

Wentworth School Board

Monday, March 21st, 2005 Wentworth Elementary School Minutes

Members Present: Scott Vien, Michelle Clark, and Deborah Gelsi

Administration Present: Jeff Keene - Principal WES, Ethel Gaides – SAU 48

Also Present: Aaron Comeau, Janice Comeau, Susan Judd, Patti Welch, Laurie Melanson, Karen Fryar, Arthur Gelsi, Vinnie Samson, Melody Gaudette, Sonia Gaudette, Ginny Gove, Ellie Murray, Adam Rick, Kenyon Karl

The regular monthly meeting of the Wentworth School Board was held on Monday March 21st 2005 at 6:00 pm with Scott Vien and Deborah Gelsi being present. Mr. Vien began the meeting at 6:08 pm. The agenda was approved as presented. The minutes of the February 21st meeting were approved as presented. Mr. Vien moved to delay the appointment of Chair and Secretary until later in the meeting when all 3 board members were present. Motion was approved.

Principal's Report:

- Mr. Keene asked Mrs. Fryar to update the board on the success of the book fair. Mrs. Fryar stated that the book fair was very successful and that the school was able to purchase 62 dollars worth of books at no expense.
- Mr. Keene remarked that the visit by children's book author Matt Tavares was extremely impressive and a big success. Mr. Tavares explained to the students how he decides on storylines and the amount of research and "homework" he has to do in order for the story and its illustrations to accurately portray the story and its surroundings. He really emphasized the message about the quality, accuracy and timeliness of completing homework and research on time.
- Mr. Keene said that the children of WES were very well represented at the Cultural Arts center recently.
- Winter Carnival was a success and "a lot of fun"
- Progress reports will be reported vs. other states.
- 50% of students took advantage of the Winter Ski Program and Mr. Keene would like to see the board discuss the future of the program and its original intent at a future board meeting.
- Last Day of school due to inclement weather days is currently set for June 20th, 2005
- Mrs. Fryar updated the board on the Pennies for Patients Program currently in the school. It is a 3-week program to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Association. Mrs. Fryar stated that 80% of the money raised goes directly to patient advocacy, support groups, financial assistance and research. This is the 3rd year of WES involvement. The organization will be donating a pizza party for the class with the highest per student average. This discussion generated discussion from the floor. Mr. Vien terminated the discussion and advised that it be re-addressed during Privilege of the Floor.

Privilege of the Floor

- Ellie Murray presented documentation on the Capital Reserve Fund showing a current balance of over 16,000 dollars. The money cannot be encumbered prior to the annual town/school meeting however; she did want us to realize its existence.
- Vinnie Samson addressed the board regarding the Penny's for Patients program. Mrs. Samson believes there are other ways to teach a child to give and with the way the

program is structured, she believes that the children are not necessarily bringing pennies for Lymphoma or Leukemia, but rather for a pizza party. Mrs. Samson also stated to the board that this is solicitation within the school and asked how the school determines the charity to raise funds for? And where is the line drawn? She asked why the Heart Association, Lung Association, Kidney Association among others is not chosen as opposed to the Leukemia and Lymphoma organization. Response was that WES in the past had a student with the disease and this charity was "close to home" for many. Deborah Gelsi asked if the school board had a policy regarding student fundraising and if the school had to have school board approval prior to introducing student fundraising efforts within the school. Mrs. Gaides responded that currently there is no policy of that nature but it is one that should be considered.

- School Study Committees. It was decided that the meetings will be held the 4th Monday of each month at WES at 7pm and that at the 1st meeting, committee chairs and secretaries will be appointed. The agenda's and meeting dates will be published in the local newspaper, the public access channel, the SAU 48 website with a link from the Town Website.
- School District Meeting follow up. – Final School Budget was reviewed.
- School Calendar – Mrs. Fryar would like to see some half days built into the 2005-2006 calendar. There is a scheduled Teacher In Service day already, on Jan 17th 2006. After reviewing the calendar, Mr. Vien motioned and Mrs. Gelsi seconded the motion to amend the 2005-2006-school calendar to reflect half days on Sept. 23rd, October 21st (both 2005) and March 20th (2006).
- The Wentworth Little League has donated all of its equipment and uniforms to WES and would like to purchase a scoreboard for the school. Mr. Vien will donate the graphics for the board. The board thanks the Little League for their very generous donation.
- Aaron Comeau asked about the 10,000 dollars that was not passed last year for the school study. He reminded the board that the reason it was not passed was that the public had been told there was grant money available for the study and has there been any progress in that area? Mr. Comeau also addressed the issue of volunteerism within the school and the insurance liability involved.
- Janice Comeau inquired as to policy on volunteering within the school. The Board advised that anyone wishing to volunteer time to the school be referred to Mr. Keene.
- The WEA proposed having a Saturday school day as an Earth Day. This would allow the school to make up the time for the inclement weather days and not have to extend the school year to June 20th. Discussion on attendance for a Saturday school day and that the yearly progress reports are based on attendance. The SAU will research past Saturdays that the school was in session. April 2nd is tentatively set for the Earth Day and is dependent on the WES Staff meeting on March 23rd. Mr. Keene will contact the SAU and Mrs. Gaides will conduct a telephone poll of the Board.

