

Hartland Board of Education
Minutes of April 17, 2017
Conference Room

BOE Present: Pam Weber, Alana Bordewieck, Steve Abrahamsen, Andy Fenn, Ellen Smith, Laura H. Hollingsworth, and Dr. Anthony Distasio.

Chairperson **P. Weber** called the Board Meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

The Hartland Board of Education Mission Statement being read by **Alana Bordewieck**.

Approval of Minutes- March 13, 2017

- Motion to approve March 13, 2017 BOE Minutes **A. Bordewieck, S. Abrahamsen**, otherwise approved **unanimous**.

Communications-

- **David Bignelli**, student representative for Granby Memorial High School reported both the sophomore CAPP testing and the junior SAT's would now be administered during school. He also shared that the French honor students were able to travel abroad during spring break. **David** reported GMHS held a Culture Fair, in which students studying a specific language represented their country by sharing examples of culture, music, and food. He also reported that spring sports have started.

Public comment on Agenda Items- None

Chair Report-

- **Budget Timeline-**
Monday, May 1, 2017- Budget Hearing- 8 p.m. Hartland School Gym
Monday, May 15, 2017- Annual Town Meeting- 8 p.m. Hartland School Gym
Wednesday, May 24, 2017- Budget Referendum- 12-8 p.m. Hartland Town Hall
- **Spring Newsletter-** Mailed out to town residents April 4, 2017.

Superintendent Report- Dr. Anthony Distasio

- **March Bills & Monthly Expense Report-** **A. Distasio** reported the budget is in great shape and that a return is expected back to the town as in prior years.
- **Energy Audit-** **A. Distasio** reported he met with **Keith Jewell** from Energy Resources, who conducted an energy audit of Hartland School. He works through Eversource in offering a Small Business Advantage program to schools. This program would replace light fixtures and lighting throughout the school. The

total cost of the project would be \$64,167.64. However Eversource will pay \$22,987 of the costs. The remaining \$40,180 will be paid through our monthly electric bill, which will actually decrease because of the energy efficient fixtures and bulbs that will be installed. The total costs will be paid back over the next 3 years & 8 months and our monthly bill will go down approximately \$50 per month during that time. Once paid back, the savings realized will be even greater. The project, if approved by the Board, will be done this summer. - **MOTION ITEM.**

Motion to approve **E. Smith, A. Fenn**, otherwise approved **unanimous**.

- **Budget Adjustment-** At the March 15, 2017 Board of Finance meeting, the Board voted to reduce the Hartland Board of Education budget request by \$10,000. Therefore, our new budget amount is \$5,318,045 or an increase of \$40,065 or .76%. In that our health insurance came in lower than the current year, I would recommend that you have us adjust the budget accordingly from that account. -**MOTION ITEM.**

Motion to approve **E. Smith, A. Bordewieck** otherwise approved **unanimous**.

Principal Report-- L. Hollingsworth

L. Hollingsworth presented a letter of commendation for **Sherice Bennett**, Hartland School's Office Assistant. She also reported STEAM Night was a success and thanked **Cindy Smith, Deb Costolnick, Julia Fuller**, and **Christine Mitchell** for all the time put into making this event possible.

Teacher Presentation-

- **Amy Bourque**, 5th grade teacher and **Christine Mitchell**, Art teacher introduced a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) and SEL (Social Emotional Learning) slideshow. They shared with us the benefits that STEAM has played a role in with the 5th grade class. Building on the work of Winchester Youth Bureau during the 2015-2016 school year, students earned highly motivating time on STEAM projects by demonstrating pro-social and student like behaviors. **A. Bourque** reported they have implemented a peace scholar curriculum and also Magic 1, 2, 3. **C. Mitchell, A. Bourque** and their fifth grade colleagues implemented a positive reward system by supplying the students with lanyards and punch cards. They explained students are given "a punch" for positive choices and when they reach 30 punches they are able to spend 1hr in the art room working on STEAM projects. **C. Mitchell** and **A. Bourque** feel as if this group of students have become more self-directed learners and have shown significant process. **L. Hollingsworth** commented on how these two teachers really took this into their own hands and have shown true dedication to supporting the success and motivation of their students.

Committee & Liaison Report- None

Old Business- None

New Business-

- **Last Day of School & Promotion Date- MOTION ITEM**

Reduce the student school year to 180 days which would mean the last day of school would be on Thursday, June 22, 2017 (providing no additional emergency closings. If we were to have any additional emergency closings, we would need to adjust the last day of school.) Teachers would work Friday June 23, 2017 to close out the school year. Because the teachers will have the Friday to close their rooms, we will have an abbreviated day only on the last day of school (Thursday, June 22, 2017). This is with the understanding that teachers will work *185 days for this year only.

Motion to approve **S. Abrahamsen, E. Smith**, otherwise approved **unanimous**.

*The highlighted number has been changed from 181 to 185. This changed will be noted on next month's minutes.

Public Comment on Agenda Items- NONE

Future Agenda Items

- BOE Goals
- Superintendent Evaluation
- Next Meeting – May 8, 2017

Adjournment: 8:03 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sherice Bennett

Board Recording Secretary

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Motion to approve **S. Abrahamsen, E. Smith**, otherwise approved **unanimous**.

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Sherice Bennett

Board Recording Secretary