

TO THE GREENLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
GREENLAND, NH

The Greenland School Board met for its regular session on March 17, 2008 at the Greenland Central School.

CALL TO ORDER Dr. Cushing called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Rich Carlin, Jim Haslam, Ann Mayer, Tina Rockefeller, Martha Stone, School Board Members, Dr. George Cushing, Superintendent of Schools, and Peter Smith, Principal.

SCHOOL BOARD REORGANIZATION Dr. Cushing provided the board members with a list of the 2007-08 School Board Committee assignments and officers for a reorganizational review and discussion. After some discussion the only changes to the standing committee assignments were the addition of Martha Stone to the Secondary School Advisory and the deletion of Mr. Carlin, as well as the addition of Mrs. Stone to the Special Issues Committee and Mrs. Rockefeller was removed from that committee. Dr. Cushing then asked for nominations for School Board Chair and on a motion by Mrs. Rockefeller, seconded by Mrs. Stone, Ann Mayer was nominated and unanimously approved. Mrs. Mayer then asked for nominations for Vice Chair and on a motion by Mr. Carlin, seconded by Mrs. Rockefeller, Mrs. Stone was nominated and unanimously approved. Mrs. Mayer then asked for nominations for School Board Secretary and on a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Rockefeller was nominated and unanimously approved.

VISITORS Mrs. Mayer acknowledged and welcomed visitors and Greenland teachers Miss Winton and Mrs. Emerson.

MANIFEST On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Rockefeller the manifest for February 13, 2008 through February 27, 2008 was unanimously approved in the amount of \$164,663.22.

On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Rockefeller the manifest for February 28, 2008 through March 12, 2008 was unanimously approved in the amount of \$135, 427.97.

The School Board requested that the administration provide more detail regarding check number 27150 to Certified Laboratories.

MINUTES On a motion by Mr. Carlin, seconded by Mr. Haslam the School Board minutes from February 18, 2008 were unanimously approved with changes.

On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Rockefeller the School Board special session minutes from March 6, 2008 were unanimously approved.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS Dr. Cushing distributed the special education report which was reviewed by the Board. Dr. Cushing informed the Board of a special education encumbrance for \$28,000 to cover a negotiated PASS agreement still under discussion.

MAINTENANCE OBJECTIVES

The School Board reviewed a list of maintenance objectives and prospective costs that had been prepared by Business Administrator Mr. Katkin. After some discussion the School Board decided to pursue at this time those maintenance objectives which appeared to be most essential or safety related. The School Board instructed the administration to pursue the following items:

- Installation of shades in various rooms and on classroom doors as recommended by the Emergency Management Team to provide security during lock down events.
- Replacement of snow guards on the metal roofs around the gym in the area of the playground.
- To glue and tighten library chairs and tables, as well as one book shelf.
- Repair or replace the sound system in the gymnasium and install a four channel wireless system in the multipurpose room.
- Install aluminum covers over expansion joints at various points in the new addition.
- Seek bids for the replacement of heater covers in the 1965 classrooms.

CALENDAR OF POLICY ACTION

Dr. Cushing indicated that School Board elections, School Board reorganization, payment of the School District Treasurer and nomination of professional staff were the items on the March Calendar of Policy Action. He indicated that those items had or would during the course of this School Board meeting be taken care of.

POLICIES

On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Stone policy KF was adopted with changes. On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Rockefeller the Facility Use Permit and Rules and Regulations was unanimously adopted with changes.

Policy JIFCA was reviewed by the Board along with references to RSA: 193-F. The School Board decided to table policy JIFCA until it could be reviewed by Mrs. Rockefeller and Mrs. Mayer for possible incorporation of language from RSA: 193-F.

On a motion by Mr. Carlin, seconded by Mr. Haslam policy EBC was adopted with changes.

On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Stone policy EB was unanimously approved on a second reading.

On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mr. Carlin policy IMAH was unanimously approved on a second reading.

The Board tabled review of policy JJAA/JJB to allow for reference of an older policy.

On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Rockefeller policy JBCDA was unanimously approved on a second reading with changes.

NOMINATIONS

In accordance and in compliance with RSA 189:14-A, 189:39 and 189:39-B, Dr. Cushing placed into nomination a list of teaching positions for the 2008-09 school year in the Greenland School District. In accordance

with the district policy GCBA the nomination list included the position of the teacher, percent employed and salary for those teachers. It was then noted by Dr. Cushing that the position assignment next to the teachers name could be changed before the start of school. On a motion by Mr. Carlin, seconded by Mrs. Stone the nomination list of teaching staff for 2008-09 was unanimously approved.

Dr. Cushing presented to the board a proposal by teacher Beth Wark to continue an existing job share of her position with teacher Heather Jenkins through the 2008-09 school year. Dr. Cushing and Mr. Smith both shared their support for the proposal and on a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mr. Carlin the School Board unanimously approved the job share proposal.

RESIGNATION

Dr. Cushing shared with the Board a letter of resignation, effective at the end of the 2007-08 school year given to him by half time special education coordinator Louise Provan. On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mrs. Rockefeller the resignation was unanimously accepted.

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Dr. Cushing referenced drafts of the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school year calendars and reviewed the process by which they were developed and reviewed by various stakeholder groups. After brief discussion and on a motion by Mr. Carlin, seconded by Mrs. Rockefeller the 2008-09 calendar was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Mr. Haslam, seconded by Mr. Carlin the 2009-10 school year calendar was unanimously approved. After the vote the teachers in the audience did raise a concern that the Friday after teacher conferences that has traditionally been a no school day was in fact a school day on the approved calendars. Some discussion ensued but the vote of approval remained unchanged.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Cushing began his report with an update on legislative issues. He reported to the Board on the progress and adoption of an adequacy formula, approval of charter school legislation by the House and Legislature, and discussions regarding tenure and the "Evergreen" clause in contracts. Dr. Cushing referenced a report by Attorney Zelin that he had provided to School Board members in their premeeting packets regarding district obligation for special education costs for tuitioned students. Dr. Cushing shared high school NECAP scores and also shared a handout regarding an early retirement incentive plan that had been distributed through the Teachers Association.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Smith began with a brief reflection on his notes regarding facility issues and then went on to share recent news about a Greenland scholarship. He distributed information and details regarding a scholarship trust to be established and benefit Greenland students entering college that had been left through the will of a Mr. John Adams, who had attended this school as a boy. He noted that Mr. Adams passed away this fall in California in his early nineties, and according to his niece had left the scholarship trust which was currently in the range of \$170,000. The School Board and administration then discussed the next steps in developing a scholarship trust as specified in the will. Mrs. Rockefeller indicated that she would spend some time on this and report back to the

board.

Mr. Smith reviewed the changes to the Greenland Emergency Crisis Response Plan which had been included in his premeeting materials. After some brief discussion and on a motion by Mrs. Rockefeller, seconded by Mrs. Stone the School Board unanimously approved the revised plan.

Mr. Smith reviewed with the Board an overview of an 8th grade Life Skills elective that he and the junior high team are proposing for the 2008-09 school year. The course would be offered as an elective opposite Spanish and would have cooking, small tools, service learning and other components that would be delivered in an integrated and experiential fashion. By consensus the Board approved of the proposal and encouraged Mr. Smith to continue developing the curriculum and the process by which parents would make their 8th grade course selections. In closing his report Mr. Smith reflected and reported on the following items:

- The successful 3-year onsite state evaluation of our Title I program.
- Planning and details regarding the upcoming middle level Rachel's Challenge Presentation on April 3rd.
- Staff level initiatives related to the Aspirations/My Voice initiative.
- Approval of a Title II A reauthorization grant that will support reading across the curriculum and comprehension strategies that was submitted by Mrs. Canner.
- The nomination of Laura Deely for Teacher of the Year recognition.
- Application for a grant through the Portsmouth Garden Club to provide plantings on and about the Thomas Fogarty Memorial Patio.
- Final completion of the Thomas Fogarty Memorial Trust and the generous contribution of time and expertise by parent Irving Canner to create the documents and detail.

PORTSMOUTH HIGH
SCHOOL
SECONDARY
SCHOOL ADVISORY
COUNCIL

It was noted that the following issues and items were discussed at the March 4th Secondary School Advisory Council Meeting:

- The Portsmouth School budget will include a new math and business teacher but no new foreign language teacher. The existing foreign language faculty will be reconfigured to reduce class size. It was further noted that there appears to be good support for the school budget.
- Principal Jeff Collins reviewed the high school NECAP scores.
- There was discussion regarding the status of the AREA agreement.
- Honors scheduling was discussed.
- Early release days were discussed noting that there were 8 last year but this is under review for the upcoming school year.
- Adding a foreign language teacher is in the 3-5 year plan.
- Rachel's Challenge presentation is being conducted at the high school for middle school students.
- Portsmouth High School graduation will be conducted on June 13, 2008.
- The athletic policy is being restructured with consideration for all extra curricular activities.

SAU 50 OFFICE
RENOVATIONS

It was reported that the renovations are moving along well and that sheet rock is being installed at this time and that there have been a few changes. Mr. Carlin inquired about the landscaping around the SAU office building and asked Dr. Cushing to speak with Mr. Katkin about arranging for Lang's Landscaping to proceed when conditions were right.

AGENDA PLANNING

March 26, 2008- SAU 50 Board Meeting - Greenland Central School
April 3, 2008 – Rachel's Challenge – PHS
April 21, 2008 – Regular School Board Meeting
May 19, 2008 – Regular School Board Meeting

NON PUBLIC
SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Haslam, and in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 and on a roll call vote the School Board entered non public session at 9:52 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

OUT OF NON PUBLIC
SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Carlin, seconded by Mr. Haslam the School Board came out of non public session at 10:09 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Rockefeller, seconded by Mrs. Stone the School Board unanimously voted to adjourn their meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter D. Smith

Secretary