

LAMOILLE UNION DISTRICT #18 BOARD MEETING MINUTES
LAMOILLE UNION LIBRARY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2007

Board members present: B. Bailey, D. Baker, J. Eisenhardt, S. Hamlyn-Prescott, P. Ingvoldstad, D. Osborn, K. Roberts, W. Sander, D. Whitcomb, S. Reber, T. O'Hear, C. Mann. Others: T. Bailey, C. Hindes, B. Schaffer, M. Frederick, J. Teegarden.

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

1. Call to Order, Introductions, Announcements and Public Input

A. Call to Order – 6:37

B. Announcements

W. Sander said the National Honor Society induction is Dec. 6 at 7 PM. Board members are encouraged to attend.

P. Ingvoldstad said he had information from VSBA about Act 82 for anyone who was interested.

2. Consent Agenda Items (Approval of Minutes of the November 13th Meeting and Acceptance of Administration Reports)

ACTION: S. Hamlyn-Prescott moved to accept the consent agenda, seconded by W. Sander. D. Osborn said in the minutes, under Directors' Orders, the list of major expenditures should say "fall officials" instead of "fall official." D. Griffiths said the list of meeting attendees should include Marcia Marble, Thomas Hirschak, and Terry Owen. **The motion to accept the consent agenda with the above changes to the minutes was approved.**

3. Directors' Orders

ACTION: D. Osborn moved to approve director's orders in the amount of \$822,637.48, seconded by W. Sander. The breakdown was as follows: District #18 \$148,230.19. Major expenditures: Busing – Cambridge \$12,491.93; Busing – Eden \$9,704.00; Busing – First Student \$15,547.73; Busing – RCTI \$1,803.50; Central Vermont Adult Basic Ed. \$30,000.00; Laraway Youth and Family Services \$11,264.72. GMTCC Bldg. Project \$670,417.02. Major expenditures: DEW Construction \$657,021.33. VOC Building Trades \$3,990.27. **The motion was passed.**

4. Administrative Action Items

A. GMTCC

J. Teegarden said the replacement schedule calls for replacing the 18 Business Administration computers. He received quotes from 3 suppliers. Wards had the lowest bid - \$15,429. He asked the board to approve a 3-year loan or municipal lease for the purchase amount. A payment will be made this year and in each of the next two years. If surplus funds are available at the end of the year, the loan/lease will not be made.

ACTION: W. Sander moved to approve a 3-year loan or municipal lease for the purchase of 18 computers at the price offered by the low bidder, seconded by D. Whitcomb, and the motion was passed.

B. Central Office

P. Ingvaldstad checked to make sure everyone on the board was clear about a couple of issues they had received email about. There is a right of way in the subdivision that was done years ago, and we've decided to give up that right of way. There is also an issue concerning exclusivity of the contract. P. Ingvaldstad said he had just signed the contract. M. Spaulding will be checking on the auction date. It's set for a weekday now, but perhaps that should be changed. D. Whitcomb said most auctions are held during the week. There are usually a lot of spectators who don't bid, and more come on weekends.

5. Committee Reports and Action Items

A. Policy Committee

S. Reber said the current weapons policy and the proposed replacement had been mailed out. The policy we have now is not in accordance with state and federal law. The board wanted to avoid the necessity for an expulsion hearing when administration thought it was not necessary, but the law does not allow that. The lawyer who reviewed the policy also noted some terminology problems. She proposed categories of firearms and dangerous devices instead of firearms and weapons. D. Osborn asked if the legal references were cross checked. S. Reber said the legal references now in the policy came from the legal review.

