

LAMOILLE UNION DISTRICT #18 BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
GMTCC COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER  
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009

Board members present: B. Bailey, D. Baker, J. Eisenhardt, B. Penberthy, S. Hamlyn-  
Prescott, P. Ingvaldstad, T. O'Hear, D. Osborn, S. Reber, K. Roberts, W. Sander, D. Whit-  
comb. Others: D. Taylor, B. Schaffer, M. Spaulding, G. Chicoine, J. Teegarden, S. Bernath,  
J. Prescott.

**Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.**

1. ***Call to Order, Introductions, Adopt the Agenda, Announcements, and Public Input***  
D. Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:31. She thanked everyone for their work  
leading to the passing of the budgets.
2. ***Reorganization***  
W. Sander nominated P. Ingvaldstad for chair. D. Whitcomb nominated S. Reber.  
B. Bailey asked for a paper ballot.

S. Reber said he supported P. Ingvaldstad for chair, but would not decline the nomi-  
nation. P. Ingvaldstad asked him where he would like the board to go. S. Reber said  
he is not a believer that we're in crisis, or that much needs to change. He has a great  
deal of faith in our administrators, and he has no agenda. (*J. Teegarden arrived at  
6:34.*) He believes the governance structure we have is good and strong. He is for co-  
operation among districts; he is not for centralization.

P. Ingvaldstad said S. Reber would do a wonderful job as chair. There are some  
things P. Ingvaldstad would like to accomplish; for instance, he would like the board  
to adopt a yearly agenda and stick to it. He said his perspective on centralization is a  
little different from S. Reber's. We heard from VSBA a couple of years ago that the  
smallest schools are most effective, and the biggest schools have the worst individual  
outcomes for students. Then this year we heard something completely different, so he  
doesn't know what to believe. But he feels we sometimes get in our own way where  
curriculum is concerned, and we need a stronger SU. He would love to see us doing  
more with increasing standards for participating in programs and helping students  
meet those standards.

D. Whitcomb said there comes a time when people should let someone new come in.  
He thinks it's time to make a change. S. Reber said having him as chair will not  
change the way the board is run. W. Sander said he felt either person would be a fine  
chair. He said he looks at a leadership position as an opportunity to serve, not rule.  
He knows P. Ingvaldstad can do the job, and hopes people will consider all he has  
done over the years.

Paper ballots were distributed and counted, then D. Taylor announced that S. Reber  
had won by 2 votes. Applause followed. D. Baker thanked P. Ingvaldstad for his ser-  
vice as chair.

K. Roberts nominated P. Ingvolstad for vice chair.

**MOTION: D. Whitcomb moved that nominations cease and that the clerk be instructed to cast 1 unanimous ballot for P. Ingvolstad as vice chair, and the motion was seconded and passed.**

D. Osborn said she didn't feel she could continue to commit the time and attention needed to do the clerk job well. P. Ingvolstad nominated S. Hamlyn-Prescott for clerk.

**MOTION: D. Whitcomb moved that nominations cease and that the clerk be instructed to cast 1 unanimous ballot for S. Hamlyn-Prescott as clerk, and the motion was seconded and passed.**

K. Roberts nominated W. Sander, D. Osborn, and S. Reber as voting representatives to the LNSU board. S. Reber called for a vote on that slate, and they were unanimously elected.

It was agreed that all committee assignments would remain the same, except for the personnel committee. B. Bailey said it is her turn to leave the personnel committee. W. Sander said when the committee was set up, it was decided that all members should rotate through, so someone who is has not been on the committee should join it. K. Roberts volunteered.

**MOTION: W. Sander moved to continue the same meeting schedule – first and third Tuesdays of each month, at 6:30 – and the motion was seconded.** However, the next meeting will be another session with Winton Goodrich, which will start at 5:30. **The motion was passed.**

3. *Consent Agenda Items*

**MOTION: D. Osborn moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by K. Roberts.** It was noted the consent agenda this time should consist only of approval of the February 17 minutes. **The motion was passed.**

4. *Directors' Orders*

**D. Osborn moved to approve directors' orders in the amount of \$323,843.39, seconded by K. Roberts.** The breakdown was as follows: Voc. Bldg. Trades \$3,593.49; District #18: \$320,249.90. Major expenditures for District #18 were: \$43,524.52 First Student; \$18,922.67 Lamoille Co. Mental Health; \$138,722.70 LNSU (4<sup>th</sup> quarter assessment); \$21,958.18 Laraway Youth & Family Services. D. Osborn said First Student bills have been higher than ever the past couple of months; it might be worth following up to see why. There was \$1,075.30 paid for a tax penalty plus interest.

