

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

**Tuesday, October 4, 2005
7 p.m.
SAU Office**

MINUTES

Board

Tom Welden
Gail Cromwell
Craig Hicks, Stewart Brock
Dan Harper, Bill McKinnon
Ken Young, Nan Fornal
Christy Greene,
Tom Lawless,

Beth San Martino, CVEA
Kelsey Stewart, Student Rep

Administration

Keith Burke, Supt
Paul Bartolomucci, Asst
Linda Potter, SpEd
Marian Alese, Bus Adm
Sue Copley, PES
Sue Dell, CVHS
May Clark, DCS
Pam Matthews, Pierce
Niki McGettigan, TES
Dick Dunning, SMS
Anita Flanagan, HES
Deb Parker, GBS
Rick Nannicelli, GBS
Gib West, CVHS
Tim Iwanowicz, GES

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Tom Welden called the meeting to order at 7PM, and noted that this will be a working meeting, with an abbreviated agenda. After the Pledge, Bill McKinnon noted that he was recording the meeting.

2. Presentation of Plaque to Hope Hunt

Tom Welden thanked former Peterborough rep Hope Hunt for her time and service to the District. Ms Hunt was presented with a plaque for her years of service.

3. Minutes (Board Vote Required)

a. September 27, 2005

Motion to approve as presented by Ken Young and second by Nan Fornal. Passed with one abstention (Stewart Brock).

3. Public Comment

None.

5. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Request to Accept a Gift or Donation (Board Vote Required)

1. Antrim Elementary School has received from the Target Stores -Take Charge of Education Program a donation of \$35.70 to support educational activities
2. South Meadow School has received from the ConVal Arts Council \$300 in donations to be used toward various arts activities
3. ConVal High School has received from the Monadnock Paper Mill a donation of 2000 sheets of paper to be used for bookbinding

4. ConVal High School has received from Trinity Christian Academy various costumes and props for use by the drama department
Motion to accept with gratitude by Ken Young and second by Stewart Brock.
Unanimous.

b. Field Trip Proposal (Board Vote Required)

1. South Meadow School will travel to Washington DC as part of the American Heritage Tour from May 14 – 19, 2006
Motion to approve by Ken Young and second by Nan Fornal. Unanimous.

6. Reports

a. Education

Christy Greene reported that the committee met last night to review the initial report of CVHS' accreditation committee, under the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEAS&C). This is a process of continuous improvement that occurs every 10 years. The first phase of this process began as data gathering in 2003. This initial report notes commendations and recommendations. The final report from the NEAS&C committee is due at the end of the month. Next steps include reviewing the recommendations and implementation of the valid recommendations.

Next meeting is October 17 - further discussion of programs offered at CVHS' tech center.

7. Old Business

a. Review Program Review Schedule and Process

Keith Burke distributed copies of the initial timeline. After going through the comprehensive review process for Special Ed last year, it was determined that the timeline should be adjusted. Discussion began about which programs to prioritize, and whether some programs could be looked at in less detail (than the SpEd process). Craig Hicks noted that the District is already in the process of curriculum review and revision for the core subjects in the lower grades, so why not focus on grades 9 – 12. It was noted that looking at any program should be sequential (K – 12). Craig Hicks suggested we focus on the number of credits required for graduation. Beth San Martino (CVEA) stated that along of curriculum work is in progress, so we may not have complete data to look at the core subjects (at the elementary and middle levels). Gail Cromwell noted that both world language and health have also been mentioned as priorities / concerns.

After further discussion, it was decided to revisit this topic at the next meeting.

b. Board Code of Conduct

Nan Fornal distributed a revised copy of the code of conducted discussed at the last Board retreat. Gail Cromwell noted that item 6 implies that no minority opinion may be expressed in public (see attached). Bill McKinnon stated that he could not support this item as written. Tom Welden explained that the intention of the statement was to not have dissention among Board members. Craig Hicks thought that the agreement was that Board members were entitled to opinions, but once an agreement was reached, it would be supported. Stewart Brock noted that the minority opinion could be expressed as the minority opinion. After further discussion, Gail Cromwell stated that she believed that the Board had a duty to inform the public, and should be able to express a minority opinion in public. Christy Greene agreed, but was concerned about the way a minority opinion is expressed. Tom Welden referred to his letter to the papers several years ago regarding the proposed CVEA agreement (in opposition of), and stated that he was wrong in doing that.

Some members felt this item should be a policy, and placed on the table for 30 days. Bill McKinnon questioned that idea, because it would be non-enforceable. In addition, he is concerned about members' ability to operate.

Tom Welden noted that the NH School Boards Association recommends that a Board code of conduct should be adopted.

It was decided to bring this back at the next meeting. Please email Nan Fornal with concerns and / or suggestions for wording.

c. Meetings in Towns with Board Members

Stewart Brock explained the process he used in the town of Frankestown. Stewart met with residents at the library, explained the process for bringing items to the full Board, and then asked what residents felt was both good and bad about the District. Stewart will develop a format for other Board members to follow as a guideline for meetings in their own towns.

**Other
CVHS**

Sue Dell reported that CVHS' open house was last Thursday. Over 500 people attended. Thanks to parents and community for their support.

Student

Kelsey Stewart reported that students are working on ideas to promote a respectful school.

PES

Sue Copley reported that state testing of students has begun, and staff members will be working on the language arts curriculum on October 7-workshop day.

8. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Marian Alese certified that manifests **34-35, 4505 – 4506,6328 totaling \$44,534.81; and sub run 104, totaling \$7,971.17, and payroll 7, totaling \$989,772.66** have been reviewed and found to be proper charges against the Contoocook Valley School District for goods or services received and have been properly processed prior to their submittal to the School Board. **Motion to approve as presented by Craig Hicks and second by Ken Young. Unanimous**

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

Motion to enter Non-Public Session as per RSA 91-A: 3,IIc to discuss personnel by Dan Harper, duly seconded at 8:35 p.m. Board polled – Passed.

Return to Public Session

Motion and second to exit Non-Public Session at 9:30 p.m. Passed. Motion and second to seal the minutes. Passed.

Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 9:31. Unanimous.