ACTION: W. Sander moved to warn Policy 6.6, seconded by D. Whitcomb. S. Hamlyn asked, what if someone came to school to show antique rifles? Does the committee feel comfortable with how that would be handled? S. Reber said the policy just deals with students having guns. **The motion was passed.**

B. Curriculum Committee

The committee recommends adding a MS instructor as proposed by C. Hindes. C. Hindes said he would like to add 1 FTE, with $\frac{3}{4}$ used in the Discovery program for science/math and reading instruction, and $\frac{1}{4}$ for reading support and instruction for students in the general population. W. Sander said the kids in the Discovery program are all at risk for having to be tuitioned out at high cost, so this saves money by being able to maintain a program in house.

A number of additional courses have been proposed for the high school. B. Schaffer said he would like to add a .5 FTE in art. Art courses are very well subscribed, and we still have many kids in study hall we want to move out into academic courses. There has been an increase in enrollment in Spanish, and we need to add .5 FTE for that. B. Schaffer would like to add Environmental Studies, Pottery, Advanced Multimedia, Music Theory and Composition, Guitar 2, Own Your Own Business, Computer Applica-

tions and Culture, and Personal Finance. W. Sander said the plan is not to offer all the courses all the time, so an increase in faculty will not be needed (except for the increases previously mentioned.) C. Mann asked how Consumer Math differs from Personal Finance. B. Schaffer said he didn't have that information. W. Sander said the curriculum committee voted to recommend all the courses.

S. Reber asked, no classes have been removed from the catalog? B. Schaffer said no. W. Sander said there was some discussion about yanking astronomy. P. Ingvaldstad said the kids taking astronomy tend to be kids having trouble getting a science credit. It's not an advanced class, and the students who take it tend to have difficulty with the math. The environmental studies course would be more hands-on, and they could be more successful with it and use it more in their lives.

B. Bailey asked about projected enrollment for these 8 classes. B. Schaffer said they really won't know until enrollment time a couple of months from now. He said we have many students in study hall, and it's good to offer courses students will take instead of study hall. S. Reber asked, what number of students signing up for a course is too small to hold the course? T. Bailey said we probably wouldn't want to go below 8. Numbers build after the first year courses are offered. S. Hamlyn-Prescott said no increased amount of time for prep is included, so there is no added expense for that. D. Osborn said, in an effort to reduce study hall, she'd like to consider a staggered start time. There is a lot of research about the difficulty high school students have getting to school early. B. Schaffer said his goal is make the time more functional.

J. Teegarden said a new program he has in mind is an electrician apprenticeship involving renewable energy. He also wants to add two sections of algebra at the tech center at the end of the day to encourage students who haven't already taken it to do so. He proposes taking the current contracted technology position and incorporating it into a team-oriented approach where he would hire a technician who would become part of a team servicing the whole campus. The RAB is in favor of that. D. Osborn asked, is that completely separate from the LNSU technology position? J. Teegarden said yes. D. Osborn asked, could the algebra class be given a spin to make it more interesting? J. Teegarden said that is exactly what he had in mind. He doesn't want it to be a watered down class. But he wants it to be as practical for the students as possible, using tech-related examples. And he would like to open it up to anyone on the Lamoille campus. P. Ingvaldstad suggested there could be an algebra course for pre tech kids. J. Teegarden said he'd be very happy if freshmen and sophomores came, even from other schools, though transportation would be a problem. T. Bailey said that could become a requirement for pre tech, but we're not ready for that now. J. Teegarden said they've talked about mak-

ing algebra a requirement to get into the tech center, but that would cut down on the number of kids who could come. Maybe the requirement should be: if you haven't taken it, you have to. But that might require a lot of extra sections of math, and he is not excited about making kids sit in class if they don't want to; he would rather just encourage them to take algebra.

