

Nashua School Board Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, July 19, 2016  
Nashua School Library  
6:00 p.m.

***Call Meeting to Order:***

Board Chair Cole Sibley called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance

***Roll Call***

Michele Fromdahl, Greg Nybakken, Joel Novak, Cole Sibley, Joe Laumeyer (absent), Interim Superintendent Bill Colter.

Joe Laumeyer joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

***Changes or additions to established agenda***

Reminder that changes or additions to the agenda can be discussed but no action can be taken.

***Correspondence***

None

***Public Comment***

Cole read the statement about public comment: This portion of the meeting is designated as a time for input/questions from the public on items that are not on the agenda. This does NOT include discussion about individual students, staff or faculty. The Board cannot and will not violate an individual's right to privacy.

Mary Schlabs asked if the agenda can be posted at Nashua's Post Office. She said more people would see it there. Bill said he was told not to post it there as a former employee of the post office requested it not be there. Mary said the current postmaster is agreeable.

Denise Winchester asked that the agenda be posted on the school website.

Gregg Fromdahl asked if the school could offer an online foreign language class – at no expense to the student and that they be given time during the class day to take it. He also asked if a school play could be offered second semester, he volunteered to supervise it. He said it gives students other options besides athletics. He asked that the school bring back BPA, TSA and Art Clubs.

***Board approval of***

Board Minutes – regular and special

June 28, 29 and July 11 school board minutes

Motion by Joe to approve the minutes as a bundle

Second by Greg

Cole asked for public input on the motion. Sue Hoyer stated that they do not have a copy of the minutes. Bill Colter said the board has to ask for public input after every motion and that after they are approved, they will be available. Greg asked if the minutes from the June 21<sup>st</sup> regular meeting had been approved. Those minutes will be approved at the next board meeting

Vote: 5-0 Passed

Claims/payroll/student activity accounts/transfers.

Bill pointed out the claims that had to be paid because they were due before the board met.

Motion by Joe to approve the claims

Second by Greg

Board discussion - Joe asked about MTSBA claim and Linda Parpart clarified it.

Cole asked for public input on the motion – there was none.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

***Superintendent's Report***

Bill Colter thanked the board for the opportunity to serve as superintendent. He said the school is facing many challenges and everyone needs to be on the same page. The role of superintendent – take over and get things done. He will listen to input, does not want any surprises so keep him in the loop. If

a community member calls a school board member, refer them to Bill. School board members have a difficult unpaid job, stay open and honest. School board power is during the meeting – purpose of school board is to make policy and Bill's job is to enforce the policy. They represent the people. When you hear something – go to Bill. He doesn't like secrets. We need to be careful how things are said and stated in public – school board members have lots of responsibility and need to remember confidentiality.

He said the present staff are very caring and we still need more staff members. Other schools are facing shortages too and Bill is calling everywhere to find staff. The master contract is between the school board and teachers – Bill is in the middle and there must be a contract that everyone understands. In 45 years no grievance has been filed against him.

He is presently working on bus routes, by law we don't have to provide them, Miles City has none. We run the bus when people request it, not before the request. The new bus is coming Thursday, June 21. We need to get as many coaches hired tonight – he doesn't believe in opening up positions every year. If you treat coaches fair – no reason to have to go through all these applications every year.

Right now we don't have an official business manager – next two months is the worse time to hire a new business manager. There are too many reports to complete before school starts. He wants to wait a month or 2 before hiring and felt that was best for school. He said the 3 main ingredients for a good school is staff, superintendent and board and we need to get our enrollment up. He also felt the school should be audited every year. He again thanked the board for the opportunity.

Cole asked if there were any questions for Bill – there were none.

#### ***Old Business – Discussion/Action***

Staffing for 2016-2017 (elementary, junior high and high school)

The school is still looking for an English, Art, Business/Technology and Elementary teachers. Bill commented the budget is tight – there's a possibility of combining classrooms, but not K through 2. Bill also said the board should meet every week before school starts because of all the challenges.

