

GOFFSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
GOFFSTOWN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Goffstown High School – Library - 27 Wallace Road, Goffstown, NH 03045
Monday, March 6, 2017 – 7:00PM

School Board Members: Dian McCarthy, Reta Chaffee, Steven Dutton, Dan Cloutier, Ginny McKinnon, Kristie Curtis, Heather Trzepacz, Lorry Cloutier, Jenelle O'Brien

Administration: Brian Balke, Superintendent, Ray Labore, Business Administrator, MaryClaire Barry, Assistant Superintendent,

Call to Order: Dian McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Approval of the February 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes – Dan Cloutier reviewed highlights of the over \$5K expenditures. *Dan Cloutier motioned the approval of the February 20, 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Reta Chaffee. Vote: 9-0-0 - All in Favor - Motion Passed.*

Correspondence Folder: Invitation from David Pierce, Goffstown Planning Board Representative to attend a Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC) meeting regarding “Becoming Age-Friendly Community Assessments” meeting on Wednesday, March 22nd from 3:00-5:00pm at the Goffstown Town Hall, Room 106.

Jacob Borges Reporting for GHS Students: Our FIRST Robotics team is making their final few preparations for their upcoming matches. We wish them the best of luck. The Winter Carnival Assembly was a blast. I've said this before obviously but it is just such a great school event that really brings everyone together and ups our school spirit immensely. It also featured a teacher dodgeball game that was quite entertaining. Girls' Basketball and our Hockey team finished up their seasons with two tough playoff losses but overall great seasons from both. The Boys Basketball team has its home playoff game this Wednesday night at 7 and we wish them the best of luck too. Our bowling team won the state baker championship. I was at the match and it was extremely exciting as they made their 4-hour run for the title. Congratulations to them.

Ginny McKinnon Reporting: Ginny attended the Addams Family production and was very impressed by the students' performance and acrobatics. Great Job!

Kathleen Sargent – Reporting for GHS – The juniors are involved in an SAT Prep Boot Camp on Thursdays from 9:30-11:00 for the remaining Thursdays before the SAT's are administered in April. The 9th and 10th graders are attending the NH Youth Summit on Opioid Awareness tomorrow at the SNHU Arena. The Boys' Basketball team is competing in the first round of the playoffs at GHS on Wednesday at 7pm. Two teams competed in the Moody's Mega Math Challenge on Saturday, February 25th. The teams worked hard from 7am – 9pm on a real-world problem.

Dan Cloutier Reporting: Dan attended the EDies presentation in Concord and commended the Maple Ave staff on a very nice job. Maple Avenue will be moving forward in the process. Dan commented on how the administrative staff supported the effort as they put together pamphlets and booklets with real world understanding of expectations. Dan added, it is a model for other schools around the state.

Dian McCarthy Reporting: Dian attended Candidate Info Night and commended all who partake in the process.

Public Comment – None

Policy Review Committee Report - Steven Dutton Reporting: 1st read policies: Steven reviewed the changes/revisions/updates of the policies that are moving forward as a 1st read. **Policy AD – Philosophy of the Goffstown School District** – the committee proposes striking everything but the last paragraph including the reference (August 1999 – 2005). Dan Cloutier requested the committee's review of the remaining sentence as there may not be a need to revise the mission statement annually as noted. **ADA – School District Goals and Objectives** – the committee is recommending deleting the policy as this is discussed annually at the school board retreat. **AEB – Recognition for Accomplishment** - the committee is recommending the removal of the first paragraph. **Policy AA**

– **School District Legal Status and Policy AE – Accountability** – the committee added the PRC review date.
Policy JJI and Regulation JJI-R – Athletics Policy - a sub-committee will meet during the summer to determine what is procedural and where the information should be housed.

Planning and Communications – Reta Chaffee Reporting – the next meeting is April 3, 2017 @ 6:15pm @ GHS - Library

Curriculum and Education Report – Ginny McKinnon Reporting: the next meeting is March 13, 2017 @ 7:00pm @ SAU Central Office

Budget Committee Report: Dian McCarthy Reporting: March 28, 2017 @ 6:30pm @ GHS - Library

A&F Committee Meeting Report – Dan Cloutier Reporting: Dan Cloutier presented a summary review of the over \$5K expenditures. *Dan Cloutier motioned the approval of the March 6, 2017 manifest for \$2,139,997.41, seconded by Heather Trzepacz. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.*

2016-2017 Unreserved Fund Balance – Ray Labore Reporting: The District has consumed 98% of the Expenditure Budget to date. It is too early to project the Revenue Budget - better definitive information will be available in the April-May timeframe. The projected tax relief of \$100K is anticipated. Unreserved Fund Balance Projections at this time is \$608K and the district is in good shape as we move forward. A monthly review of the Unreserved Fund Balance will be given through the of June.

Superintendent Report: There are several open Spring Sports coaching positions: MVMS Track, GHS Girls JV Lacrosse and JV Softball. The NE League of Middle Schools (NELMS) will be visiting MVMS tomorrow as they are being considered as a “Spotlight School” which is a special recognition for positive changes in the school. We received 3 residency requests since the last board meeting that will be brought forward on March 20th in non-public session. The Goffstown Voters’ Guide went out over the weekend and the 2016 Goffstown Annual Report will be released tomorrow. The Opioid Conference is tomorrow at the SNHU Center. The conference information is available on line.

Maple Avenue Traffic Update: Chief Brown stated that the Maple Ave traffic situation has been a concern for many years. The school is on a limited footprint which makes it a challenge when considering the volume of vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The Highway Safety Committee, which is the governing body for traffic flow concerns, will hold their first quarterly meeting with Chief Brown in attendance at which time he will bring the Maple Ave Traffic concerns to the table for discussion.