C. Finance Committee

M. Frederick said we still don't have equalized pupil numbers. The administrators discussed their budget proposals.

High School

B. Schaffer distributed a description of his proposed C additions for next year's budget:

- ◆ .5 art teacher
- ◆ .5 Spanish teacher
- ◆ .5 attendance secretary for increased building security, to assist with overall attendance monitoring, and to make sure we have full office coverage at all times.
- ◆ 1.0 network technician. They are looking at moving from separate people at each school to campus-wide pooling of resources like what M. Spaulding has done for maintenance. Cost will be split between LUHS, LUMS, GMTCC, and central office (48%, 25%, 25%, and 2% respectively.)
- ◆ hall monitor/study hall support, to monitor visitors who haven't checked in, make sure students get to class on time, and aid monitoring of large study hall sections.
- ◆ Upgrade student information system. The current WinSchool system that does attendance, grades, and GPA reporting is not user friendly, and it is no longer being updated or supported. Other software he's used in the past allows parent access. The total cost of a new system would be shared between LUHS, LUMS, and GMTCC (50%, 25%, and 25% respectively.) S. Hamlyn-Prescott asked if the cost figures he showed for this and for the network technician were for the LUHS portion only. He said yes.
- ◆ Supplies for in house professional development
- ◆ VYCC program. This is a transition program for 9th and 10th graders and is entering its 3rd year as a pilot program with Discovery. It has had little to no cost for the first 2 years, but now we're going to have to contribute more.

Total proposed C increase: \$164,763

S. Reber asked if the \$40K figure for VYCC is in addition to what is being spent now. C. Hinds said this year's cost was \$15K. The middle school's Discovery program covered \$10K and \$5K came from the high school budget. S. Reber asked how many technical support people we already have. There are two now. S. Hamlyn-Prescott said J. Teegarden

has been using contracted services. J. Teegarden said GMTCC will pick up .25 of the three positions. He is not positive the \$19,975 figure for the HS portion is right, we need to look at it more. D. Osborn asked, would this team of 3 work with the central office tech person? M. Frederick said she thought the team would often want to use the services of the central office person. Central office is also buying into the team of 3. Money saved from the new phone system will be used to offset the schools' costs, because central office is included in their phone system. C. Mann asked if health insurance, etc. is included in the \$19,975. It is included. C. Mann wondered about the level of expertise expected. M. Frederick said it is not a coordinator level position, the job is hands on fixing hardware.

Middle School

C. Hindes discussed his proposed C package items:

- ◆ ¾ FTE Discover program science/reading instruction (\$37,316.25)
- ◆ ¼ FTE Reading instruction (\$12,333.75)
- ◆ ¼ FTE Tech support (\$10,403.25)
- ◆ Accordion wall to create a world language classroom (\$8,009)
- ◆ Student data software -1/4 of cost (\$10,000)

Total proposed C package: \$78,062.25

C. Mann asked, what would be the annual cost for new software after this year? B. Schaffer said, based on the program he's used before, there will probably be incentives for lease vs. purchase. The bulk of the expense is in year one. There is training people need to go to. Maintenance might be around \$5K in year two. A committee should look at the different packages available. C. Mann asked, could it come from capital funds if it is a one time purchase? M. Frederick said if we had a capital reserve fund we could use it for software purchase. We do have a fund balance, and have talked about a capital reserve fund. D. Osborn asked, because of the expensive training, should we hire the new network technician first, in case that person has experience with a particular package? M. Frederick said because there are so many software applications used in schools, usually the expertise is more at the user level. A technology person usually can't know all the different programs.

GMTCC

J. Teegarden said he has put money in his budget for a person to manage the radio station, in addition to the things he talked about previously.

6. *Review of Full Board Annual Calendar*

The next meeting will be on Dec. 11, starting at 5:30.

7. ***Request for Future Agenda Items and Adjourn***

A. Future Agenda Items

The next agenda will include refinancing of the 1997 bond. P. Ingvoldstad said M. Spaulding just told him the subdivision approval has gone through for the Sweeney House. The Dec. 18 agenda will include a vote on warning a new policy on motor vehicle personnel drug and alcohol testing.

B. Adjourn:

ACTION: It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:10 and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by,
Donna E. Griffiths

Actions taken at the LU District #18 Board Meeting 12/4/07:

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A. **Policy Committee**

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B. **Adjourn:**

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