Extra-curricular Positions – (open, filled, hired)

The board reviewed applications. Boys and girls head basketball and cheer have been filled. There was discussion on coaches being related to board members – there's a legal process to go through. There is still no applicant for volleyball coach. Roger Trang applied for both boys and girls assistant coach, he stated just in case nobody else applied yet. Gregg Fromdahl requested more information on the assistant coach positions.

Motion by Joe to table the boys and girls assistant coach positions

Second by Greg

Cole asked for public input on the motion – there was none.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

Motion by Joe to hire Ryen Falkenstern as head track coach

Second by Greg

Cole asked for public input on the motion – there was none.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

Motion by Joe to hire Kayla Rorvik as yearbook advisor

Second by Greg

Cole asked for public input on the motion – there was none.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

There were 2 applications for concessions - Patti Sibley and Lisa Murdock. Cole Sibley's relationship with Patti was discussed, the chart was reviewed and it was determined that the relationship was not close enough for Cole to abstain. Bill commented if the relationships are close enough then the position has to be advertised and then the board votes – and it has to be unanimous

Motion by Joel to hire Patti Sibley as concession manager

Second by Michele

Cole asked for public input on the motion – there was none.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

AJ Allen applied for athletic director and junior high boys basketball

Cole had asked Ryen Falkenstern to fill the position, he refused but stated he would help out.

Motion by Joe to hire AJ Allen as athletic director and junior high boys basketball coach.

Second by Greg

Board discussion – Joe felt AJ has experience and there is lots of support from the former AD (Ryen) and the community and we should offer him a chance. Greg talked about the formal procedure for hiring extra-curriculars and that they had wanted the AD involved.

Cole asked for public input on the motion – Gregg Fromdahl asked if the AD would continue to be involved in bus transportation and activity accounting. Bill stated that normally the clerk does all the accounting and asked how we handled the counting of money and was told that the school secretary did that the next day.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

Motion by Joe to hire Janice Rorvik as elementary girls basketball coach

Second by Greg

Cole asked for public input on the motion – Kirk Sibley asked if there were enough students to have a junior high and elementary basketball team and thought those coaching positions may have to be combined. Greg thought the head coaches were to decide these things, it was stated that that procedure had not been formalized yet. Gregg Fromdahl commented that he has no problem with Janice being the elementary girls coach. It was also discussed that extra-curricular applications may be a confidentiality issue. Bill asked to table it and discuss it with the head coaches.

Joe rescinded the motion

Board voted on rescinded motion

Vote: 5-0 Passed

Bill said we have to find a volleyball coach. Roger Trang talked about the Porcupine booster club helping an interested applicant, Janelle Olson who lives in Glasgow. Bill stated the booster club cannot help an applicant financially, it was then discussed to raise the stipend which has to go through the master contract. It was also stated the stipend was less than basketball because of the shorter season. Denise Winchester suggested putting these open positions on the front page of the school website and the Porcupine Facebook page and advertised in the newspaper. Bill also said everybody needs to spread the word.

Business Manager/Clerk position (one or two positions)

Bill said again, it's a busy time – doesn't feel they should fill that position right now. He said that Linda Parpart will help out at school or at home. There are important reports and budget duties right now. Bill wants to take time and do it right. He talked about the various duties of the position. Cole feels more discussion is warranted, he would like to fill the positions but understands what Bill is saying. Linda may help with the training of the new clerk. Bill, Cole and Linda will discuss a contract for that position(s) Joe still wants to interview the current applicants, Michele and him are on that hiring committee. He doesn't want to put off those 3 applicants for too long. Michele asked about the one or two positions of business manager and clerk. Duties of the interim clerk were discussed. Joe and Michele will meet with Bill and Linda and report back at the next meeting.

### ***New Business – Discussion/Action***

Out of District Attendance Agreements

Reminder - do not use names in the minutes, use the ID number.

