

Approved by the Newington School Board at its April 13, 2007 meeting.

**NEWINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

The monthly meeting of the School Board of the Newington School District was held at the Newington Public School on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

School Board Members: Helen Maldini, Chairperson
 Deirdre Link
 Jack Anderson

Administrators: George A. Cushing, Superintendent
 Helen Rist, Principal of Newington Public School

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Maldini opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Minutes: Upon motion duly made by Deirdre Link and seconded by Jack Anderson it was agreed to accept the minutes of February 13, 2007 with changes.

Communications: Letter from Cheryl Berman with a copy of the New England Foreign Language League award. Ms. Berman is requesting assistance in the amount \$150.00 from the Newington School District to help fund her travel and expenses to New York City this spring at the foreign language conference.

 Upon motion duly made by Jack Anderson and seconded by Deirdre Link it was unanimously agreed to allow Ms. Berman to use the balance of her professional development funds to offset the travel and expenses of the New York City conference and the difference to be approved from the general fund.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Cushing reported on the following:

- ✓ SPED report prepared by Director of Pupil Services Mary Lyons.
- ✓ Defining adequacy and the next step of how to fund adequacy once it has been defined.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal Rist reported on the following:

- ✓ After School Enrichment attendance: 13 out of 40 students participate. Mrs. Rist requested additional staff on Tuesdays and Thursdays due to the number of students attending. The additional staff would be 2 days per week, 2.5 hours per day. It was agreed to allow Mrs. Rist to increase the staff for the After School Enrichment program as requested and to be paid from the program funds.
- ✓ Mr. Anderson requested feed back on the Smokey Bones fund raiser. Mrs. Rist stated that the fund raiser was advertised to support the After School Enrichment specifically.
- ✓ Upcoming events:
 - Artist in Residence – Junk to Funk, 3/19 – 3/20 in the mornings
 - Second term report cards and Spring conferences
 - SES workshop day on 3/16
 - Talent Show sponsored by the Student Council on 3/22
 - Spirit Week, 4/9 – 4/13
- ✓ Faculty meetings begin today to discuss graduation preparations.
- ✓ Mrs. Maldini requested copies of the test scores and will review the results with Mrs. Rist later in the week before the District meeting.
- ✓ One student took the Geography Bee written exam and qualified for the State finals.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER'S REPORTS:

1. **Communications.** Jack Anderson requested approval of the invoice for printing the newsletter.

Upon motion duly made by Helen Maldini and seconded Deirdre Link it was agreed to approve payment of the bill from Seacoast Laser Tech for the printing of the newsletter.

It was also agreed to fund the next newsletter. Mr. Anderson stated that the current bill from Seacoast Laser Tech includes the paper for the next newsletter.

3. **Discussion of purchasing a School Bus for Newington.** Jack Anderson requested the board review the issue of Newington purchasing a school bus as proposed by a parent at a recent Junior High School Board meeting. A particular concern that the board should consider this before the new town warrant article proposing a new town garage.

The board heard inputs from the SAU business manager, Mr. Katkin, via Dr. Cushing. The board members also discussed the liabilities, insurance issues, driver questions, housing and maintenance and the present bus costs associated with transportation of the Newington school students. Mrs. Rist spoke of current philosophy toward field trips and trips to the library. Mrs. Maldini mentioned that one bus would not be able to replicate the present contract for Newington students for morning and afternoon transportation.

All board members agreed that at this time a bus for Newington should not be purchased. If NH education funding and donor town legislation changed it would be possible that the board would reverse its decision on this purchase in the future.

4. **Facility.** Mrs. Rist updated the Board on the removal of glass doors in the entrance from the display case.
5. **NEASC.** Mrs. Rist provided correspondence on the two year progress report.
6. **PHS/PMS.** Dr. Cushing updated the Board on the last secondary meeting and reviewed the budget sheet provided by the Portsmouth School Department.
7. **Tuitioning Students into Newington Public School and Public Forum '06 follow-up.**
Mr. Anderson stated the need for a school board plan, which would continue to keep the board and the SAU office on track concerning the issue of Tuitioning Students into Newington Public School. He acknowledged that the SAU office had been working on this goal and that there were several problems associated with achieving it. He proposed to help create such a plan. This plan would help the board and the SAU follow up on this very important issue. The other board members agreed on the need for such a plan.

MANIFEST:

Upon motion duly made by Deirdre Link and seconded by Jack Anderson it was unanimously voted to accept the manifest of February 13, 2007 through March 13, 2007 in the amount of \$79,657.76.

POLICY:

- Upon motion duly made by Deirdre Link and seconded by Jack Anderson it was unanimously voted to approve the second reading of JFAB with changes.
- Upon motion duly made by Jack Anderson and seconded by Deirdre Link it was unanimously voted to approve the second reading of GBE and Mrs. Rist will add this policy to the faculty handbook.

NON PUBLIC:

Upon roll call it was agreed to move into non public at 8:43 p.m. **Reconvened** at 9:35 p.m.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made and roll call of officers it was agreed to adjourn at 9:38 p.m.

Jack Anderson
Secretary