Recognition/Awards

- Mr. Keene would like to recognize the PTO for all of the hard work and effort that goes into making the Penny Social a success.
- Destination Imagination – The team is once again going to the State competition in April. The board wished them the best of luck. Special recognition was given to Mrs. Giles who coordinates the program.
- The school was well represented at the Lakes Region Musical Festival and the participants and attendees were very impressed.

Non-Public Session

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Mr. Vien moved to go into Non Public Session at 7:30 pm

Return from Non Public:

Mr. Vien made a motion to return from Non Public at 8:10 pm

Designation of Truant Officer RSA 189:34

Motion was made by Mrs. Gelsi to appoint the Wentworth Police Department as Truant Officer. Motion was seconded by Mr. Vien and was passed unanimously.

A nomination meeting with SAU Mark Halloran is scheduled for March 30th at 5pm.

Scott Vien nominated Deborah Gelsi as Secretary of the Board. Michelle Clark seconded motion. Motion was passed.

Michelle Clark nominated Scott Vien as Chairperson of the Board. Deborah Gelsi seconded motion. Motion was passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:03 pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the Wentworth School Board is April 25th 2005 at 6pm at the Wentworth Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted:

Deborah Gelsi
School Board Member and Secretary.

Wentworth School Board

Monday, April 25th, 2005 Wentworth Elementary School Minutes

Members Present: Michelle Clark, and Deborah Gelsi

Administration Present: Jeff Keene - Principal WES, Ethel Gaides – SAU 48

Also Present: NOTE: (ch) denotes: Child/Student

Debbie Parent, Vickie Lewis, Christopher Lewis, Kurt Shedrick (ch), Taylor Newberry (ch), Tamara Burrows, Lee Anderson (ch), Aimee Parent (ch), Amanda Anderson (ch), Pete Chierchetti, John Comeau, Mark Parsons, Vinnie Samson, Felix Samson, Gini Gove, Karen Fryer, Tanya O'Brien, Debbie Gossel, Palmer Koelb, Nate Koelb (ch), Angela Comeau, Aaron Comeau, Eugene Ganets (sp?), Kenyon Karl, Glen Hinckley, Mark ? , Arthur Gelsi, Tammy Coykendall, Scott Coykendall, Melody Gaudette.

The regular monthly meeting of the Wentworth School Board was held on Monday April 25th 2005 at 6:00 pm with Michelle Clark and Deborah Gelsi being present. Mr. Vien was absent. In Mr. Vien's absence, Michelle Clark chaired the meeting. The agenda was approved as presented. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as presented

Study Committee Reports

- Minutes from study committees were passed to the board and reviewed. Deborah Gelsi, the chair of the Enrollment committee was unable to provide the minutes from their group as she was experiencing technical difficulties with her server and provider. She will email them to the SAU for distribution.
- Glen Hinckley asked about how the bid process works.

Principal's Report:

- Mr. Keene updated the board on the DestiNation Imagination team. The team from Wentworth took first place at the recent regional's and was the only team from the district to qualify. Area companies are being solicited for donations to defray team expenses. Current fundraisers are a Block Party on May 14th on the town common and a yard sale being held at the school.
- Laurie Dustin was asked to update on the fundraising, the team raised 472 dollars recently by hosting a carwash, the team has received permission from the town to use the common for the block party and in the event of inclement weather, they are permitted to use the "Town Hall".
- Michelle Clark asked about chaperones and was assured that all chaperones have had background checks completed and that two of the chaperones are parents of team members. Mr. Keene designates Laurie Melanson as his duly authorized representative for the trip.
- Motion was made by Michelle Clark and seconded by Deborah Gelsi to allow the team to go to Knoxville to compete and the motion passed unanimously.
- The Board offered their congratulations to the team and school.

Policy Requests

The following issues were discussed briefly as to developing written policies to be reviewed and voted on at an upcoming meeting. The SAU will have policy examples from the NHSBA available at the next meeting.

Student Fundraising

- Field Trip and Excursions
- Travel and/or Expense Reimbursement
- Code of Conduct/Professional Ethics
- Homework/Attendance Policy Review
- Drug/Alcohol

Recognition/Awards

- Mr. Keene would like to recognize Deborah Gelsi for the Wentworth Talk of the Towns in the local paper and for continuing to promote the school and students and activities in the local media.
- Mr. Keene recognizes all of the hard work and effort that Scott Coykendall and his students have done to prepare boilerplate language for grant writing. The Playground recently received a grant thanks in large part to Scott's assistance.
- Recognition to Bill Melanson (asst coach) and Kevin Patton (Coach) for the baseball hats.
- Recognition to Melody Gaudette being elected President of the PTO and for her persistent efforts on behalf of the children of WES, including the science kits, the playground, etc.
- Mrs. Fryer would like to recognize Melody for all of the hard work she did for the bake sales to raise money for the Fisher Cats Educational Day.

