

October 19, 2010

Tamworth School Board

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Tamworth School Board was held at the Kenneth A. Brett School on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 5:33pm. The meeting was called to order by Chair Laura Pike. Present were board members Laura Pike, Charlie Pugh, Dan Rowe, John Cleveland and David Farley, Superintendent Jay McIntire, Principal Rob Troon, Special Ed. Director Raina Chick and Secretary Kathi Brown.

2. Approval of Agenda

John Cleveland made a motion to approve the agenda. Dan Rowe seconded the motion. Charlie Pugh suggested moving the discussion with First Student Transportation to the beginning of the meeting. Jay McIntire wants to add item 4Db, transportation coordinator. The motion is approved as amended.

3. Approval of Minutes (September 16, 2010)

David Farley made a motion to approve the minutes. Charlie Pugh seconded the motion. Motion passed. John Cleveland abstained.

4. Administration Reports

A. Superintendent

a. Update on SAU 13 office move

Jay McIntire stated that some of the moving would be happening this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Various school board members and other people would be getting together to make the move happen. The telephone lines will be moved over on Monday. Next week will be cleaning up and moving the remainder of items. There are about \$7,500.00 in additional costs; separate computer lines for computer networking and printers, smoke detector system, outside security cameras, etc. Dan Rowe asked if the original proposal had a contingency line in it. Jay McIntire stated it was external work that was not specked out originally. There was a misunderstanding in the specs terminology. Dan Rowe feels that a 10% over run is not overly significant. Laura Pike stated that the Tamworth Board is responsible to the SAU Board and should outline the specifics for the extra three and a half months lease payment; outline how and why these extra items happened. Jay McIntire stated it was a reflection of his review and understanding of the contract. Dan Rowe asked if the contractor should be held responsible for these extra costs. Jay McIntire has discussed this matter with the contractor and it was an honest miscommunication. Dan Rowe asked about sharing the cost with the contractor and Jay McIntire does not advocate that.

b. Bradley Kidder Law Conference

Jay McIntire attended this conference and went to various sessions, and came away with good information.

B. Principal

Rob Troon handed out the newsletter and a report showing the comparison of 09-10's budget to 10-11's budget and discussed it. The report shows items that have not hit the table before with a difference of over \$500.00. This year certain lines may be overspent, but money will be left in other lines to cover it. Money for field trips was supposed to have been in the current budget, but it is not. The PTA has agreed to fund field trips, again, in the amount of \$6,500.00, for this current year only. There is also no money in the current budget for the ski program or the after school programs. Laura Pike appreciated that Rob Troon will be keeping an eye on the staff development line as it needs to be watched, while keeping in mind the contractual obligations. The ed views, PBIS, will be tabled until next month. Rob Troon will be hosting a coffee hour in the cafeteria on November 1st. In the future he may have satellite coffee hours where community members gather in town. Laura Pike suggested listing the principal coffee hours in the Civic News. The current enrollment report was handed out showing an enrollment of 203 students as of October 1, 2010. David Farley asked if there is a way to find out why three 5th graders are now being home schooled this year. Laura Pike stated that there is no exit interview process.

a. Student Performance Data Report

Rob Troon gave the school board members a printout of the Spring 2010 Science NECAP analysis. It shows the results of the last three years of testing for grades 4 and 8. Jay McIntire brought up the concern discussed in Conway recently regarding eliminating and reducing programs in SAU9, along with the motivation for these cuts. Jay McIntire would like to provide SAU9 with feedback as to how these changes would affect Tamworth students. SAU9 will be reviewing this issue again in November. Charlie Pugh feels that if Kennett costs less, Conway will get less tuition from us. John Cleveland has no informed point of view to express. Raina Chick is unclear if special education cuts apply to Kennett High, if they do this could impact us, we would have to pay those costs. Laura Pike wants to know if any specific cuts affect a lot of our students, specifically where we have risk. Dan Rowe stated that Jay McIntire could develop a position on this for the Tamworth School Board.

C. Finance Manager

a. Expenditure Report

Dan Rowe stated that the expenditure report is incomplete, and wants to know where the dental insurance is. Laura Pike wants to wait until Barb Clifford is at a meeting to go over the expenditure report.

D. Special Services Director

a. Tamworth – transportation of students

Raina Chick stated that if a district has students who are considered homeless or residential students in out of district placement, then there would be a need for transportation of those students. It could happen at some point.

b. Transportation Coordinator

Transportation Coordinator Angela Repucci introduced the head of First Student Transportation, Brenda Wilson Remer, and Tamworth's head bus driver Karren Johnson. Angela Repucci coordinates the special needs bus in Tamworth, which has seven students in pre-school. The issue of private roads was discussed and First Student does not like to go into the private developments because they do not know whom to call if there are

issues with the roads to deal with. For example, in Ski & Beach there is flooding in the spring, also a private bridge. First Student is currently violating one of their normal procedures by driving on this private road. Parents could bring their children to the top of the hill, and there are currently two high school students and 7 elementary students living in this development. Brenda Wilson Remer gave board members several handouts and a school bus stop evaluation criteria form to go over. The bus policies should be handled by the school board and John Cleveland is looking for First Student to give the school board recommendations. One suggestion given by First Student is that no kindergarten students are let off the bus if a parent is not at the stop, and generally it is for students in grades 3 and younger. Angela Repucci is to work with First Student to come up with bus recommendations, then take them to Jay McIntire, and then bring them to the school board. This list of recommendations should come back to the school board next month. Jay McIntire wants to look at all the transportation policies currently in place. Laura Pike wants the board members to see this information in advance of the next school board meeting. Laura Pike requested numbers of students serviced by the SAU via Angela Repucci. There are currently seven pre-school students, and a total of 14 students who used the extended school year and enrichment program, this past summer. The SAU 13 bus is wheelchair accessible and there are currently two students in Tamworth who use a wheelchair. First Student would provide a wheelchair bus if needed, depending on locality. Charlie Pugh suggested that use of a wheelchair bus by First Student could save on our transportation costs.

