

LAMOILLE UNION DISTRICT #18 BOARD MEETING MINUTES
GMTCC COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER
TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2010

Board members present: B. Bailey, D. Baker, S. Hamlyn-Prescott, P. Ingvoldstad, D. Osborn, W. Sander, D. Whitcomb. Absent: J. Eisenhardt, T. O'Hear, B. Penberthy, S. Reber, K. Roberts. Others: D. Taylor, B. Schaffer, J. Teegarden. C. Hindes, M. Spaulding, Jen Hulse.

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

1. **Call to Order, Introductions, Adopt the Agenda, Announcements, and Public Input**
 - A. **Call to Order – 6:29**
 - B. **Announcements**

P. Ingvoldstad said Cambridge got an e-Vermont grant that will be used to provide laptops for all CES 4th and 5th graders. Training will also be part of the grant. Twelve towns were chosen to receive grant funds. In July, e-Vermont will put out a prospectus for next year. Cambridge could help other towns get this.
 - C. **Adopt the Agenda**

MOTION: D. Baker moved to adopt the agenda, P. Ingvoldstad seconded, and the motion was passed.
2. **Consent Agenda Items (Approval of Minutes of the June 10 and June 14 Meetings, Acceptance of Administration Reports)**

MOTION: D. Osborn moved to approve the consent agenda, D. Baker seconded, and the motion was passed, with B. Bailey abstaining.
3. **Directors' Orders:**

<i>General Fund</i>	<i>6/11/10</i>	<i>\$147,520.58</i>
	<i>6/18/10</i>	<i>\$1,646,724.62</i>

MOTION: S. Hamlyn-Prescott moved to approve directors' orders as printed, seconded by P. Ingvoldstad. S. Hamlyn-Prescott listed some of the notable expenditures. **The motion was passed.**
4. **Administrative Reports and Action Items**
 - A. **High School**

Jen Hulse explained that because of difficulty finding someone to fill a special ed case manager position, they changed it to a language arts resource room position. They sought a certified English teacher to teach basic English classes to special ed students and provide support throughout the day. The recommended candidate is Katie Bouchard. She will be put on a provisional special ed license. She is interested in becoming a special ed case manager in the future.

MOTION: P. Ingvoldstad moved to offer the language arts resource room position to Katie Bouchard, D. Whitcomb seconded, and the motion was passed. (*J. Hulse left.*)

B. Schaffer recommended hiring Sara Elizabeth Reed as a social studies teacher.

MOTION: D. Baker moved to offer a contract to Sara Elizabeth Reed as a social studies teacher, P. Ingvaldstad seconded, and the motion was passed.

D. Osborn said one of her sons has yet to receive a report card, and the other has gotten 3 report cards – all different. Is there actual grade reporting going on? B. Schaffer said there was a technical glitch that impacted LUHS, LUMS, and GMTCC. That's why there was a delay in sending out report cards. He had sent an Alert Now notification about it. He will look into the situation further. C. Hindes said they went in manually to fix the problem with the middle school report cards. D. Osborn said she doesn't know which report card is the one that counts.

B. GMTCC

J. Teegarden encouraged board members to get a DVD of the GMTCC graduation, or look for it on cable access. He said there were 4 remarkable speeches by kids.

C. Facilities

M. Spaulding said we received the \$50K grant for LED parking lights that he applied for. He put it out to bid in 2 parts – fixtures and installation. Because the board will not be meeting on July 6, he asked that the finance committee be authorized to make the final decision on the fixtures bid.

MOTION: P. Ingvaldstad moved to authorize the finance committee to make the final decision on awarding the contract for LED parking light fixtures, seconded by D. Baker, and the motion was passed.

Nothing has changed with the septic situation. Repair of the second tank is starting Tuesday. M. Spaulding hasn't heard any more about the possibility of emergency funding. D. Taylor said she will look into that.

D. Whitcomb moved to authorize B. Bailey to fill in for D. Whitcomb on the finance committee if he is not able to attend, S. Hamlyn-Prescott seconded, and the motion was passed.

D. Central Office

D. Taylor distributed copies of the School Improvement Grant application. She said we are still awaiting approval. We have had some communications and request for clarification. She expects to learn the outcome on or around July 1. Anyone who is interested can come to central office to view the application. After approval, it will be available online on our website and VT DOE's website.

W. Sander asked if there was much faculty involvement in the application. D. Taylor said a needs assessment was required, which faculty participated in. Faculty were asked to weigh in on certain aspects of strategies, and B. Schaffer has met with some faculty leaders regarding the grant. B. Schaffer said he created a survey to get the required school-level input. He included a question

on the survey about what faculty would like to see funds used on, and that drove a lot of what is in the application.