Privilege of the Floor

Ski Program

- Mr. Keene would like the board to review and discuss the merits of continuing or discontinuing the Winter Ski Program. The school had a 50% participation rate and currently the expense and participation or lack thereof is being reviewed by other boards within the district. Mr. Keene commented that there are good merits to the program but the cost for some families is a hardship and even with the PTO scholarships, some families are finding the cost unmanageable or not affordable.
- Several parents commented and stated that the program was a valuable one and should not be removed, while other parents who have several children in the school, commented that financially the program isn't affordable to their children.
- Michelle mentioned an alternative program and a future discussion of classroom hours as compared to instructional hours. She suggests a workshop of the board to determine future viability of the program
- Frances Muzzey asked if the goals and objectives had been determined and is it athletic driven.
- There was added concern from some parents about travel time.

Read-A-Thon

- Angela Comeau commented that the ReadATHon is still underway and ends May 27th.

School Bus Policy

- Christopher Lewis, Vickie Lewis and Tamara Burros, all of South Wentworth, complained to the board that on Monday afternoon (April 25th) their children were expelled or forced from the school bus and were between 1 mile and 4 miles from home (3 children were 1.5 miles from home, the other 2 were 4 miles from home). Two of the children were 10 years old and were expelled by the driver at which time the older siblings of these students voluntarily got off the bus to accompany their younger brother and sister. There was no bus monitor on the bus that afternoon. Mr. Lewis made a statement that he would like to discuss this with the bus driver himself on Tuesday April 26th. Deborah Gelsi asked that Mr. Lewis refrain from approaching the driver until the board and Principal Keene can investigate and determine what happened. Mrs. Gelsi promised to call both the Lewis Family and the Burros Family with an update on Tuesday.

- Tamara Burros indicated that this is not the first episode of conflict with this driver and that he has on several occasions exhibited tendencies of violent behavior toward her children and others. She requests immediate alternate transportation while this driver is operating a town bus.
- Ethel indicated to the board that this particular driver would not be driving the Wentworth bus after Friday April 29th.
- When questioned, the children indicated that having a monitor on the bus makes no difference as the monitor has a tendency to sleep most of the trip.
- Mr. Keene, School Board and SAU to investigate claims immediately and coordinate effort to resolve.

Other

- Several attendees commented that they had heard that there was a member of the support staff that was not going to be renewed and they wished to advise the board that they are very against this and would like to see this person renewed.
- Deborah Gelsi asked how they had knowledge of matters that had been discussed in a Non Public Session. – All stated that the support staff employee had told them. Mrs. Gelsi then commented her concern was where the information came from and that she was satisfied that the information did not come from a member of the board or the SAU (not permissible) and had instead come from the staff member (permissible).

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Michelle Clark moved to go into Non Public Session at 7:15 pm

Return from Non Public:

Michelle Clark made a motion to return from Non Public at 9:25 pm

Nominations/Personnel

- On behalf of the Superintendent, Ethel Gaides nominates the full slate of support staff as presented.

Michelle Clark, motion to accept.

Deborah Gelsi, motion to second

Motion passes 2-0 in favor.

Michelle Clark announced that she has placed her house for sale with a real estate company and expects to continue in her role as School Board member until the sale of her house is completed.

Motion to adjourn at 9:36 pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the Wentworth School Board is May 16th 2005 at 6pm at the Wentworth Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted:

Deborah Gelsi

School Board Member and Secretary.

Wentworth School Board

Monday, April 25th, 2005 Wentworth Elementary School Minutes

Amendment to meeting minutes dated April 25th 2005

Telephone conversation and poll by Ethel Gaides of SAU48

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

- Personnel

Return from Non Public:

Nominations/Personnel

- School Board polled by telephone and request was approved to allow Erin DeCotis – 6th grade teacher at WES to take one year unpaid leave of absence.

Respectfully submitted:

Deborah Gelsi
School Board Member and Secretary.

Wentworth School Board

Tuesday May 3rd, 2005 – 5:30 pm Emergency School Board Meeting Wentworth Elementary School Minutes

Members Present: Michelle Clark, and Deborah Gelsi

Administration Present: Jeff Keene - Principal WES, Ethel Gaides – SAU 48

Also Present: Bethany Gordon representing the Laconia Citizen, Judy Gove, Tamara Burrows, Vinnie Samson, Barry Walker representing The Record Enterprise

An emergency meeting of the Wentworth School Board was held on Tuesday May 3rd, 2005 with Michelle Clark and Deborah Gelsi being present.

Michelle Clark moves to open meeting at 5:36 pm

Michelle Clark moves and Deborah Gelsi seconds to amend the agenda to reflect Personnel discussion during Non Public Session.

Motion is passed 2-0

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Michelle Clark informs attendees that although this is a public meeting, it is an emergency meeting and no privilege of the floor will be extended.

Resignation of Member

- Deborah Gelsi moves to accept the resignation of Scott Vien.
- Michelle Clark seconds.
- Motion is passed 2-0

Election of Chairperson

- Deborah Gelsi moves to elect Michelle Clark as Chairperson
- Michelle Clark seconds.
- Motion is passed 2-0

Appointment of new member

Per RSA 671:33: "Appointees of the school board shall serve until the next district election when the voters of the district shall elect a replacement for the unexpired term".

