

**AUBURN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.
AUBURN VILLAGE SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

These minutes are unapproved.

Keith Leclair, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Board members, Alan Villeneuve, Janice Baker, Maureen Murgo, and Samantha Belcourt; Principal, Lori Collins; Assistant Principal, Michel O'Rourke; Director of Student Services, Deena Jensen; Curriculum Coordinator, Cheryl Violette; Maintenance Director, Scott Dube; Superintendent Dr. Charles P. (Phil) Littlefield, Assistant Superintendent, Marge Polak, and Business Administrator, Karen Lessard.

PROOF OF POSTING

Dr. Littlefield provided proof of posting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Carleigh Lacroix, 8th grader and winner of the Short Story competition, led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PINKERTON LIAISONS

Julia Sylvain updated the Board with current events from Pinkerton that included:

- All-State Jazz Festival
- Division 1 State gymnastic champs as well as in girls and boys track and field
- ROTC Scholarship went to an Auburn student
- Headmaster Morse is leaving his position earlier than expected. Dr. Tim Powers is acting Headmaster until a replacement is found
- Upcoming 'Milli Vanilli' lip sync contest
- Upcoming Chorus night

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Samantha Belcourt, seconded by Maureen Murgo, to accept the minutes of the Auburn School Board Meeting of January 3, 2018, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Alan Villeneuve, seconded by Samantha Belcourt, to accept the minutes of the Auburn School Board Meeting of January 9, 2018, and the motion carried unanimously.

Keith Leclair called upon Selectmen, Jim Headd and Richard Eaton to address the Board for their quarterly joint meeting.

Jim stated that Selectman Dale Phillips was unable to attend due to an injury. Jim presented a handout as a result of the town goal-setting meeting. The handout highlighted what has been accomplished and expectations for the future. Alan Villeneuve commended the Board of Selectmen for all that they have done to move the town forward. The handout is on the town website. With regard to the proposed addition/renovation project for the Auburn Village School, Jim Headd stated that the general conversation has been positive. Alan Villeneuve asked the Selectmen for future feedback with regard to the change in health insurance for town employees (from School Care/Cigna to Anthem/Blue Cross). The Board thanked the Selectmen and will meet again in May at the town hall.

Keith Leclair moved up 'SB193' from New Business, as Senator John Reagan was in attendance to give his thoughts on Senate Bill 193, an education voucher program. Mr. Reagan stated that the bill no longer looks like it did in the Senate as it was 'hit hard in the House in an attempt to defeat this bill'. He said he believes competition is good for the education of students as it would drive up test scores. He said all the negative surrounding this bill is from unions, and that the new House bill is now very restrictive.

Alan Villeneuve asked what are eligibility requirements, to which Senator Reagan answered it would be those who are pretty impoverished. Alan asked what exact dollar amount, to which Senator Reagan said the original bill had no income qualification, but that he believes it is now 115% of the poverty level.

Maureen Murgo asked what the application process was and expressed her concerns for sending children to schools with no standards or rubrics to follow, to which the Senator said it is driven by parents with the child's best interest in mind. When you have a failing private school, kids are removed which is not the case for those in public education.

Maureen Murgo said she is concerned for children with one parent or who are poor; the most vulnerable, and Alan asked how this would affect the district financially. Senator Reagan stated the district wouldn't notice a fiscal change.

Discussion ensued relative to funding SB193. Alan Villeneuve said he likes the opportunity, but does not understand how the funds could be replaced. He asked why there was not another bill being proposed to fund it.

Maureen Murgo asked if parents who homeschool could be funded under this bill. There was no answer to this, but Mr. Reagan stated that though the first draft took out parochial funding, the House insisted that it be put back in.

Janice Baker asked if there were model districts, to which Senator Reagan stated mostly in urban areas.

Resident Pam Weeks asked how the state would protect the separation of church and state, to which Senator Reagan stated it was a Supreme Court decision.

Maureen Murgo asked what is the measure of success and Samantha Belcourt asked about Stabilizing Grants, to which the Senator said it is the parents job to determine their child's success and to stop worrying about the funding and to care more about the child's education.

Resident Scott Kimball stated it was taxation without representation. Residents have the right to examine, alter, and vote on a budget, but that this bill says you can't touch it. He added that the current Commissioner has 7 children, all of which are homeschooled, and the Governor owns a ski school at Waterville Valley. He said he is concerned with Muslims, at which time Keith Leclair stated this meeting with Senator Reagan was not a debate, but one for gathering information.

Alan Villeneuve asked if Senator Reagan would support school building aid to assist in those districts who have building projects, to which the Senator replied that some districts don't maintain their buildings and shouldn't expect to state to pay for renovations. He said he is in favor of districts taking care of their own buildings.

The Board thanked Senator Reagan for attending and taking their questions, and he exited the meeting.

Pam Weeks said her main concern was the lack of separation between church and state as well as her concerns for the lack of oversight for protecting tax dollars. She said in doing research she has found financial figures 'all over the place', and that there would be no protection against discrimination. Scott Kimball said the attempt is to decentralize the community, and there is no following of the money. He stated that the Claremont lawsuit fought on the State Constitution, and was determined to be the State's responsibility.

