

**CANDIA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.
REMOTE MEETING (ZOOM)**

These minutes have not been approved.

Matt Woodrow, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Those attending remotely were Board members Dana Buckley, Kristina Ickes, Mark Chalbeck and Stephanie Helmig, who all stated that there were no other people at their location. Principal, Becky Wing; Director of Student Services, Kathryn Duncan, Technology Director, Chris Jamrog, Maintenance Director, Lynda Byrne; Superintendent, William (Bill) Rearick, Business Administrator, Amy Ransom, and Assistant Superintendent, Marge Polak.

Also joining in was Mike Davey of Energy Efficient Investments.

Matt Woodrow read 'A Checklist To Ensure Meetings Are Compliant With The Right-to- Know Law During The State Of Emergency'.

Matt led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROOF OF POSTING

Bill Rearick provided proof of posting.

Matt Woodrow asked the Board to add 'Grade 8 Update' and 'Retreat Update' to the agenda. They agreed.

All votes taken were poll votes, and were unanimous.

Moving up Energy Audit from New Business, Mike Davey summarized the energy audit and prioritized each. Considerable discussion ensued relative to the scope of projects, priorities, and timelines. Mr. Davey stated that he felt ventilation in the old wing was the priority. He said ductwork could be done in 8 – 10 weeks, but materials to complete the project would not be available until July or August. The Board felt it was best to get the ductwork done while school is out and to complete the project during winter vacation.

More discussion ensued relative to funding.

Motion by Matt Woodrow, seconded by Dana Buckley to expend \$322,500 from the Expendable Trust Fund toward the installation of ventilation to the old wing.

A poll vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Amy Ransom stated that the next Board meeting will include a Public Hearing for this.

OLD BUSINESS

After School Program

Matt Woodrow stated that based on statements he has heard, he felt now is not the time to make contract changes. He said there have been some positive administrative changes in the New Morning program. Matt said that, though the YMCA offers a tremendous program, he was hesitant to enter into a contract with them as their payment structure is not as flexible as the one New Morning offers. Dana Buckley stated New Morning is much more affordable and supports staying with them. Mark Chalbeck agreed with Dana. Kristina Ickes stated the need to ensure policies are in alignment with school policies. She suggested an attorney review them to ensure the ADA language is correct. She will submit suggested language to Bill Rearick who will send them to the district's attorney for review.

Motion by Matt Woodrow, seconded by Dana Buckley, to enter into a 12 month contract with The New Morning School, pending legal review. A poll vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Remote Learning Update

Becky Wing gave accolades to teacher and staff, who have done "anything and everything, willingly, which says a lot about their dedication to the community". She said a survey was sent to parents looking for ways to recognize students. Becky met with the Superintendent and then the graduation advisors to determine how to best recognize our 8th grade students while adhering to guidelines and complying with emergency orders. Their proposal included making a video of award presentations, Valedictorian and Salutatorian addresses, and reading of graduate names, which would be released on the graduation day. That same day

families would drive to the school, remaining in their cars, and pass staff members as they receive any awards and certificates. A parade of cars would take place after all graduates received their certificates. This parade would either be the graduates parading through town or the teachers and anyone from town who wants to join parading in cars past student homes. Becky also mentioned a plan that some parents presented to her that included use of the CYAA fields with a more traditional graduation that takes social distancing into account.

Considerable discussion ensued. Stephanie Helmig hoped for an in-person graduation. Bill Rearick stated that no one knows how much rules will be relaxed. Matt Woodrow asked how other SAU schools are handling this, to which Bill stated that Cawley has pushed their graduation date back in hopes of relaxed rules. Auburn is considering a drive-in style graduation, but that is up in the air pending police approval of such a gathering. Dana Buckley stated that he is was in favor of pushing it out in the event rules are relaxed. Stephanie Helmig said she would like to see a socially distanced, modified, in-person event, possibly at the CYAA. Matt said that was currently closed. Bill Rearick stated it can be put out with hopes for the best, but he said the Board must be clear on the fact that it will be a modified version of the traditional ceremony. He said he is not confident that things will be 'business as usual' in July or August. Kristina Ickes agreed with Bill, adding that even if gathering is allowed, people may be hesitant to do so. Mark Chalbeck stated that if they delay graduation, maybe a modified one can be at CYAA. He said as things open up, we will probably see an increase in positive cases, and that he doesn't think things will relax too much. Becky Wing stated that she will reach out to the group of parents proposing an alternative plan to work together as updates come from the Governor.

School Calendar (end of year discussion)

Bill Rearick stated the Commissioner of Education declared that those districts using a daily calendar may switch to an hourly calendar for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year. Currently, because of 5 snow days, the last day of school is June 23. Converting to hours, meeting the 990 hours required, would bump that last day of school to June 18. Reducing this by the five days allotted by the Governor that was not taken by the Candia School District would bring the last day of school to June 11.

Some discussion ensued. Stephanie Helmig asked about educational gaps, to which Bill Rearick stated that administrators are figuring out assessments. He said teachers and tapped out and parents are feeling pressure. He said he supported taking time off of the calendar. Mark Chalbeck stated that, due to the extenuating situation, he would support moving up the end of school date which could allow time for teachers to come up with, and review, lesson plans for possible remote learning next year.

Motion by Matt Woodrow, seconded by Mark Chalbeck, to switch to an hourly calendar for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. A poll vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Matt Woodrow, seconded by Dana Buckley, to declare June 11 as the last day of school. A poll vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Bill Rearick stated that administrators are working on a few re-entry to school plans. When ready, he will bring it before the Board.

FINANCIAL

Motion by Mark Chalbeck, seconded by Stephanie Helmig, to approve the manifest in the amount of \$416,724.01, and the motion carried unanimously.

Board members will sign a copy of the manifest coversheet and will submit it to the Business Administrator.

Matt Woodrow asked Stephanie Helmig to remind the Budget committee that because so much funding was cut, the amount returned to the town will be considerably lower this year. Bill Rearick stated that they will try to level fund as much as possible when building the next budget.

Some discussion regarding the Board Retreat. Dana Buckley suggested moving the retreat to a later date, to which Bill Rearick stated they need to approve the release of funds at the end of May. Bill stated that the Board should most likely expect to meet over the summer.

Discussion ensued relative to conducting a live or remote retreat, and the consensus was that it was most likely be a hybrid with some using Zoom while others met in person, at Cawley, providing they say under guidelines.

PERSONNEL

Motion by Matt Woodrow, seconded by Dana Buckley to approve, with regret, the resignation of Samantha Miller as presented. A poll vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Matt Woodrow, seconded by Dana Buckley to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Nicole Cartier as Spanish Teacher. A poll vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Matt Woodrow, seconded by Dana Buckley to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Johnathan Banks as Assistant Principal. A poll vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Data Security and Tech Plan, Policy DFA, Approval of Minutes, Policy Approval, Deliberative Session Dates, Proposed Board Meeting Dates

Matt Woodrow stated that he has heard nothing but positive feedback and appreciates the time and effort the Moore School Staff and SAU Administrators have put in. Mark Chalbeck said the slideshow was so positive and it showed so much pride in how teachers and administration overcame obstacles and adapted so quickly. He thanked them all. Matt echoed Mark's comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Matt Woodrow, seconded by Dana Buckley, to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled Candia School Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Henry W. Moore School Media Center, or remotely as needed.

There will be an SAU Board Meeting on May 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Henry W. Moore School Media Center, or remotely as needed.

The Candia School Board Retreat will be held at the David R. Cawley Middle School on May 26, 2020, or remotely as needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca SJ McCarthy
Recording Secretary