- Michelle Clark states that in the past, when confronted with an unforeseen vacancy on the board, the opening has been published in area newspapers and letters of intent or application are taken from interested parties. The SAU and the board then review these applications and interview accordingly and per RSA 671:33 appoint a member to fill the position until the next annual town election at which time the town will elect a member

for the remainder of the term.

- Ethel Gaides inquires as to what publications the board would like the information posted.
- Deborah Gelsi asks that it be posted in the Record Enterprise and the North Country Independent News.
- The posting will also be posted at usual places of business where voters may have access to review, such as Town Offices, Elementary School, Town Library, Post Office and the local general store.
- Ethel will email the posting to Jeff Keene for posting at the school and to Deborah Gelsi who will post at all other normal and usual places of business within the town.
- The SAU will publicize in the two newspapers.
- The deadline for receiving interested applications or letters is set for May 20th with a review of the applicants at the regularly scheduled meeting of May 23rd 2005.
- Time is of the essence as Michelle Clark's house is on the market and she is anticipating moving soon.
- At this time, the public portion of the agenda is completed. Michelle Clark moves to go into Non Public Session. Prior to second and vote, a resident asks if she may speak. The resident is reminded that this is not a regularly scheduled meeting of the board and that its sole purpose was to accept the resignation of Scott Vien and discuss the replacement. Board allows that privilege of the floor should be extended at any public meeting.
- Judy Gove spoke about an incident that occurred at the school last week, specifically a letter sent home on Thursday April 28th 2005 from Principal Keene regarding a routine safety sweep of the school. Mrs. Gove's concern was that the matter was taken too lightly and wanted to know why it took the school and the board as long as it did to advise parents of the potential threat and why the school wasn't immediately searched since according to the newspaper (Laconia Citizen), the threat was made on Tuesday.
- Michelle Clark stated that she first learned of the alleged threat on Wednesday April 27th at approx 7:45 pm, at which time she called Deborah Gelsi and after a brief conversation, it was decided by both Michelle and Deborah that the safety of the students, staff and security of the building was their primary responsibility and that the local police and the State police should be notified. It was the understanding of the board members that the alleged threat had been made against one particular student from another and not a blanket threat to the school.
- Deborah Gelsi went on to add that the both state and local police and the SAU were notified Wednesday evening immediately upon learning of the threat and the local police and the State Police went to the juvenile students home on Thursday morning, and intercepted him prior to him ever approaching the school bus or the school or any other students.
- Mrs. Gove went on to say that upon hearing of the alleged threat on Thursday morning, she dismissed her son from school and was extremely concerned that a protective sweep was not performed immediately and asked why it wasn't performed until after several parents called the police department to ask them to search the building. Mrs. Gove also inquired about an article in the Laconia Citizen that stated the building had been searched Wednesday night and asked if we didn't know about it until Wednesday night then how and who searched it?
- Ms. Bethany Gordon of the Laconia Citizen spoke and advised that she had written the article and admitted that she should have asked Mr. Halloran (School Superintendent) who searched it as part of her article. School Custodian, Mr. Young as part of his nightly routine, searches the school. At the time he searched the school, neither he nor the school board was aware a threat had been made.
- Mrs. Samson remarked that she called the police station on Thursday morning and asked the Chief of Police if her children were safe and was told "Technically, no" by the Chief. She commented that she immediately went to the school and dismissed her children.
- Judy Gove commented that she is concerned that the school took the threat too lightly and this isn't the first time a student has brought a weapon to school, specifically the same student who allegedly made the most recent threat.
- Mr. Keene remarked that he has no recollection of this student bringing a weapon to school previously.
- Mrs. Burrows commented that she has verified with former board chairman Scott Vien,

that this indeed did happen and there is a record the event.

- Mrs. Samson remarked that she didn't understand how Mr. Keene could not remember the incident as she had spoken to him personally when it happened.
- Mrs. Gelsi went on to advise that currently there is no policy in place to instruct or advise the school board or employees on protocol in the event of this type of threat but that the board is diligently working to write policy on this and other matters that have come to the attention of the board as having no written policy. Mrs. Gelsi commented that she is working hard with the SAU to develop policies and procedures and as this issue had never come up before, the board did everything they thought they should do and did the best they could under the circumstances. The board reminded everyone that the student made the threat for Thursday April 28th and as the police had intercepted the student before he could board the bus or arrive at school, the board believed there was no imminent threat and a safety search was conducted once approval of the board was obtained.
- Mrs. Gelsi assured the attendees that the student who had allegedly made the threats had been permanently removed from the school.
- The SAU confirmed that he would not be coming back to WES
- Mrs. Samson returned her school building key to Mr. Keene and advised that her Girl Scout Troop will no longer be meeting in the school.
- Mrs. Samson also advised that due to ongoing conflicts with Mr. Keene, she is permanently removing her children from the Wentworth Elementary School.
- Mrs. Burrows questioned Mr. Keene regarding the suspension of her daughter on Friday April 29th 2005 and asked that the board further investigate the suspension. Her daughter was the student that the initial threat targeted and her daughter was suspended for alleged sexual harassment of another student on Friday. Mrs. Burrows feels that this was purely retaliatory and punishment for involving media in the incident with the school bus and that the student making the claim is a known close friend of the student who made the alleged threats. Her daughter is an A student and has never been in any sort of trouble before and because of the relationship between the student who made the allegations and the student who threatened her daughter, the allegations are not credible and that this type of charge against her daughter could have long term ramifications on her future school career. Her daughter has been accepted on scholarship to a private high school and she is fearful that these allegations will harm her future. Mrs. Burrows was extremely upset that Mr. Keene suspended her daughter without interviewing either her daughter or the teacher who could have confirmed Amanda's whereabouts at the time of the alleged harassment.
- Mr. Keene believes that he handled the situation appropriately and he stands by his decision.
- Mrs. Burrows then advised the board that her daughter has been receiving threatening and vicious emails and instant messages and will not be returning to WES and will instead home school Amanda. She further stated that she hoped that no retaliation would be exacted on her other children currently attending the school.
- Michelle Clark moved to go into Non Public at:
- Motion is seconded by Deborah Gelsi
- Motion passed 2-0