Heather Trzepacz and Ginny McKinnon questioned why police presence was not available during drop-off and pick-up times as the offenders have no consequences for their repeat actions. The Chief shared that unfortunately, the department’s workforce is down and staff is limited. The Chief suggested re-distributing the traffic rules reminder and encouraged citizens to report the license plate number of the repeat offender. Chief Brown assured the Board that there every complaint that is brought to them is investigated. Dian McCarthy asked making the street a one-way would correct the traffic situation. Chief Brown stated that that would require an ordinance change and that the Board of Selectmen is the governing body for ordinance changes. The Chief suggested that concerned citizens could draft an ordinance and propose it to the Board of Selectmen. Reta Chaffee suggested installing web cams. Superintendent Balke shared that all school grounds are equipped with surveillance cameras and a follow-up will be done if a violation is captured on camera. Grant opportunities were discussed with regard to wider and safer walkways. The Board thanked Chief Brown for his time.

Snow Day Discussion – Re-visited – There are 5 snow days to make up. Three of the four unions in SAU #19 agreed to extend the school day. The GEA Executive Board did not support this action as they believe that there is more value in a full day of instruction. Brian shared that adding the 5 days to the end of the school year causes issues with the GHS graduation and MVMS promotion dates. The 8th grade students would be promoted but will have to return to school to complete the school year and St. A’s is not available the following week therefore another venue would be needed to hold the graduation ceremonies. Options: GHS Gym which would limit the admission tickets for

both schools or GHS football field – with the hope that the weather cooperates. Brian stated that common solutions to problems need to be worked on. Make-up options: holding school on Saturday, Blizzard Bags and using the April vacation. A suggestion to make up 1 of the days would be to schedule school on Election Day and have a 2-hour delay. Brian is not in favor of Blizzard Bags due to limited accountability or holding school on Election Day as he has significant concerns given that people are now able to carry concealed weapons into polling places. Dan Cloutier commented that it is our job to insure that we have secure buildings. A decision is needed sooner than later so that arrangements can be made. Brian shared that New Boston agreed with the extended day option and will be very disappointed when they are made aware of the GEA’s decision. The Board will re-visit on March 20th.

GHS Drainage Discussion – Ray Labore Reporting: The project was bid out with four alternatives - contract negotiations will be discussed in non-public session. Administration recommends engaging with John Neville for the GHS Drainage Project. Due to wildlife habitat laws, there was an immediacy regarding the tree clearing portion of the project. A wildlife habitat law requires that timber be on the ground no later than April 15th. Three tree clearing bids were received and ranged from \$19.5K - \$39.5K for the same work. The low bidder removed his bid from consideration. The Chuck Rose Land Clearing bid was \$22K which included power line work if needed and was considerably less than the remaining bid on the table. The tree cutting is scheduled to start this coming weekend. Ray requested a Board motion authorizing administration to engage with Chuck Rose Land Clearing for an amount up to \$22K for tree clearing. *Dan Cloutier motioned to authorize an amount up to \$22K to Chuck Rose Land Clearing for taking the trees, seconded by Lorry Cloutier. Vote: 9-0-0 - All in Favor*

Goffstown Handbooks – MaryClaire Barry reviewed the requested Board changes: Align web links for the 3 elementary schools; confirm there is no public comment at the end of the meeting; address the MVMS tardy procedures; duplicate information on pages 5 and 38 under GSB; remove reference to Policy AD. *Ginny McKinnon motioned to accept the handbook with the changes that MaryClaire Barry has listed and the changes that we have in front of us for the handbook 2017-2018 for all of our schools, seconded by Jenelle O’Brien. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.*

SCHOOL STAFFING

Notifications: Informational only

Teacher Transfer – (Effective 7/1/17)

Joshua Lewis..... MVMS to GHS..... Social Studies

Retirement (June 30, 2017):

Betty Ward..... Bartlett..... Elementary Teacher

*Ginny McKinnon motioned to approve the retirement of Betty Ward with regret, seconded by Jenelle O’Brien
Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed*

Other: none

OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE THE MEETING: none

NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3II (a) *The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.*

Reta Chaffee motioned to enter into non-public session at 8:50pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3II(a) seconded by Heather Trzepacz. The Chair took an individual voice poll. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed

Dan Cloutier motioned to leave non-public session at 9:15pm, seconded by Reta Chaffee. The Chair took an individual voice poll. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.

Dan Cloutier motioned to seal the minutes pursuant to personnel law, seconded by Steven Dutton. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed

Dan Cloutier motioned to enter into non-public session at 9:17pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3II(c), seconded by Reta Chaffee. The Chair took an individual voice poll. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.

Dan Cloutier motioned to leave non-public session at 9:41pm, seconded by Steven Dutton. The Chair took an individual voice poll. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed

Dan Cloutier motioned to seal the non-public minutes until the contract is awarded, seconded by Steven Dutton. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.

Steven Dutton motioned to enter into non-public session at 9:43pm pursuant to RSA 91-A:3II(c), seconded by Dan Cloutier. The Chair took an individual voice poll. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.

Dan Cloutier motioned to leave non-public session at 10:00pm, seconded by Reta Chaffee. The Chair took an individual voice poll. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.

Dan Cloutier motioned to seal the non-public minutes until the matter is resolved, seconded by Steven Dutton. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.

Lorry Cloutier motioned to adjourn at 10:03pm, seconded by Heather Trzepacz. Vote: 9-0-0 – All in Favor – Motion Passed.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise F. Morin
Recording Secretary