

**AUBURN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 10, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.
AUBURN VILLAGE MEDIA CENTER**

These minutes have been approved.

Alan Villeneuve, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Those in attendance were Board members Janice Baker, Jason Tyburski, Derek Berger, and Adrian Newton. Also in attendance were Principal Lori Collins; Assistant Principal Lindsay Murray, Director of Student Services Deena Jensen, Maintenance Director Scott Dube, Middle School Grade Leader Kerry Boles, Technology Director Keith Lord; Superintendent William (Bill) Rearick, Assistant Superintendent, Marge Polak and Business Administrator, Amy Ransom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Becki McCarthy led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROOF OF POSTING

Bill Rearick provided proof of posting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the June 29, 2021 Board meeting minutes with the following amendments: On Page 1 Old Business change the second sentence to read '**She said each proposal was reviewed by the committee and it was determined that the NHSBA was more responsive**', and on Page 2 Public Input change the first sentence to read '**Jessica Monroe expressed her displeasure with the Re-Entry Plan which has dropped the mask mandates**', and the motion carried unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Resident Amy Magnan stated she felt that masks should be required, as least for those under 12 years old. She said the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that those vaccinated or not should wear masks. She said the Delta variant is here and is spreading and that Rockingham County has shown a substantial increase in positive cases. She said at the AVS Athletic Director, she heard no complaints from her athletes for having to wear masks and asked the Board to require students to wear masks in school.

Tiffany Green echoed Ms. Magnan's sentiments and said she felt that masks should be universally worn in school as the Delta variant may be more dangerous to children.

Kirsten Wright stated she was a proponent of masks being optional. She said COVID is not going away and her children contracted it while they were wearing masks, as did a number of those at her children's daycare.

Melissa Lerocque stated no one at her child's day care wore masks and no one contracted COVID. She said there is much anxiety around when/where masks should be worn and was in favor of having the option.

Niles Sowa said he respected the opinions of others, but felt wearing masks should be optional. He said that wearing masks all the time is unhealthy, but understands that if something changes, the option could be revisited.

Alan Villeneuve stated that the Board received eight emails, some for requiring masks and some preferring to have the option.

Tara Kelly said the Board did a great job last year and that it's difficult for kids to understand when/where to wear masks. She said she is in favor of having the option.

Allison Rickenback said she would love to see masks mandated as she is concerned with risks for those who are maskless.

Nicole Krygeris stated that last year was great and that she is in favor of optional mask unless things get worse. She said wearing masks can have negative emotional effects on some people.

Linda Sayer asked how the Board would determine changing their decision to mandate wearing masks. To this, Alan Villeneuve stated that the Board would rely on the professionals and would meet again if warranted.

OLD BUSINESS

RFP Update

Janice Baker summarized the process by which the Board is moving forward with strategic planning and reviewed the questions/answers between the committee and the NHSBA. She said this process usually takes a few months, but because of the scope of it, it will take longer. Janice said if the Board approves, the next step would be to reach out to the NHSBA to initiate a contract.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to move forward with the New Hampshire School Boards Association for a strategic plan, and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Reopening Plan

Bill Rearick stated that the Board approved a Reopening Plan on June 8, 2021, but that since that time, some guidance's have changed. Those changes were before the Board tonight for review. He said the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services will be making an update on August 11, and that the revised Reopening Plan was based mainly on their guidance and is subject to change based on further updates. He said some things still need to be clarified, and he is hoping those questions are addressed on August 11.

Motion by Jason Tyburski, seconded by Janice Baker, to allow the Superintendent to modify the Reopening/Daily Operating Plan regarding COVID 19 restrictions at his discretion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Input:

Tiffany Green suggested the Board come up with a threshold as SAU #16 did, as DHHS took a long time to respond to them.

Nicole Krygeris asked if administration could ask staff if they received a vaccine, to which Lori Collins stated because of HIPPA laws, they cannot.

Jamie Shevlin asked how many teacher live outside of Auburn, to which Alan Villeneuve stated around 80%.

Chris McNulty asked if they were stopping physical education because the gym would be used for lunches, to which Lori Collins stated they would continue having physical education classes as they did last year.

Motion by Jason Tyburski, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the AVS Reopening Plan dated August 10, 2021 as presented and amended, and the motion carried unanimously.

Handbook Changes

Lindsay Murray stated that changes are minimal and Lori Collins summarized each change.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger to approve changes to the 2021/2022 handbook as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

Instructional Time Schedule

The Instructional Time Schedule was reviewed and discussed. The Board would like a more detailed accounting of use of time during a school day by grade.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the Instructional Time Schedule for 2021/2022 as presented and the motion carried unanimously.

Snow Day/Remote Learning

Bill Rearick said that last year, the Board approved of 5 snow/cancellation days, then switching to remote learning any day after that and recommended the Board do the same for the 2021/2022 school year.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton to approve observing 5 snow/cancellation days as recommended by the Superintendent, and the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL

Manifest Approval

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the 6/28/21-7/9/21 manifest in the amount of \$626,840.53, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the 7/12/21-8/6/21 manifest in the amount of \$1,305.849.98, and the motion carried unanimously.

Alan Villeneuve asked Scott Dube to speak to Pelmac about their monitoring fees.

PERSONNEL

Ratification of Superintendents Nomination

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Jason Tyburski, to approve the ratification of the Superintendent's nomination of Lindsay Hallenbeck, and the motion carried unanimously.

Co-Curricular Nominations

Motion by Derek Berger seconded by Janice Baker to accept the co-curricular nominations as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

Alan Villeneuve stated that he attended two planning meetings at Pinkerton Academy where they addressed their plans to demolish an older part of a Social Studies wing to allow for more specialized learning spaces.

Alan welcomed Kathy Roggenbuck and Melissa Prunier, the two new AEA Co-Presidents.

Construction Activity

Scott Dube updated the construction activity saying they've done an asbestos abatement on the 1st floor, tile work is beginning tomorrow, and that ceiling tiles have been installed on the 2nd floor. Scott said the stage refinishing will be done next week. Janice Baker said she wants to make sure the softball field is ready in the spring. She asked if the interactive projectors have been received, to which Lori Collins stated that they were ordered after the retreat but have been on back order since that time. Lori said the playground structures won't be installed before school starts.

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

Not necessary.

INFORMATIONAL Items/Upcoming Agenda Items

Upcoming: Reports of Administrator's and Standing Committees/Goals

Informational: Board Meeting Dates/List of Standing Committees

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Jason Tyburski, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The next Auburn School Board Meeting will be Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Auburn Village School Media Center.

The SAU Board will meeting on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 in the Auburn Village School Cafeteria.

Respectfully submitted.

Rebecca SJ McCarthy
Recording Secretary