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

a) Personnel

Return from Non Public:

- Michelle Clark made a motion to return from Non Public at
- Due to a conflict, Michelle Clark moves to reschedule the May School Board meeting back to its original date and time of May 23rd, 2005 at 6:pm

Deborah Gelsi seconds motion and motion passes 2-0

- Deborah Gelsi informs the board that the Department of Justice and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children will pay the tuition and room charge for us to send a police officer to a 4 day school to become a certified School Resource Officer. The cost to the school would be a per diem rate for meals and either bus/train or personal vehicle mileage per federal mileage rates for Louella Holmes to attend. Once certified, the school would be eligible for federal funds for DARE Program, Public Safety and Homeland Security money, and many other Federal funds.
- Deborah Gelsi moves to allow Louella Holmes to attend.
- Seconded by Michelle Clark
- Motion passes 2-0

Motion to adjourn at pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the Wentworth School Board is May 23rd 2005 at 6pm at the Wentworth Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted:

Deborah Gelsi
School Board Member and Secretary.

Wentworth School Board

Monday, May 23rd, 2005 – 6:00 pm School Board Meeting Minutes Wentworth Elementary School

Members Present: Michelle Clark, and Deborah Gelsi

Administration Present: Jeff Keene - Principal WES, Ethel Gaides – SAU 48

Also Present: Barbara Loughman, attorney representing SAU48 and WES; Tamara Burrows, Laurie Dustin, Melody Gaudette, Lee Morrison, Mark Parson, Vinny Samson.

Michelle Clark moves to open meeting at 6:00 pm

Deborah Gelsi 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi moves to amend the agenda to move Non Public Session as the first order of business and reflect Student Issues.

Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections and the motion carries.

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3) Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Michelle Clark motions to move to Non Public at 6:05

Deborah Gelsi 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries.

Michelle Clark motions to return from Non Public at 7:05 pm.

Deborah Gelsi 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries.

There was no action taken in Non Public.

Deborah Gelsi motions to accept as written the recommended policy on "Change of School Assignment"

Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries.

Michelle Clark motions to accept the minutes of May 3rd 2005 as presented. Ethel Gaides informs the board that there was not enough time to advertise the open board position in the Record Enterprise as requested by the board at the May 3rd meeting.

Deborah Gelsi 2nd's motion. There are no objections, motion carries.

Principal's Report – Mr. Keene gave his end of year report and is attached to these minutes.

Deborah Gelsi motions to accept report as presented.

Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries.

Ethel Gaides informs the board that there are 4 applicants for the position created by the resignation of Scott Vien. The applicants are, Laurie Dustin, Scott Goodale, Lee Morrison and Douglas Muzzey.

Deborah Gelsi asks the SAU who the 4th applicant was, as she had been advised two days after the deadline that there were 3 applicants. Mrs. Gaides confirms that Douglas Muzzey was the 4th applicant and that his application had been forwarded by a third party a few days after the deadline and SAU Superintendent Halloran approved the inclusion of the applicant.

Deborah Gelsi motions to have the SAU set up interviews with the candidates. Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections and motion carries.

Enrollment Update.

Deborah Gelsi as chairperson of the Enrollment committee informs the board that she has spoken with the Selectmen and the Inventory forms are available for public viewing. Mrs. Gelsi requests again, that the research used by the previous board to determine enrollment, which led to the discussion of closing the school, be provided to the committee to save time and effort and avoid duplicating research.

Tuesday June 7th at 6:30 at the WES, the board will hold a policy work session to discuss what policies are needed to bring WES current with state and federal guidelines.

Ethel Gaides led a discussion on curriculum – specifically the Math, Language Arts, Science and English Language Arts Curriculums. The curriculums are posted on the SAU website. The board congratulates the SAU and the committees for all of the hard work in aligning and developing the curriculums.

Michelle Clark motions to accept the curriculum guides as written. Deborah Gelsi 2nd's. There are no objections and motion carries.

Miss Bagley is the authorized representative for the 8th Grade Class trip to Montreal. Chaperones are Mrs. Mack, Mrs. Dustin, Mrs. Bagley, Mrs. Borger, Mrs. Bixby and Mrs. Toomey. There are 29 students in all attending with 12 from Wentworth and 17 from Rumney.