Resident Jackie Wood addressed the Board saying her experience with SAU #15 has been long and successful, and resented some of the comments made by the Senator.

FINANCIAL

Manifest Review

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Samantha Belcourt, to approve the manifest for February 13, 2018 in the amount of \$1,966,116.38, and the motion carried unanimously.

Budget Adjustments

The budget adjustments were reviewed.

Motion by Alan Villeneuve, seconded by Janice Baker, to accept the budget adjustments as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

Resident Jess Edwards arrived at the meeting late, thinking the meeting began at 7:00 p.m. He said he was there in support of Senator Reagan and SB193.

REPORTS

Reports of Administrators

Dr. Littlefield explained the process that has gone into drafting an Educational Code of Ethics that will be presented to the State Board on Friday.

Dr. Littlefield stated that the Pinkerton Headmaster posting will remain open until the position is filled.

Lori Collins stated that she has been calling around for estimates for the number of incoming kindergartners. While that number is difficult to target, she is aware of 24 children coming from Tiny Tots. Discussion of the rate of absenteeism (generally 5%), and curriculum on Martin Luther King Jr./Civil Right's Day ensued. Lori Collins stated that feedback this year was encouraging, as those who didn't attend say they wished they had. There were no glitches with NWEA testing.

NHSBA

Maureen Murgo attended the Delegate Assembly with much focus on collaboration with the NHSBA. She said the presentation from the Hopkinton School Board with regard to teacher evaluations was impressive.

SERESC

Janice Baker reported they met last night and things are stabilizing. They are looking toward programs and services going forward, and are working on by-laws and board governance. Dr. Littlefield stated is was impressed and is glad to be a part of it.

Technology

Lori Collins stated there will be a meeting after vacation.

PTA

Keith Leclair stated that President Carrie Peabody is stepping down, so they will be looking for a new president. \$928 was made in Box Tops. The Barnes and Noble Book Fair was successful, pulling in \$400 more than past Scholastic Book Fairs.

School Master Plan

Samantha Belcourt stated that there is another public forum on Saturday. She stated her desire to put in a line item for a Clerk of the Works/Owner Representative. Alan Villeneuve stated that the determination has been made that there is no need for a new cistern, therefore there is money in the addition/renovation budget. The Clerk/Representative will be on the April agenda if the renovation/addition warrant article passes. An addition/renovation presentation will also be on the April agenda should that warrant article pass.

School Improvement Committee

Samantha Belcourt said they are meeting Thursday night.

PERSONNEL

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Goals

Lori Collins presented a draft Process for Reporting on Student Success Measures. Marge Polak stated that Lori and Cheryl Violette met with many groups in addition to parents, Pinkerton, and Bill Herman before drafting this baseline report. Maureen Murgo asked if Lori ever gets feedback from freshmen or sophomores, to which Lori said she does get anecdotal information when she has a chance to speak to those children. Maureen Murgo asked when teachers have the chance to work on core instruction and differentiation. Cheryl stated that there are many ways they are worked on, and that teachers are always looking for ways for their kids to succeed.

NEW BUSINESS

Primex

Karen Lessard presented a Primex handout, proposing a 3-year renewal. She said we have been with Primex since the 2011/2012 school year. The proposal showed a 10% increase. Keith Leclair asked Karen to do some research to seek alternatives. Dr. Littlefield stated that Primex offers many additional services to its participants, and for the Board to consider what they might be giving up should they choose to change companies.

Motion by Alan Villeneuve, seconded by Maureen Murgo, to table Primex discussion until more information is provided.

Review of Board Start Time

Motion by Alan Villeneuve to table Board Start Time until the April meeting.

Field Trip Request

Motion by Alan Villeneuve, seconded by Maureen Murgo, to approve the field trip to Camp MiTeNa, and the motion carried unanimously.

Update of the SAU Board Meeting

Alan Villeneuve stated that he read the minutes of the SAU Board meeting which stated that there will not be a Superintendent's evaluation. Dr. Littlefield said that Candia and Hooksett have both eliminated their policies calling for such, as there is no one-district Superintendent. He said the SAU has a contractual obligation with Dr. Littlefield to conduct an evaluation, but that he has waived it.

POLICY UPDATES

Second Reading/Adoption

Motion by Alan Villeneuve, seconded by Maureen Murgo, to adopt policies DIH, DKA, IMDA, JLF, and KCD, the motion carried unanimously.

First Reading/Review

Motion by Alan Villeneuve, seconded by Janice Baker, to accept the first reading of policies JICFA, BG, BGA, BGB, BGC, BGF, DFA, ILD, and ILD-R, and the motion carried unanimously.

Janice Baker motioned, seconded by Maureen Murgo, to table JICD until which time references to special education are noted.

Scott Kimball said he is a great believer in public schools and complimented the staff on the Exhibition Learning recently held at AVS.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 Section II (a-h) (if necessary)

No need.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Enrollment Reports*

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Maureen Murgo, seconded by Janice Baker, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled Auburn School Board Meeting is Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., in the Auburn Village School Media Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca SJ McCarthy
Recording Secretary