimon stated they are trying to be as economic as they can. Mr. Girolimon stated the lease on the laptops at MVMS and GHS are halfway through, and they are doing their best with keeping things up, running, and functioning the best they can. Mr. Girolimon stated he has an incredible tech staff in each building and they do a terrific job. Mr. Girolimon reviewed the following parts of the proposed technology budget:

- Laptop Lease
- Software Licensing
- PowerSchool Maintenance
- Information Center: Want to upgrade monitors as the price of flat-screen LCDs have gone way down.
- Streaming Video Services
- Thumb system: IP based system that works on computer networks; have installed at Glen Lake, Bartlett, and hope to install in the SAU and Maple Avenue offices in the spring. Stacy Buckley stated they would like to do the high school next due to phone crash this past summer. Gary Girolimon stated one of the benefits of the new system would be they could make changes without having to have the vendor come out and charge each time.

The School Board thanked Gary Girolimon for his presentation.

Frank McBride introduced Kim McCann to discuss this year's English Curriculum Cycle part of the budget. Ms. McCann stated currently at GHS they are in the process of reviewing the State frameworks that have been changed since the last high school draft was put together. Ms. McCann stated they are working to align what they currently have and refine curriculum documents for Grades 9-12 to make sure they are directly correlated to the State. Ms. McCann stated they are in the early stages of reviewing potential text purchases, that the high school texts are pushing ten years old, and the State frameworks are much more extensive now. Ms. McCann stated they are also looking at using different periodicals and texts, an average text purchase of \$100 per student, which would cover the costs of traditional text as well as novels to supplement course work in all four levels. Ms. McCann stated they are also looking to outfit the ELA classrooms with overhead LCD projectors with video, sound and document camera technology. Mr. McBride stated this budget is about needs opposed to wants. A Budget Committee member asked if the improvements being recommended would help students with test scores and bring them more in line. Ms. McCann stated absolutely. The School Board thanked Ms. McCann for her presentation.

Keith Allard asked if there were any questions on what was discussed last Thursday after review. Dan Cloutier asked about phone system, page 263, if there was an analysis of this versus traditional phone system and if cost included every phone and network appliance. Gary Girolimon stated yes, the high school building would be the head of the district, the central call processor, handling all calls coming in for all schools with a backup system at Bartlett Elementary. Mr. Girolimon stated all phones would

be replaced and would be plugged into the computer. Phillip Kendall asked if this would require an upgrade to the computer system. Mr. Girolimon stated they had already put a network into place to do this, all taken care of. Kathy Simard asked about Cisco and SmartNet. Mr. Girolimon stated only two schools have Cisco phone systems and they are taking a chance and not having SmartNet on computer. Ms. Simard asked if they would be using the same continual vendor or going out to bid. Mr. Girolimon stated they looked at three vendors and Cisco had more advantages. Mr. Cloutier asked about cost avoidance component and what lines those were in. Mr. Labore stated lines are still there, 5301 objects throughout budget. Mr. Cloutier asked if there was a way to consolidate some of the totals. Mr. Girolimon stated yes, there would be some consolidation. Mr. Cloutier asked if there was a sheet the Budget Committee could look at on cost savings. Mr. Labore stated Mr. Girolimon was still working hard with suppliers and contractors on this project, but they could put together information for the Board and Budget Committee to evaluate before a final decision was made. Stacy Buckley stated it would overall be a one time cost increase, as they will need to purchase 145 telephones.

Dan Cloutier thanked the School Board for having principals give overviews of the budgets and having the Budget Committee present.

Other Business That May Legally Come Before the Meeting

None

Public Comment

None

Non-Public Sessions – RSA 91-A:3 II(c)

Ginny McKinnon made a motion to enter non-public session at 8:52 PM for a personnel issue.

Phillip Kendall seconded. The Chair took an individual voice poll of each School Board member.

VOTE All in Favor MOTION PASSED

Phillip Kendall made a motion to leave non-public session at 8:59 PM. Lorry Cloutier seconded.

The Chair took an individual voice poll of each School Board member. VOTE All in Favor

MOTION PASSED

Phillip Kendall made a motion to seal the non-public minutes for a period of six months. Jeffrey

Tate seconded. VOTE All in Favor MOTION PASSED

Adjournment

Lorry Cloutier made a motion to adjourn at 8:59 PM. Ginny McKinnon seconded. VOTE All in

Favor MOTION PASSED

Deborah Jore
School Board Secretary

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