Deborah Gelsi motions to authorize the trip to Montreal. Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections and motion carries.

Destination Imagination update.

Total Cost of trip was \$7,692.40
REAP Fed. Grant was \$5,543.62
Donations received was \$1,952
Balance remaining for trip is \$196.78

Ethel Gaides provided copies of the thank you letters she sent on behalf of the WES to the private donors

Michelle Clark motions to authorize Deborah Gelsi to research mutually beneficial educational issues and options with the Warren School Board. Deborah Gelsi 2nd's. There are no objections and motion carries. Further, Mrs. Gelsi states that she has no plans at this time to meet with Warren until the study committees have completed their research

Recognition and Awards.

The Board wishes the DI team luck and congratulates them for their achievement.

The Board congratulates the teachers and staff of WES for staying with their ambitions and agenda to improve instruction at WES.

Privilege of the Floor.

SAU to put out bids for boiler. The facilities committee is requesting that these be done immediately as they had requested them at the last meeting and the bids have not gone out. Mrs. Gaides confirms that Jon Francis, director of Facilities for the SAU is charged with the bid responsibility and she will speak with him the following day to get an update. Mrs. Gelsi asks that the chair of the facilities committee, Mr. Hinckley be updated as soon as possible. Mr. Morrison asks why we are seeking bids for the boiler when the article was reduced at town meeting? Mrs. Gelsi and Mrs. Clark advise Mr. Morrison that the article was reduced to reflect

the installation of the boiler first and foremost and the air handlers at another date.

Mr. Parsons asks if we currently have space for a kindergarten. He is advised that this is one of the agenda items for Facilities and Enrollment committees.

Deborah Gelsi motions to adjourn at 8:37 pm.

Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections and motion carries.

Respectfully,

Deborah Gelsi
School Board Member and Secretary.

Wentworth School Board

Monday, June 20th, 2005 – 6:30 pm School Board Meeting Minutes Wentworth Elementary School

Members Present: Michelle Clark, Deborah Gelsi and Scott Goodale

Administration Present: Jeff Keene - Principal WES, Ethel Gaides – SAU 48

Also Present: Melody Gaudette, Glen Hinckley, Kenyon Karl, Laurie Melanson, Louella Holmes, Alison Bagley

Michelle Clark moves to open meeting at 6:35 pm
Deborah Gelsi 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi moves to amend the agenda to reflect "resignation" under Non Public Session.
Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections and the motion carries.

Michelle Clark motions to accept the minutes of May 23rd 2005 as presented.
Deborah Gelsi 2nd's motion. There are no objections, motion carries.

Principal's Report

Mr. Keene gave his report and announced that the following students were honored at the recent graduation ceremonies.

Valedictorian: Jamie King
Salutatorian : Erin Vien
Humanitarian/Good Fellowship Award: Jamie King
Good Citizenship Award: Archie Young
Hoyt Memorial Award: Abby Thompson

Jamie Schweizer was also honored for outstanding community service and outstanding scholarship.

Mr. Keene announced that Mrs. Sullivan would not be returning next year and that the school is seeking a new aide with duties to include bus monitor.

Mr. Keene, Mrs. Melanson and Mrs. Bagley have been working on a schedule in anticipation of next year's middle/junior high students in grades 6, 7 and 8. They feel that a more "middle school" approach should be taken in order to prepare the students for their future academic life as they transition to Plymouth High School. An added bonus is that with this type of schedule, each teacher would be teaching at their strongest and the children would have many academic advantages by the teachers teaching at personal strengths. The board requests that a letter be sent to the parents of the students affected and that a mock schedule be included. The board also asked that the approach be addressed during the upcoming open house for middle/junior high students and that the board be updated on the success of the program after the first marking period. The board agreed that the approach was in line with other schools and that the approach would make the transition to High School easier on the students.

The Board understands that Mr. Keene has no official letter of resignation from Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Keene is authorized to advertise for the position once one is received.

Correspondence:

No action taken.

Discussion Items :

Mrs. Gaides advised the board of the NHSBA Assembly and advised that the information we received is FYI and if we have an item we would like to submit, we should contact Mr. Halloran.

Louella Holmes gave a brief recap of the School Resource Officer Training she received recently at the expense of the Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The information was informative and the school and the board look forward to working with the Police Department on school issues.

Glen Hinckley reminded the board that several bids that had been received by the Facilities Committee were either set to expire or had already expired and he has of this time not received any return communication from Jon Francis- Director of Facilities for the SAU. Mr. Hinckley and the board are concerned that we are in danger of not getting the work completed as the new school year starts August 30th 2005 and we are already almost into July. Of more concern is that the bids are expiring and no bid award has been made.

The board agrees to meet Wednesday night at 7pm for Jon Francis to present the bids to the Facilities Committee who in turn will make a recommendation to the board. The board has agreed to vote that evening in order to immediately notify the bid winners to begin work.