**The motion was passed.**

4. *Administrative Action Items – Central Office*

D. Taylor distributed the central office report. Her office is working with art teachers across the LNSU to prepare for the LNSU art show. LNSU staff are learning more about the stimulus bill. A number of funds will come through existing grant programs, which is a positive thing because there is no competitive process. Across the

SU, there is a commitment to implement Response to Intervention. S. Cano is working to set up RtI training. The 401(a) liquidation package has been mailed to Nationwide Insurance for processing.

W. Sander said under the stimulus act, there was talk of some funds being available for construction. He suggested construction of a secondary egress might be a good project. M. Spaulding said he's continuing to get questions from the state level about what projects we would have should there be money. D. Taylor said there is money to be applied at the governor's discretion. We are working to collect information about possible projects, and if we become aware of any funding available we will pursue it. M. Frederick just learned about some federal funds that are separate from the stimulus package. K. Roberts said originally there was supposed to be money specifically for modernization. There is also municipal money that can go to schools. It might be worth for it for the GMTCC building committee and M. Spaulding to explore that possibility with the town.

K. Roberts said she understands there is good buy-in for RtI at the administrative level, but how about classroom teachers? D. Taylor said within the SPED community, the state is promoting it. Based on her observations of administrators discussing it at faculty meetings, she would say there is positive support for it.

D. Taylor distributed information for the next board meeting, including the agenda.

**MOTION: K. Roberts moved to enter executive session at 7:20 regarding the status of contract negotiations, inviting G. Chicoine and D. Taylor to remain, and asking student reps to leave, seconded by W. Sander.** The board consented out of session at 8:17.

5. ***Committee Reports***

**A. Board Planning**

There will be a board planning session at the next meeting.

**B. Policy Committee**

D. Taylor said the new sexual abuse prevention bill including criminal records check requirements has been passed. The majority of the recommendations are not slated to be implemented until Dec. 30, 2010. There is going to be study about background checks for volunteers. It calls for immediate implementation of requirements for work study students, and we need to make sure we properly address those, for example for high school students working in an after-school program. The bill does not include a definition of "work study." LNSU is working toward revising contracts to implement the state requirement. Some additional checks will be required under the new law. She advises continuing to implement the current policy, and following any guidance that comes out about the new requirements that don't have to be implemented yet. G. Chicoine said everything we've already done is consistent with the new law. There are additional new requirements, but nothing we've done is contrary to the law.

D. Whitcomb asked if the new law allows us to use 3<sup>rd</sup> party information – for instance if someone has already been fingerprinted for another organization, can we get information about the results from that organization? G. Chicoine said the law didn't take care of that, as far as he knows. The current law allows for secondary dissemination of results in some cases. For instance, two school districts can share background check information with the authorization of the individual involved, but a bus company cannot pass background check information to a school district or vice versa. He suspects that hasn't changed. D. Whitcomb said that if people have to pay again for checks that have already been done once, we will have no drivers.

**C. Curriculum Committee**

K. Roberts said the committee met today and discussed graduation rates and how they inform curriculum.

**D. Cricket Hill Building Committee**

M. Spaulding said he is on the Hyde Park Planning and Zoning agenda for Apr. 7, to get a building permit.

**6. Requests for Future Agenda Items**

K. Roberts said there should be a place on the agenda for "Other." P. Ingvaldstad said when the agenda is voted on at the beginning, items can be added. Including "Other" can lead to long speeches at the end of the meeting.

**7. Executive Session – Administrator Evaluation and Contracts**

**MOTION: K. Roberts moved to enter executive session to discuss administrator evaluation and contracts, inviting D. Taylor, B. Schaffer, and G. Chicoine to remain, at 8:31, seconded by D. Whitcomb, and the motion was passed.** The board consented out of session at 8:53.

**It was moved and seconded to enter executive session at to discuss administrator evaluation and contracts, inviting D. Taylor, G. Chicoine, and J. Teegarden to remain, at 8:55, and the motion was passed.** J. Teegarden left the session at 9:11. The board consented out of session at 9:33.

S. Reber directed D. Taylor to share the board's intent to renew all 3 administrator contracts, the details of which will be addressed at the next meeting. At the next meeting, the board will be addressing the details of contracts for non-licensed administrators. D. Osborn thanked D. Taylor for her professional and thorough evaluation and presentation. She noted how much the board appreciated the information that both she and G. Chicoine brought, which allowed the board to do its job better.

**8. Adjourn**

**MOTION: It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 9:35, and the motion was passed.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Donna E. Griffiths

Actions taken at the LU District #18 Board Meeting 3/10/09:

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8. *Adjourn*

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