

March 17, 2008

**TAMWORTH SCHOOL BOARD**

**1. Call to Order**

A meeting of the Tamworth School Board was held at the Kenneth A. Brett School on Monday, March 17, 2008, at 5:29PM. The meeting was called to order by Gwen Poirier. Present were Lisa Remick, Brenda Robinson, Dana Littlefield, Dan Rowe, Pat Kehoe, Noel DeSousa and Donna Ulitz.

Dr. Poirier began the meeting by welcoming new board member, Dan Rowe.

**2. Board Re-organization**

**a. Chair**

Dana Littlefield made a motion to nominate Lisa Remick as Chairperson of the Board. Brenda Robinson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**b. Vice Chair**

Lisa Remick made a motion to nominate Brenda Robinson as Vice Chair of the Board. Dana Littlefield seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**c. Committee Assignments**

Personnel Committee - Brenda Robinson, Lisa Remick  
SAU #13 Budget Committee – Dana Littlefield, Dan Rowe  
Capitol Improvement Plan – Lisa Remick  
Manifest Signing – Brenda Robinson, Dana Littlefield  
NHSBA Delegate – Laura Pike  
Area Joint Board – Dan Rowe, Laura Pike, Lisa Remick  
School Clerk – Kathi Brown  
Treasurer – Janet Conner

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Dr. Poirier requested that 6. Ed. Views be tabled until next month.

Brenda Robinson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Dana Littlefield seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**4. Approval of Minutes (February 19, 2008)**

It was noted that the minutes should reflect Noel DeSousa was not present at the February 19, 2008 meeting. Due to a quorum not being present for the motion, the Approval of Minutes (February 19, 2008) was tabled until next month.

## **5. Director of Special Services Update**

Pat Kehoe reviewed the enrollment report. Ms. Kehoe notified the board that a student currently placed out of district may be returning to the K.A. Brett School in the fall of 08. Also, a program evaluation parent survey has been mailed home to all students currently on an IEP.

## **6. Education Views Special Education Team**

Tabled.

## **7. Visitor's Comments**

-Don Harte requested a copy of the Spanish Curriculum by grade and stated that he plans to visit some Spanish classes in the future. Mr. DeSousa will get the curriculum to Mr. Harte within the week. He also wanted assurance that the minutes are sent to the Tamworth Civic News reporter to be included in their printed newsletter.

-David Little had several budget/financial related questions for Dr. Poirier. Dr. Poirier suggested that Mr. Little meet with Finance Manager, Joanne Dolbear due to the nature of the questions. Dan Rowe will also meet with Mrs. Dolbear in regards to the format of the printed budget.

-Dan Rowe asked for clarification regarding the availability and distribution of the School District Annual Report. Lisa Remick stated that the report was delivered to the customary businesses and town office and if they ran out of reports they should have made a call to the school of SAU office to have more delivered. There was a notice in the paper notifying residents where the reports could be picked up.

-Peg DeLong asked why the format of the budget was changed in the Annual Report from years' past. Lisa Remick stated that the program software had been updated and that some changes were made at the request of visitors to the board.

-Mr. Harte requested that the time of the meeting be changed to 7:00pm to meet the needs of parents. Lisa Remick stated that the board would take this into consideration. Lisa Remick reviewed the Policy regarding Visitor Comments. Mr. Harte requested that the board should acknowledge and let visitors know their questions have been addressed.

-Peg DeLong stated that she felt some questions posed to the board were never taken under advisement.

-David Farley stated that he hopes the board will continue to be fiscally responsible and research alternatives.

- Pat Farley thanked the board for posting the minutes on the Tamworth town website.

-Dan Rowe stated his concern that the board did not support the budget as presented at the Annual District Meeting.

-Chris Kennedy stated that the board needs to listen to the citizens of Tamworth to not only be fiscally responsible but also provide the best education possible to the students of Tamworth.

-Don Harte stated the board needs to have a "reality check" and address the issue of per pupil cost.

## **8. Committee Reports**

### **a. Strategic Planning Committee**

Meeting was postponed. Dan Rowe stated he hoped the committee would identify two/three schools and complete a comparative study. Lisa Remick stated that when the board meets again they will need to discuss the plan for the future of the committee. Dan Rowe suggested that he and one other board member serve on the committee.

## **9. Old Business**

### **a. School Website Update**

Lisa Remick asked Pat Farley if she would spearhead with Donna Ahern to bring a proposal for the school website back to the Board. Mrs. Farley agreed.

### **b. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant**

Mr. DeSousa stated that the grant was submitted on February 8, 2008, and expects to hear the results the first week in April. It will be on next months agenda. Dan Rowe requested meeting with Noel to review the grant budget.

### **c. School Community Index**

Board received this as an information item. Mr. DeSousa will continue to print pieces of the index on the back of the weekly newsletter.

## **10. New Business**

### **a. Landscaping Specifics**

The landscaping specifics were presented to the board for approval. Brenda Robinson made a motion to approve the landscaping specifics as presented for bid. Dana Littlefield seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **b. Other**

Dan Rowe made a motion to earmark the increased budget amount of \$130,000 as a discretionary fund to be spent as deemed necessary by the board with the intent to return funds back to the town. No second to the motion. No further discussion.

## **11. Superintendent's Report**

### **a. Expenditure Report**

The expenditure report to date was given to the board for review and discussion. Dan Rowe asked Dr. Poirier for a copy of a School Accounting Manual to assist him in having a clearer understanding of the process.

### **b. NECAP Report**

Tabled until next month when the AYP report is available.

### **c. Other**

Dr. Poirier reported that the current drop out information will be available next month. Staff development continues with two early release days that allow faculty to continue with curriculum mapping.

## **12. Principal's Report**

### **a. Monthly Update**

Mr. DeSousa updated the board on recent school events and upcoming events.

## **13. Visitor's Comments**

Don Harte stated that "Drive Time" had aired a discussion on the Task Force in regards to the drop out rate. Dr. Poirier stated she had a copy of the Task Force report available if anyone was interested in reviewing it.

Peg DeLong asked if the summer school at Kennett had been in place last summer and voiced her support for the program. She asked Mr. DeSousa the number of students last year accepted into the Spanish II program at KHS from Brett. Mr. DeSousa reported that approximately 9 students out of 16 enrolled in the Spanish II program.

Don Harte stated that he noticed a significant difference in the Community Index pertaining to the academic development and student readiness between teacher and parents. He also asked the Boards' current status of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant.

#### **14. Board Comments**

Brenda Robinson encouraged board members to return their Superintendent evaluation as soon as possible.

#### **15. Communications**

##### **a. Letter sent to Mr. and Mrs. Cauble**

Mr. and Mrs. Cauble have been invited to attend the May meeting to further explain their request.

Dr. Poirier shared a letter received from Jen's Friends thanking the board for a recent donation in memory of Mrs. Salazar.

#### **16. Non Public Session**

##### **a. RSA 91-A:3 II a,b,c,d,e**

At 7:01PM, Brenda Robinson made a motion to go into Non-Public Session. Dana Littlefield seconded the motion. At 7:38PM, Brenda Robinson made a motion to go out of Non-Public Session. Dana Littlefield seconded this motion. Motion passed.

#### **17. Action as a Result of Non Public Session**

No Action.

#### **18. Personnel**

Dana Littlefield made a motion to nominate the professional staff for the 2008-2009 school year as presented. Dan Rowe seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### **19. Adjournment**

At 7:45PM, Dana Littlefield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brenda Robinson seconded this motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Ulitz, Recording Secretary  
*Draft pending Board Approval.*