Curriculum:

Deborah Gelsi motions to accept the Curriculum Guide on English Language Arts and Literacy. Michelle Clark 2nd's – No objections, motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi reminds Mrs. Gaides that as chairperson of the Enrollment Committee, she still has not received the previous research completed by the prior board as it pertains to enrollment. This research is of vital importance as it not only was one of the primary reasons for Article 10 – which passed would have closed the school permanently, but it would also save the committee valuable research time and avoid duplicating efforts. Mrs. Gaides will check at the SAU office to find out why it has not been sent out yet.

Mrs. Gaides informs the board that another 50 dollar donation has been received for the DI team expenses and that the total outstanding has been reduced to \$146.72

Kenyon Karl questioned why last months meeting minutes have not been posted to the town website yet.

Mrs. Gelsi replied that she believes she emailed it to the webmaster but she will send the webmaster an email to confirm.

Michelle Clark formally welcomes Scott Goodale to the board.

Deborah Gelsi motions to go to Non Public Session at 7:58 pm.
Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

- Resignation

Deborah Gelsi motions to return from Non Public Session at 7:58 pm.

Michelle Clark 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries

Deborah Gelsi motions to accept the resignation of Michelle Clark effective June 30th 2005.
Scott Goodale 2nd's – There are no objections and the motion carries.

The board directs the SAU to schedule interviews with the applicants that previously applied last month and to publicize the vacancy in the Record Enterprise and North Country Independent News.

Deborah Gelsi will advise the town webmaster to repost the position on the website.

Deborah Gelsi motions to adjourn at 8:10pm

Michelle Clark 2nd's- There are no objections, motion carries.

Respectfully,

Deborah Gelsi
School Board Member and Secretary.

Wentworth School Board

Monday, July 18th, 2005 – 6:00 pm School Board Meeting Minutes Wentworth Elementary School

Members Present: Deborah Gelsi and Scott Goodale

Administration Present: Jeff Keene - Principal WES, Ethel Gaides – SAU 48

Also Present: Aaron Comeau, John Comeau, Glen Hinckley, Melody Gaudette, Laurie Dustin, Francis Muzzey, Douglas Muzzey, Vinny Samson, Charles Buckley, Jon Francis

Deborah Gelsi moves to open meeting at 6:08 pm

Scott Goodale 2nd's. There are no objections, motion carries.

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Deborah Gelsi moves to amend the agenda to reflect "Student Issue" under Non Public Session.

Scott Goodale 2nd's. There are no objections and the motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi moves to amend the agenda to hold Non Public Session first.

Scott Goodale 2nd's. There are no objections and the motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi makes a motion to move to Non Public Session at 6:10 pm

Scott Goodale 2nds – There are no objections – Motion carries.

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Deborah Gelsi moves to return from Non Public at 6:38 pm

Scott Goodale 2nd's – Motion carries

As a result of Non Public Session;

- Deborah Gelsi motions to accept the resignation of Bernie Sullivan and allow Principal Keene and SAU to advertise for position. Position responsibilities to include Bus Monitor.
- Motion is 2nd by Scott Goodale, there is no objection and motion carries.
- Deborah Gelsi motions to enter into a 1 year teaching contract with Kirsten Windsinger to replace current 6th grade teacher who is on maternity leave.
- Motion is 2nd by Scott Goodale, there is no objection and motion carries.

- Deborah Gelsi motions to table Student Placement to Aug 8th board meeting.
- Motion is 2nd by Scott Goodale, there is no objection and motion carries.
- Scott Goodale motions to accept the resignation Deborah Gelsi as Secretary of School Board.
- Motion is 2nd by Deborah Gelsi, there is no objection and motion carries.
- Deborah Gelsi motions to table election of new chair and secretary to July 25th
- Motion is 2nd by Scott Goodale, there is no objection and motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi motions to move HVAC and facilities item to top of agenda and move School Board vacancy interviews to last on the agenda.

Scott Goodale 2nds, motion carries.

HVAC – Jon Francis of the SAU and Charles Buckley, an independent consultant confirm that Phase 1 – The boiler and controllers, and exhaust hood in the kitchen are not currently up to code. The Facilities committee recommends to the board that we accept the bid from Johnson Controls.

Deborah Gelsi and Scott Goodale review bids with committee and subsequently agree with the Facilities Committee recommendation.

Deborah Gelsi motions to accept the bid of Johnson Controls. Scott Goodale 2nds and motion carries.

The board authorizes the SAU to notify Johnson Controls immediately and to take necessary actions to allow Johnson to commence work immediately.

Deborah Gelsi updates public regarding ongoing discussion with Warren to intergrate Kindergarden and possibly 7th and 8th grades. Letter received from Warren (copy attached). D. Gelsi makes a motion to authorize the SAU to respond to Warren Board confirming receipt of their proposal and Wentworth's willingness to open dialog and form joint committees to study feasibility and impacts of Warren proposal. S. Goodale 2nd's and motion carries. Francis Muzzey would like to volunteer for one of the committees.

Deborah Gelsi motions to accept the minutes of June 20th 2005 as presented.

Scott Goodale 2nd's motion. There are no objections, motion carries.

Correspondence

No action taken.

