BETHLEHEM SCHOOL BOARD BETHLEHEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MAIN STREET BETHLEHEM, NH 03574

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: March 17, 2020** 

TIME: 5:00 PM

PRESENT THROUGH ZOOM: Given the circumstances related to the Covid-19 school closure, the board meeting is being held through Zoom and considered an emergency meeting. Board Members Robert Weir, Timothy Fleury, James Noyes, Becky Beno

PRESENT: Board Member Jennifer Lucas, Superintendent Pierre Couture, Principal Sue Greenlaw

**CALL TO ORDER:** Bob Weir called an emergency meeting to order at 5:09 PM.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** Dann – Shared information related to taxation. Taxation is a crime because there are victims. He went on to discuss the 5 facts that prove taxation is a crime.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2020 BOARD MEETING Discussion: None

MOTION BY BECKY BENO, SECONDED BY JAMES NOYES, TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 18, 2020. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

## II. FINANCIAL

Business Manager Franklin was excused from the meeting. Financials will not be discussed at the meeting. Superintendent Couture reported there is a surplus of \$100,000., the budget is in good shape. Bob will need to sign the contract for the magnetic filter that was discussed last meeting. The contract will be left at the school for Bob to sign.

## III. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Greenlaw reviewed Principal's Report and related data. Discussion ensued.

- a. Principal's Written Report: Instead of the written report, Principal Greenlaw discussed what the teachers have done to prepare for student learning in the coming weeks due to the mandatory school closure. Teachers have contacted parents, breakfast and lunches will be made for 14 students. K-3: work put together but not remotely through technology. Daily messages will be sent and they will be available through Class Dojo and email, 4-6 will work on Google Classroom and will have daily connections with teachers. Teachers will work remotely next week and possibly starting tomorrow depending on board and superintendent thoughts. All agree teachers should work remotely but the school will be open if they need to be in their classrooms for any reason. Treating the teachers professionally and Principal Greenlaw will monitor the teachers. Board agrees. Becky: how are we meeting the needs of the special needs students? Jennifer has been in discussion with Abbie and Allison. There will be remote lessons and parent contact daily. Parents do have the option of opting out of special education services. Teachers have customized work per students with help from special educators. Becky – are there blind spots you are running into? Principal Greenlaw – no, getting support from the SAU and the teachers have been great. James - if it extends beyond April 3<sup>rd</sup>, have you looked at contingency plans? Principal Greenlaw – we started discussing this today. 4-6 should be ok but we will have to discuss K-3 if staff can't get into the building.
- b. General Information: none

## IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Couture reviewed the following and related data.

a. Professional Staff Nominations: Board has the list of staff nominations. They can approve unless there is a specific question, which there is so the meeting will go into non-public.

MOTION BY JAMES NOYES, SECONDED BY TIMOTHY FLEURY, TO ACCEPT THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES

- b. General Information: Annual School District meeting postponed by the moderator for 2 weeks because there is an RSA that states because the meeting includes an election, it can only be postponed 2 weeks (at a time). He may postpone again in 2 weeks. Will put a notice in the paper and social networks so the community is aware. One concern is paying the paraprofessional through this situation. Feel we need to pay paraprofessionals their normal pay for the hours they normally work. They are the least paid. We'd have to lay them off and they'd lose their health care benefits. May offer professional development online so paras can do worthwhile activities. The board agrees with continuing pay. Salaries already budgeted. Will create a huge hardship otherwise.
- V. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS
  - a. None
- VI. POLICY COMMITTEE
  - a. None
- VII. NON-PUBLIC SESSIONS AS PER RSA 91A:3 I, II (if needed)

Non-public session is necessary.

Roll call ensued to enter non-public session: Weir, Noyes, Fleury, Lucas, Beno

Bob questioned one of the staff members as it appeared they are not coming back but they are coming back. It was an error. Discussion ensued related to another staff member who is awaiting certification. This staff member cannot be nominated until this person has their certification. Principal Greenlaw found the staff member can have one more year to try for certification beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. Are there any more questions for non-public? Yes – James – with regard to moderator input to postpone the meeting and the governor stating no more than 10 people convening, how does that effect the RSA? Discussion ensued. There is much information to gather. The budget must be approved as the fiscal year begins July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Roll call ensued to leave non-public session: Weir, Noyes, Fleury, Lucas, Beno

- VIII. OTHER BUSINESS
  - a. None
- IX. ADJOURNMENT
  MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:42 PM BY BOARD CHAIR BOB WEIR

The next Board Meeting will be held on **April 14th at 5:30 pm**.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Giarrocco Board Clerk