Motion by Joe to accept ID numbers A through J

Second by Greg

Cole asked for public input on the motion – there was none.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

### Bus Routes for 2016-17

The Valley County transportation meeting is the first or second week in August. It's not set yet. The board reviewed each bus route. The North route does not have commitment on new students yet. There's a possibility of 6 students and the bus can turn around in Neufeld's yard if the route is extended.

Gregg explained the Wiota route. There are some students on that route that are committed if the route is changed. Bill will contact them. Kirk asked if there was a deadline to accept out of district students. It's up to the board and special circumstances are taken into consideration. It was mentioned to use Facebook to inform people about the possibility of extending bus routes.

The Fort Peck route was amended last year. It was stated that there's a possibility of new students from the cabin area if the route is changed.

Motion by Joe to extend all bus routes to the limit.

It's easier to cut them back than extend them during the school year. Bill asked if he could drive the routes first and get the mileage and report back next week.

No second – motion died.

### Exit Interviews

Michelle explained we wanted to do that after people resign – Linda sent the forms out but only 2 board members replied. Bill will get the form and put it in next week's packet. Bill said lots of schools use them, and many other businesses. Deb Partridge stated it eliminates the *he said she said* – and the school board reviews the reasons why the employee left.

Appoint Superintendent Colter as school representative for Nashua School on local, state and federal forms.

Motion by Joe to appoint Superintendent Colter as school representative for Nashua School on local, state and federal forms.

Second by Joel

Board discussion – sometimes an auditor will check on this item.

Cole asked for public input on the motion – there was none.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

### School auditor for 2015-2016 (advertise for school audit)

The auditor has been Phil Emmons and he is no longer doing schools. Bill recommends sending out bids to various places. Linda and Bill will get a list of names together.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Booster Club

Deb Partridge said this is a newly formed club to help fill a need for many things including students and teacher recruitment – housing – students, help retain and attract them – big brother, little brother, scholarships, playground equipment, camps. They had a flyer at the reunion and there was lots of interest from alumni. They will keep the board informed and they have a Facebook page. Deb said to contact any board member for more information. Board members are Roger Trang, Deb, Taylor Trang and Marilyn Stein. Dennis Garsjo is also a member. Bill will be main contact on booster club issues.

#### Parent Teacher organization

This is a rejuvenation of a former PTO which fizzled out and they're trying to get interest back and involve the teachers and community. The next meeting is Thursday, July 26 at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be in the front entry because the floors are being waxed. They want to set goals at this meeting.

#### NEA report/comments

Sue Hoyer has visited with Bill and will meet with him again to discuss the calendar, specifically the teacher PIR days. They want to get things wrapped up ASAP. The negotiations were pushed back because of the superintendent position opening up and the budget. Another meeting will be set up when the budget is finalized. Bill will visit with the negotiating committee, Greg and Joel.

Sue asked that a cleaner version of current negotiations be given to Bill. She also asked if there was any idea of when the budget would be finalized. Bill said he needs salaries to put a budget together. Sue commented that it's a different situation not to have a contract at the present time.

**Housing Committee**

The committee needs to start making updates, repairs, improvements, etc. Listen to your renters, look at dwellings, etc. Joel volunteered to serve on committee. Michelle also volunteered. They both live in Nashua so it's handier.

**Letter to students/parents**

An updated letter should be sent out. The board had sent out a letter 3 weeks ago to parents. Joe wants to send out another letter and make sure everyone gets it, including past families from 2014. Bill said the letter should also be included in the back to school packets.

***Future Agenda items***

Extra curricular positions including assistant coaches

Business manager / clerk

Bus Routes

Exit Interview form

Let Bill know of anything else that needs to be on the agenda.

***Adjournment***

Motion by Joel to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Joe

Cole asked for public input on the motion – there was none.

Vote: 5-0 Passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

Date: \_\_\_\_\_