5. Visitor's Comments

Bullying Discussion

Jay McIntire stated that we need to have a policy in place by January 1, 2011. There has to be public input first and time is included at this meeting and also at next month's school board meeting. A sample policy was handed out and discussed. Jay McIntire stated that the policy previously adopted is an interim policy, as there must be a public hearing first. Tamworth's bullying policy should cover students in grades K-8, as the high school deals with the high school students. Laura Pike noted that there are associated policies that bump against this one, the Board needs to cross reference and re-visit them alongside this new policy. Staff members in attendance told what bullying looks like at each grade level and where the problems occur. Everyone needs to be on the same page with consistent language and specific interventions. Jay McIntire stated that we are also responsible for out of school activities that affect in-school issues. This policy is about student to student bullying. There are also issues of bullying on the buses to deal with as the drivers can't always see the students and the camera does not pick up everything that happens, or students do not come forward to report issues. There were also discussions on: a timeline for administrators to get back to parents on issues; the sample policy should be emailed to staff; break it up in parts and talk about it at the faculty meetings; bring it up at the team meetings; and then bring feedback to the November school board meeting. Laura Pike wants to be sure to include Donna Ulitz and to invite Chief Dan Poirier or Dana Littlefield to the next school board meeting. Jay McIntire will edit the policy with recommendations and highlight the areas that staff need to go over. A draft policy will be at the next meeting for adoption as a first reading. The draft policy can be put on the school website, by November 10th, and information sent home in the newsletter.

6. Old Business

a. Investment Policy (DFA) – Adoption

David Farley made a motion to amend the policy, by inserting #4 under Standards of Care to read “At the close of each fiscal year, the treasurer shall make a report to the district, giving a particular account of all the treasurer’s financial transactions during the year.” John Cleveland seconded the motion. Motion passed. John Cleveland made a motion to approve the policy as amended. Dan Rowe seconded the motion. Motion passed.

b. Actions in non-public from prior meeting

None

c. Attendance, Absenteeism and Truancy (JH) add to agenda - not listed

On page 1, under excused absences, item #4 change to read “Medical (including mental health) and dental appointments”. On page 2, under Family vacations/education opportunities add “The principal is authorized to request, when a child returns, to bring back evidence of what they have learned.” Next month bring this back for a 2nd reading and adoption.

7. New Business

a. Establishment of Cost Per Student Working Group

John Cleveland is delighted to sit with a committee or group to broaden the definition, have a dialog with TEA on their ideas and issues to think about. Laura Pike would like to consistently use the same data between the two groups, staff and board members. The committee will get together in early December: Cindy Furnbach, Heather Booska, Susan Wald, Chris Kennedy, John Cleveland, and Charlie Pugh.

b. Consideration to purchase and donate an item for the PTA auction on December 3

John & Michelle Cleveland will donate an evening out on behalf of them and the school board.

c. Snow Plow Bid

Dan Rowe and David Farley stated that the Town of Tamworth is not interested in snow plowing the school. Jay McIntire will open the bids received on November 17th and make a recommendation to the school board.

8. Visitor’s Comments

None

9. Board Comments

John Cleveland mentioned and gave a hand out on Shakespeare: The Remix that will be performed at the school on October 29th.

Rob Troon stated that invitations to this were going out to other area schools and home schoolers tomorrow.

Laura Pike asked about the screening of Bag It at the school, and would like the information about the showing to go to home schoolers.

David Farley wants to develop a better relationship with Kennett High School. He recently attended a cross country meet at the school and would like to recognize six Tamworth girls, who are a key factor on the whole team. They are(along with their number on the team): Hannah Wright (1), Sianna Streeter (4), Eliza Burke (5), Emmaline Ashe (6), Danielle Mason (8), and Grace Townsend (14).

Laura Pike also mentioned the names of the eight students in the class of 2011 that were recently inducted into the National Honor Society at Kennett High School, and she wants to mail letters to them.

Charlie Pugh wants to have a connection with Neal Moylan's office at Kennett to get the newsletter sent to the board members, it is good communication.

John Cleveland wants a written wish list of what the Tamworth School Board wants to see from Kennett High School on Tamworth students.

Jay McIntire will make a list for the next school board meeting showing awards, academics, at risk, sports, etc..

Laura Pike thanked David Farley as the interim school board member. He has jumped in and been a presence at Kennett High School. She appreciated the effort and his influential involvement.

10. Communications

Rob Troon was invited to dinner at the Community School, which was a positive evening. He is looking for any ideas on what we could do that is similar to this. Maybe a dinner in honor of local people.

Raina Chick has been invited to attend a program on the special education review process at SAU9.

11. Non-Public Session - RSA 91-A:3 II a, b, c, d, e

John Cleveland made a motion to go into non-public session at 9:05pm. Charlie Pugh seconded the motion. Motion passed.

12. Action as a Result of Non-Public

None

13. Personnel

a. Report on status of school nurse

14. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:30pm. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathi S. Brown, Secretary
Draft Pending Board Approval