

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
Peterborough, New Hampshire**

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

**Tuesday, July 29, 2008
SAU Office**

7:00 PM

Communications Sub-Committee

MINUTES

Attendees: Stewart Brock, Lauren Kirkpatrick, Mary Loftis

Stewart Brock began the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Discussion took place about the topics that might be considered for communication.

Lauren Kirkpatrick said that information about Title I funding should be better communicated with detail of how it ties into Federal Funding. Stewart said that he included information on AYP, Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) and its impact into the Frankestown News.

Opting in to be counted for FRL but not taking advantage of the program was discussed. Stewart asked the group if a theme should be agreed upon each month to be shared with local town publications.

Lauren asked for information about the process and format for a newspaper article. Mary Loftis said that we paid for an advertisement last year to communicate the Board's perspective on the budget. She said that she would love play on Professional Learning Communities.

Stewart agreed and said that he was very excited about this topic. He added that at one point in time, there was a list of three or more items that the committee wanted the Superintendent to communicate. One thought was that Dr. Bergeron could include information on PLC's in one of his articles.

Development of communications for:

HILL

Will be looked at in the future. An update is sought.

Professional Learning Communities

Stewart said that the Superintendent will be asked to prepare something on this topic. Mary said that we could write something generic on the topic based on the information we currently have at hand. The Superintendent could review.

Stewart said that the integration of the language should take place. Mary said that she heard Stewart use PLC's in a response to someone in the public as a positive. Stewart said that help is available through reinforcement of the philosophy.

Multi-Age

Mary said that the Education Committee made a decision to present it as an affirmative decision. She said it is important to summarize the philosophy. Stewart said that landmarks could be in place where information is reported out. Mary said that it is not a thrilling subject unless it is in the news. She said that it might be important to have a position piece read on the topic. Discussion took place about publication possibilities.

Mary asked what the expectation is for Principal's to attend Board meetings. Stewart said that he was unsure if there was an expectation. He suggested that each Principal could be given a designated month as a supplement to the Board meeting at perspective school meetings. Stewart said that he would love for students from middle school and high school to attend regularly scheduled Board meetings. Community service organizations were thought of as a source to tap into to boost attendance at meetings.

Administration Merit Increases

Mary asked if they (the Board) were expected to be proactive about this item. The question of what needs to be communicated about this was asked. Mary said that she does not see the public benefit in publicizing these figures. Stewart said that this should be posed to the Board Chairs. Mary Loftis said that her inclination is to let it lie. Stewart suggested that a description state that the evaluation process was completed with performance behaviors and goals implemented.

NCLB

Stewart said that we should ask for information surrounding standardized testing and the implications involved. Testing will take place again in October and the question of whether or not publicity about testing could take place. Mary said that people whose school was not affected by AYP should receive information on testing as well. Stewart said that the beginning of school could be used to push information on testing and its importance could be delivered.

Meet your Rep Schedules

Stewart said that he has not met in this area in six months. He wanted to remind everyone that it is worthwhile to continue. Several meetings were slated to take place in September in Antrim and Dublin. Lauren thought that every rep should schedule a meeting at the start of school. Stewart said a list of both short and long range goals should be developed.

The Timeline for the Superintendent's evaluation should be communicated. He said that the "events" of progress toward objectives could be presented by the Superintendent in public. The same could take place in July.

Update on Law Suit Re: Drug Search

Mary Loftis suggested that HILL and PLC's be combined because they are both new initiatives. They are different but are new ways of using resources. Stewart questioned if people would understand enough about each of these initiatives to distinguish them. Mary asked how many Literacy Coaches were hired. Two will be hired and will be spread thin. Stewart mentioned Spire training as well and was unsure exactly what it was. Spire vs. Reading Recovery was mentioned. Stewart said that we could just address literacy in general. A HILL update was desired. More understanding earlier is a desire as well. Stewart cited the laptop initiative for middle school students and how it died at entry because of lack of communication.

General Business

A statement was developed addressing merit increases for building and SAU administrators. Stewart agreed to forward the statement to Bart and Craig for input and decisions on what should be done with the statement can be made.

Mary Loftis agreed to put information together on PLC's.

Meeting concluded at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok