

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

**Tuesday, October 2, 2007
SAU Office
7 p.m.**

MINUTES

Board

Beverly Bacon, Ray Cote,
Gail Cromwell, Butch Estey,
Bart Goodeve, Dan Harper,
Craig Hicks, Mary Loftis,
Bill McKinnon, Tom Welden

Beth San Martino, CVEA

Administration

Dick Bergeron, Supt.
Don Johnson, Asst. Supt.
Marian Alese, B.A.
Linda Potter, SpEd.
May Clark, DCS
Sue Copley, PES
Sue Dell, CVHS
Dick Dunning, SMS
Deb Lesure, AES
Gib West, GBS

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Tom Welden called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**2. Minutes (Board Vote Required)
a. September 18, 2007**

Butch Estey moved to accept the minutes of the September 18, 2007 meeting as written. Gail Cromwell second. Mary Loftis abstained. All else in favor.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Consent Agenda

None.

5. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

Dick Bergeron said that in an effort to share good news he received a letter from Margaret Dorson regarding ConVal Soccer. Team members cleaned trash off of bleachers at the NASCAR race in September as part of fundraising efforts. Dick extended thanks to the soccer teams.

In addition, Dick announced that Greenfield Elementary School received the Blue Ribbon Award.

Dick directed the Board to the Tech Advisory Committee handout. (See attachment #1)

He said that nominations for membership are being collected. Tasks that Dick would like to be revisited are listed. The Survey data, Action Plan, Funding, Standards, Staffing, Web-Site Management and Current Initiatives will be revisited as well. Dick said that this is a growing list. His expectation is that this will be a monthly meeting with potential for breakout sub-committees. Dick said that he hopes the committee to be up and running by the end of the month.

a. Peter Goseline – Monadnock Rotary Concession Stand

Dick recognized Peter Goseline who introduced Dwight Woods, President of Monadnock Rotary. He said that he wants to discuss the relationship with the Concession stand. Dwight introduced Robin Martin and Peter Goseline. Dwight said that Robin was the President at the time of the centennial. It was by far the largest project the Rotary had taken on.

Robin said that she appreciates the Board having them speak tonight. She distributed a history of this project. (See Attachment # 3) This past Saturday provided an opportunity for both the Rotary and the district to use the concession stand. She wants to get everyone back on the same page. Players on both sides have changed. Robin said that in February 2005 the Greater Peterborough area wanted to be active in a significant project. She said that they identified five projects of priority. Club members researched needs. The committee involved in the concession stand spoke to the booster clubs, Board members, community members to determine need. The Athletic Director at the time championed this based on the community expressing the need for this service. Robin said that they came to the Board to determine if it was of interest. A lot of energy existed in moving forward. She said that five thousand dollars was the threshold before in fundraising activities and they raised over \$20,000 for this project. They do not regret working on this project. Dwight said that he is a surgeon by trade and was concerned with obesity. Some of the restrictions caused some friction which he was originally unaware of. He wanted to make an example by providing healthy foods. This could be done through offering low fat meat or veggie burgers. The Rotary would like to come to a conclusion that everyone could live with. This was part of the original planning. Dwight said that Hal Porter was in the foodservice business and the trailer was dedicated to him. They wanted to honor his memory.

Peter Goseline said that he is a resident of Peterborough and has had several students go through the ConVal school system. One of his children was a three-sport athlete. He saw a need for this service. He outlined the purposes of the concession to be availability of meals, promote family attendance, promoting healthy food and snacks for all, provide a source of fundraising, provide practical hands on business experience for students, support other local community events where there is not a conflict, provide scholarship opportunities for students interested in the food service program, and building a sense of community. In this sense, he proposed, if the Board wished, for the Rotary to provide support in anyway other than to direct the opportunity. He said that they are willing to help.

Butch Estey said that he and Dwight had discussion on this topic. The process was discussed. Fine tuning what was going on and making it more available were topics discussed. Butch suggested having a small committee come together to further discuss. He said that it is a worthwhile program.

Tom Welden agreed that this was a good idea. It has been a concern of the Board that the stand was not properly being utilized. Tom said that he understands health concerns with food provisions. He said that a large basket of apples could have been sold at Homecoming. Tom agreed to work together to execute what they are working toward.

Dwight said that it should be a community asset. Tom agreed. A calendar could be created to schedule in time for use of the concession.

Tom thanked the Rotary for coming tonight. Dick Bergeron will coordinate and contact the Rotary.

b. Field Trip Proposal (Board Vote Required)

1. ConVal High School French students will travel to Old Quebec City from March 14-16, 2008, as an extension of the French class

Dick said that information about the proposed field trip is included in tonight's packet.

Gail Cromwell moved to allow the CVHS French students travel to Quebec City Canada in 2008. Beverly Bacon second. Unanimous.

c. Request to Accept Donation (Board Vote Required)

1. Dublin Consolidated has received from the Garden Club of Dublin a \$500 donation for the Grade 5 Conservation Camp

Craig Hicks moved to accept the gift from the Garden Club of Dublin. Butch Estey second. Unanimous.

2. Great Brook School has received from Mell Johnson, The Davis Companies, a Compaq 9000 Storage Rack Enclosure for the purpose of enhancing the computing environment in the GBS Technology Center

Gib said that Mr. Hale, GBS Tech, is always looking for ways to enhance technology at GBS at no additional cost to the district.

Beverly Bacon moved to accept the gift from The Davis Companies. Ray Cote second.

Ray asked if the equipment was new or used. Gib said used at no cost. He explained what the piece of equipment was by explaining that it was storage for servers.

Unanimous.

e. ConVal High School NEAS&C Mission Statement (Board Vote Required)

Dick Bergeron said that Susan Dell is present to answer any questions. He asked the Board to accept the NEAS&C statement.

Craig Hicks moved to accept the ConVal High School Mission Statement and Expectations. Butch Estey second. Unanimous.

f. NHSBA Policy Manual Service

Dick Bergeron said that it is important for an Administrator to have a clear collection of adopted policies. At a point the Board invested \$900.00 for a policy review by NHSBA. There are handwritten notes throughout sixteen different binders of policy. He said that the Board expected the Administration to bring a batch of the revisions to the attention of the Board for vote, which would become a revised document. He wanted to make the Board aware of a different option. For \$8,000 the NHSBA will take the documents and create revised policy statements. For example, Don could work in a sub-committee with two Board members and produce an electronic document that could be brought forward. Dick asked what interest the Board had in accessing this additional resource.

Dick said that at one point the policies were not in good shape. At one time, all of the policies were adopted in one time.

Marian said that approximately five years ago, in recognizing that the policies were dated, sub-committees began to go through some of the policies. The process then stopped.

Gail said that the other option is to accept the NHSBA canned set of policies. Dick said that it would cost a little less. For approximately \$3,000 more we can capture the ConVal language. Don said that it is really important for the Board to be familiar with the policies. Everyone becomes familiar by going through the first and second readings. It takes about a year to go through the policies. In addition, for \$400.00 a year, the NHSBA provides updates.

Tom said that one of the main functions of the Board is policy. He said that at one time there was a priority list. He asked if that could still be done. Don Johnson said that it was absolutely possible.

A show of hands was taken. All present were in favor.

Dick said that should any Board members be interested to let Don Johnson know.

g. Monthly Events Calendar

Dick referenced the calendar included in tonight's packet.

6. Board Sub-Committee Reports

a. Education

Beverly Bacon said that the Education Committee met on September 24th. A five-year draft of curriculum review was provided. The Ed committee brought forward the CVHS Mission Statement and Expectations. Dick and Don agreed to look at the graduation expectations.

Dick said that one question that circulated was "Does the Board have the right to award different high school diplomas." The answer is "yes" and is found in NHDOE Technical Advisory Ed.306.27. It states that "A school may award a special diploma that recognizes academic achievement."

Beverly said that Education will meet next on October 29th at 7:00 p.m.

b. Budget and Property

Craig Hicks said that Budget & Property met on October 1, 2007. The Building program was discussed. Marian discovered that the design has to be in place this year.

Marian said that we are on track with what we said we would do in Year 1. We need to be complete or near by 2010. (See attachment #2). Marian said that a statement in the document states that the entire building must be ADA compliant. She assured everyone that the building did not have to be completed by next year.

Craig said that the ADA person at the State level will come and go through the entire building to identify ADA needs.

Craig said that at last night's meeting, the budget process was discussed. Staffing will be reviewed. By the time the draft of the budget is received on December 3rd much information will already be gained.

Tom said that we are going through a zero based budget. The budget will be built from the bottom up. The budget on December 3rd will be a composite.

Budget & Property will meet next on October 22nd.

c. Communications

The next Communications Committee meeting date will be determined at a later date.

d. Drug Committee

Butch Estey said that the Drug Committee met at the CVHS Open House. Feedback was given. Butch said that a lively discussion took place about searches.

The next meeting will take place on October 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the SAU. This is a public meeting.

Tom said that the information provided by both students and parents is much appreciated.

7. Educational Reports

a. Principals – GBS – Gib West - Francestown Historical Documentation Project

Gib West referenced a document in tonight's packet from citizens who received grant money to provide students an opportunity to learn how to video tape histories. There will be two opportunities for students to participate in this. Slots, if available, are open to students outside of Francestown. Gib said that he supports the effort for these filmmakers to participate in this project. Gib said that he hopes to present the products as they complete.

Susan Dell said that Homecoming was a huge success. She said that Jon Hall did an outstanding job in staggering the athletic events throughout the day. She said that the evening before was skit and bonfire night where the Varsity Football members provided lively entertainment among other athletic teams. The Homecoming Dance was packed without incident. She said that everyone had a ball.

Dick Bergeron said that regarding the HR Director position; a wider advertising net is being thrown. The job description has been rewritten. A second set of interviews will take place.

b. Teacher

None.

c. Student

None.

8. Old Business

a. Board Topics for the Second Meeting of the Month

The next Board meeting will take place on October 16th in Antrim. The different graduation requirements will be discussed.

Bill McKinnon said that he thought that we agreed that the business meetings would take place at the SAU and not at the away meeting.

Dick Bergeron said that he recollected the opposite. He said that if the Board is going to wrestle with big issues that it would occur at the SAU. If was the same agreement that Bill had. The graduation requirement discussion was moved to the first meeting in November.

Dick said that discussion about school alignment such as bringing fifth grade back to the local schools, and redistricting are good opportunities to engage the public in.

Bart asked if there was information needed before those discussions take place. Dick said that brainstorming could take place. Dick said that multi-age is one topic. What are the concepts we want to wrestle with? Tom said that the discussion should be framed first.

Dick said that the language of the agreement should be reviewed as another topic.

Gail asked if the discussion that Tom Welden and Keith Burke had regarding changing the school calendar was totally dead. Tom said that it was but would be a good discussion to have back.

Tom said that he would like to finish the Drug Policy first.

Dick said that it would be important to have a one agenda item Special Education agenda. He added that it was an important topic. Dick said that the ATC could be added to the one agenda item list as well.

9. New Business

None.

10. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Marian certified that manifests 35–40 totaling \$271,241.95 and Payroll 7 and 7.1 totaling \$1,544,539.53 and Sub Run 104 and 105 totaling \$13,178.87 have been reviewed by me and found to be proper charges against the Contoocook Valley School District for goods and/or services received and have been properly processed prior to the submittal to the School Board.

Craig Hicks moved to accept the approval of the manifests as read. Butch Estey second. Unanimous.

11. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3,IIc

a. Negotiations

Dan Harper moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3,IIc for the purposes of negotiations at 8:24 p.m. Craig Hicks added RSA 91-A:3,IIId to discuss another transaction. Unanimous.

Craig Hicks moved to exit non-public session. Bart Goodeve second. Unanimous.

Craig Hicks moved to seat the minutes of non-public session(s). Bart Goodeve second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok