

TO THE NEWINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Newington School Board met on Tuesday, September 12, 2006, at the Newington Public School.

PRESENT: Helen Maldini (Chairperson), Deirdre Link, Board Members; George Cushing, Superintendent of Schools; Helen Rist, Principal.
ABSENT: Jack Anderson. ROLL CALL

ALSO PRESENT: Sharon Brown, David Mueller, and Maggie, Cooke, Residents.

Chairperson Maldini opened the meeting at 6:40 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Maldini recognized the guests who were present: Sharon Brown, Maggie Cooke, and David Mueller. VISITORS RECOGNIZED

Mrs. Brown spoke about the need for an after school program. She noted that one year ago this was discussed. She is concerned that families are making other choices for school due to the lack of an after school program. She said that it was a burden to the parents to drive to Greenland to take advantage of their YMCA program. AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM DISCUSSED

Mrs. Rist explained the proposal made to the Board of Selectman and Recreation Committee during their August Workshop meeting. Copies of this proposal were given to board members.

- H. Maldini reviewed the specifics of an after school enrichment Program;
- H. Rist will gather data from parents through a survey;
- H. Rist will talk with Mr. Katkin about the pros / cons of having this program in the school;
- S. Brown will see if there are other parents who would like to be involved;
- Mr. Mueller stated that the parents were willing to pay for the enrichment after care program.
Mrs. Link commented regarding budget concerns and stated that this program would have to be self-sustaining.
- All will work on a list of activities that can be offered;
- H. Rist will call Rye PTA to discuss the enrichment program their elementary school.

Without a majority to vote, the acceptance of the minutes of July 11, 2006, were tabled, and the minutes will be brought to the next meeting of the board. MINUTES

Mrs. Maldini requested a credit card for the school for \$1,000. Mr. Katkin will be contacted with this request. CREDIT CARD

Dr. Cushing read a communication from Association of Coastal Teachers/Newington wishing to begin negotiations on a subsequent Collective Bargaining Agreement. ACT/
NEWINGTON

School board set date for a workshop on the contract revisions to be on September 19, 2006, at 11:00 a.m. at the SAU 50 Office in Greenland. SPECIAL
MEETING

Dr. Cushing reported on the following: SUPT'S REPORT

Professional Development

Dr. Driscoll has developed a plan for all teachers to be involved in creating curriculum maps for all subjects. This new delivery system, which will bring all teachers of a grade, together from the entire SAU. The SAU 50 School Board will hear about this proposal at the next meeting. All principals support the plan and will come to the SAU Board meeting to show their support. Granite State College has set up a plan with SAU 50 for teachers to earn college credit for their work. If they choose to work for credit, there are extra work requirements that go along with it; also, at \$500, the cost for the course is reasonable. This money would come from the teacher's professional development account. This plan encompasses all of the initiatives we are already doing: curriculum mapping, differentiated instruction, and Follow the Child.

Portsmouth High School:

Dr. Cushing met with new Portsmouth High School Principal, Jeffrey Collins, and said that he felt Mr. Collins was the right choice. Mr. Collins has a great attitude and rapport with the students. He has begun a new tradition; tailgating at the football game. Teachers appreciate his style. He will be introduced at the upcoming SAU 50 School Board Meeting.

The twentieth, annual SAU 50 Picnic will be on Friday, September 15, beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Rye Elementary School.!

Dr. Cushing reviewed with the board the Special Education Report.

Supreme Court Ruling:

Londonderry won its case, and the decision is to "leave it as it is" right now. There is always the potential that the fix may include Donor Towns. Dr. Cushing will monitor this ruling and subsequent legislative action.

Principal Rist reported on the following:

PRINCIPAL'S
REPORT

- Summer projects -- Thanks to so many volunteers and the teachers for helping to complete the move of the storage closet and the library. Many items that had been donated to the school were donated to the Town yard sale to be part of the Historical Society booth. Thanks to the Klanchessers, the Colemans, the Andersons and all of the staff at NPS.
- New hires- Susan Girardin- being nominated tonight
Jeanne Weintraub- half time Sped. Para
- Math -- New materials have been put into place in all grades.

Kindergarten will be also getting the new materials. A very good price was arranged for the items we needed and many items were received for free. The money saved will be used to purchase the kindergarten materials.

- After School Enrichment was reviewed; the proposal was presented to the Board of Selectman and Recreation Committee in August. They could not take on this responsibility because they do not employ anyone for recreation; it is an all volunteer committee. The initial cost would be too much to make it feasible. They suggested that we ask the school department to look into this idea. They supported the idea in concept and thought that the Recreation Committee could offer some financial support. (See information above.) Mrs. Maldini stated that the administration investigate a plan that provides after school enrichment keeping in mind the recommended plan needs to be self-sustaining.
- Swim-safe -- YMCA is not offering this program anymore due to the loss of their sponsor. They can provide swimming lessons and practice swim time for the whole school for \$25/ student for 6 weeks.
 - Board suggests checking with other pools- Portsmouth City pool, Gold's Gym, The Works; that may offer lessons too. Talk to P.E. Mr. Murphy.
- NEASC -- Two year progress report due to Commission by Oct. 1, 2006

Facility: Auto Flushers -- still waiting for new parts

SCHOOL BOARD
REPORTS

Technology- Mrs. Rist updated on how the contracted services are working. Seems to be a great option; issues are taken care of quickly.

REAP new allotment received this year- \$15,175.

PHS/PMS Update: The Secondary School Advisory Committee will meet at Portsmouth High School, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., on Thursday, October 5, 2006.

The Authorized Regional Enrollment Area (AREA) Committee will meet the following week.

Mrs. Maldini moved to accept the manifest in the amount of \$90,282.25; seconded by Mrs. Link and voted unanimously. FINANCIALS

The Calendar of Policy Action was reviewed. The Student Handbook is ready to print; board asked for any major changes from last year – there were none recommended. All other items addressed. CALENDAR OF POLICY ACTION

Unanimously accepted on a first reading -- GCG, KF, EHA, DN – on a motion by Mrs. Maldini, seconded by Mrs. Link. ACTION ON POLICIES

Policies IHBH, JICH, BDB adopted on motions by Mrs. Link; seconded by Mrs. Maldini and voted unanimously.

Newington Family Scholarship- postponed until next meeting when Mr. Anderson is present SCHOLARSHIP

The board reviewed the data compiled by Tom Southworth on the Newington high school students. Testing data for Newington students looks good. Dr. Cushing would like the data to be in the town report. The data is in percents -- also a list of four year college choices for five of the nine. There were questions about others going to technical colleges or post secondary experiences other than four year schools. Can we do this for Portsmouth Middle School students? Dr. Cushing will get this going. SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT DATA

Dr. Cushing asked the board to review information collected so far about ways to reduce costs at the Newington Public School. We will look at this further in the next meetings. REDUCE COSTS

Dr. Cushing placed into nomination the name of Susan Girardin as Technology Teacher/ Integrator for a 30% position. TEACHER ELECTED

The halftime paraprofessional position needs to have 15 minutes more a day due to the recess coverage needed. Mrs. Link moved; seconded by Mrs. Maldini; and voted unanimously to approve the additional time.

At 8:45 p.m., Mrs. Maldini moved to enter nonpublic session to discuss personnel; under RSA 91-A:3 [b] personnel; seconded by Mrs. Link. It was unanimously agreed to enter nonpublic session. The board came out of nonpublic session at 9:15 p.m. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Mrs. Maldini moved to elect Susan Girardin to the 30% position of Technology Teacher/ Integrator; and offer Ms. Girardin a one year contract; and that employment is to be retroactive to the start of this school year; seconded by Mrs. Link, and voted unanimously. TECHNOLOGY TEACHER

The school board requested a mailbox in the school office. Mrs. Rist said a mailbox is available in the office near the NSS and the SAU box. BOARD MAILBOX AT SCHOOL

The board adjourned at 9:25 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Maldini; seconded by Mrs. Link, and voted unanimously. ADJOURN

School Board Secretary