W. Sander asked, are faculty on board with applying? B. Schaffer said he thinks tentatively yes. D. Taylor said some had been concerned about the requirement to measure student growth and link it to evaluations. Administrative Council members have been working on a new evaluation instrument which they hope to get up and running within a year. Student growth will be measured not just by NECAP results, but by a variety of things. The requirement will help focus our teachers on student data. P. Ingvaldstad said he has no idea how evaluations can be linked to student growth. He would love to have it explained once they decide how to do it. D. Taylor said there is a dearth of information out there on this, but some other states have worked on it and AdCo has looked at that work. They intend to keep the board informed. So far they have a very rough draft. Student growth will be measured by a combination of teacher reports based on their own classroom assessments and required assessments such as the NECAP. D. Osborn said she feels it is very important to make the evaluations relevant to the students – hopefully in terms of a grade – because they won't do their best unless they feel it will reflect on their standing. She supports movement toward a grade more reflective of content knowledge than jumping through hoops. W. Sander said those two ideas – that effort on the evaluation should be graded, and that grades should reflect content knowledge – are in opposition. D. Osborn said ideally relevant assessment of content area would determine the grade for the class, and the grade would be less dependent on things like homework. B. Schaffer said there are more questions than answers as far as what the SIG will do to our structure, but he thinks it will be a catalyst for positive, research-based changes that have been needed. He and D. Taylor recently attended a session about programs that are tied to entry and exit exams. We have purchased the PSAT to administer to 10th grade students while administering the NECAP to 11th graders. D. Taylor said B. Schaffer has arranged to have a nationally-known brain researcher come in to speak to LU staff.

J. Teegarden said at the tech center, they understand grades have 3 parts - knowledge, effort, and progress. They give students grades, and they also measure progress in employability skills. In math, they do a pre and post test to show progress. D. Osborn asked, could something like that be used in other schools. B. Schaffer said PowerSchool will give parents access to grades on a biweekly basis, starting in the fall. D. Osborn asked how hard it would be to request that teachers make comments in addition to letter grades. B. Schaffer said we are learning more about what we can do with the system each year. More and more teachers are able to show all the grades that go into the overall grade – homework, quizzes, participation, etc., and they will be getting training on how to do that.

D. Taylor said there has been some restructuring at central office. Due to Unifund, to expedite services and reduce costs, there will now be one person – Heather Slayton – who will handle both payroll and AP for LU and GMTCC. In the past there was one person for payroll and one for AP. Checks will be run every 2 weeks. The board can continue to approve them at regular board meetings or empower the clerk to do it.

B. Bailey asked when the Cricket Hill building will be finished. M. Spaulding said Greg Stokes will finish siding it at the start of the school year.

MOTION: D. Baker moved to enter executive session to discuss administrator evaluations, inviting B. Schaffer to remain, seconded by P. Ingoldstad, and the motion was passed at 7:28. During the executive session, B. Schaffer left and other administrators were invited in, one at a time. **The board consented out of session at 9:35.**

5. ***Review Meeting Schedule; Request for Future Agenda Items; and Adjourn***
Administrator and supervisory personnel compensation will be on a future agenda.

D. Taylor will poll board members to decide whether July 13, July 20, or July 27 would be the best date for the next meeting.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 9:37, and the motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted by,
Donna E. Griffiths

Actions taken at the LU District #18 Board Meeting 6/29/10:

1. *Call to Order, Introductions, Adopt the Agenda, Announcements, and Public Input*
 - C. **Adopt the Agenda**
MOTION: D. Baker moved to adopt the agenda, P. Ingvoldstad seconded, and the motion was passed.
2. *Consent Agenda Items (Approval of Minutes of the June 10 and June 14 Meetings, Acceptance of Administration Reports)*
MOTION: D. Osborn moved to approve the consent agenda, D. Baker seconded, and the motion was passed, with B. Bailey abstaining.
3. *Directors' Orders:*

<i>General Fund</i>	<i>6/11/10</i>	<i>\$147,520.58</i>
	<i>6/18/10</i>	<i>\$1,646,724.62</i>

MOTION: S. Hamlyn-Prescott moved to approve directors' orders as printed, seconded by P. Ingvoldstad. The motion was passed.
4. *Administrative Reports and Action Items*
 - A. **High School**
MOTION: P. Ingvoldstad moved to offer the language arts resource room position to Katie Bouchard, D. Whitcomb seconded, and the motion was passed.

MOTION: D. Baker moved to offer a contract to Sara Elizabeth Reed as a social studies teacher, P. Ingvoldstad seconded, and the motion was passed.
 - C. **Facilities**
MOTION: P. Ingvoldstad moved to authorize the finance committee to make the final decision on awarding the contract for LED parking light fixtures, seconded by D. Baker, and the motion was passed.

D. Whitcomb moved to authorize B. Bailey to fill in for D. Whitcomb on the finance committee if he is not able to attend, S. Hamlyn-Prescott seconded, and the motion was passed.
 - D. **Central Office**
MOTION: D. Baker moved to enter executive session to discuss administrator evaluations, inviting B. Schaffer to remain, seconded by P. Ingvoldstad, and the motion was passed at 7:28. During the executive session, B. Schaffer left and other administrators were invited in, one at a time. **The board consented out of session at 9:35.**
5. *Review Meeting Schedule; Request for Future Agenda Items; and Adjourn*
MOTION: It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 9:37, and the motion was passed.