

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 19, 2001

**Present:** Sue Dell, Gib West, Susan Copley, Denice Glover, Adine Aldrich, Anita Flanagan, Joan Schnare, Christy Greene, Paul Bartolomucci, Diane Creeley, Keith Burke, Denise Holmes, Rick Nannicelli, Dan Noel, A-M Irwin, and Dick Dunning.

Meeting opened at 7:04.

Our primary focus was school safety and an update on the emergency management plans for each of the schools. Long before the world went weird, student safety was a priority for the ConVal school district under the leadership of Superintendent Keith Burke. Staff have participated in emergency planning workshops with representatives from FEMA and have developed emergency plans for each of their buildings. Each school has a designated emergency management team which meets regularly.

ConVal principal Sue Dell outlined the procedures developed at the high school, emphasizing the good relationship the school has with the police and fire departments of Peterborough with whom they work closely to prepare prudent plans. The high school emergency management plan is in place. Drills occur on a regular basis, and the staff continues to revise and update procedures.

Building security is a topic of discussion. Conversation centered on the large numbers of students and the limited number of staff. Use of cameras is a consideration both inside and outside the building to monitor areas where it is difficult to constantly observe activity. Periodic review by staff and administration takes place to improve communication and update needs.

Both middle schools have been involved in developing emergency management plans and procedures. Drills, faculty considerations, and procedures are frequently reviewed and updated.

The elementary schools also have each developed plans to address student and building security. Emphasizing the need to reassure parents that their children are safe and all reasonable precautions are taken, elementary school principals reviewed the procedures they have developed.

The second part of the meeting was a review of the bullying policy which is now in place. This policy is being reviewed by district counsel and will be considered by the education committee in the near future.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26.