Discussion Items/Privilege of the Floor

Vinny Samson asks the board what we are doing about the bus contract. SAU produces a letter signed by Mark Halloran to Robertson Transport indicating that we would utilize Robertson Transport until 2008. Upon review of this letter, Deborah Gelsi notes that this is not a legally binding contract and is only a letter accepting services. The Board asks that the SAU contact Robertson for a contract indicating scope of service etc. Vinny Samson would like to remind the board and public that it is well known that Mr. Halloran and Mr. Robertson are very good friends and she is not convinced that there isn't a connection between our contract and their relationship.

D. Gelsi motions to accept a contract with Robertson for the upcoming school year while the board reviews its relationship with Robertson. Contract is to be based on Route analysis and subsequent recommendations of board. S. Goodale 2nds and motion carries.

The Board recommends that the Town Road Agent accompany the board and the representative from RT on the route analysis to determine safety issues regarding school bus stops and turnarounds.

Francis Muzzey as selectman indicates that he would also like to be present.

Discussion ensues for a 5 member board. Mr. Muzzey feels that this would significantly lighten the load on the current 3 member board. Deborah Gelsi points out that Wentworth is the only district within the SAU to still have a 3 member board. Continuing on, Mrs. Gelsi reminds everyone that in the last 3 months, the board has had two resignations and a great deal of difficulty filling them. While a 5 member board is recommended, she is concerned that the positions would not be able to be filled. Mrs. Gelsi recommends to continue discussion regarding the 5 member board and possibly place the question on the town meeting ballot with language to include holding a special election or have the current board appoint 2 additional members temporarily, if article passes at Town Meeting in March. By inserting this language into the article, we would not have to wait for the 2007 elections to become a 5 member board.

Monday July 25th there will be a policy workshop for the board and the meeting is open to the public.

A philosophical discussion commenced of teacher vs student centered classrooms. Francis Muzzey disagrees with the way the curriculum is currently taught. He is concerned with testing and teaching methods. The SAU explained the NEAP and NCAP testing procedures and grades affected. The results of recent testing will be available in October.

Vinny Samson advises the board and public of ongoing discussions between her attorneys and the SAU attorney regarding her son. Deborah Gelsi immediately advised that we move to a Non Public Session to discuss anything to do with a student.

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Mrs Samson refuses to move to Non Public and advises that she would like the public to know how much money is being spent by the SAU and its attorneys in redundant and unnecessary correspondence to Mrs Samson's attorney. Mrs. Samson also advised the board of the testing that the attorney and Spec Ed Coordinator Fran Gonsalves is recommending and that contact with the two doctors recommended by the SAU indicate that one of them cannot perform the specific tests and one is on vacation. Mrs. Samson is concerned that the school year is approaching and her son is not currently tested or placed. Again, Mrs Gelsi advises that this is a Non Public issue and we should move to Non Public immediately.

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Mrs Samson declines. Mrs Samson advises that she is not going to expend addition money for issues already argued on and is seeking to recoup her expenses from the school district. She also would like to confirm the testing for her younger son.

School Board Vacancy Interviews. – Move to Non Public at 8:42

Non-Public Session.

Non Public (RSA 91-A: 3)

Exclusive allowable purposes are: personnel issues, nominations and hiring, reputation, sale or acquisition of property, litigation, 91-A: 2 (non meetings) consultant with legal counsel or negotiations, 91-A: 5 student records or information deemed confidential, personal or invasion of privacy.

Return from Non Public at 8:51

Deborah Gelsi motions to allow SAU to poll board via telephone on July 19th for vote on vacancy.

Scott Goodale 2nds and motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi motions to adjourn at 8:53pm

Scott Goodale 2nd's- There are no objections, motion carries.

Respectfully,

Deborah Gelsi

School Board

Wentworth School Board

Monday, July 25, 2005 – 6:00 pm School Board Meeting Minutes Wentworth Elementary School

Members Present: Deborah Gelsi and Laurie Dustin

Administration Present: Jeff Keene – Principal WES, Ethel Gaides – SAU 48

Deborah Gelsi moves to open the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Laurie Dustin 2nds. There are no objections, motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi was elected chair of the School Board. The decision of hiring a secretary was table until the August 8 meeting until Scott Goodale was present to vote.

Policy Review:

Public Participation at Board Meetings was revised and approved.

Attendance Policy was revised and approved with amendments.

Student Conduct Policy was revised and approved.

Communication Policy was approved.

Sexual Harassment/Sexual Violence Policy was approved.

Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Policy was revised and approved.

The School Board voted to change the September 19 meeting to September 26.

The School Board requests a letter from Robertson Transit agreeing to the extension of the contract.

Deborah Gelsi motions to adjourn at 7:50 pm

Laurie Dustin 2nds. There are no objections, motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ethel Gaides

Assistant Superintendent

Wentworth School Board

Monday, August 8, 2005 – 6:00 pm School Board Meeting Minutes Wentworth Elementary School

Members Present: Deborah Gelsi and Laurie Dustin

Administration Present: Jeff Keene – Principal WES, Ethel Gaides – SAU 48

Also Present: Francis Muzzey, Melody Gaudette

Deborah Gelsi moves to open the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Laurie Dustin 2nds. There are no objections, motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi moves the agenda review and disposition. Laurie Dustin 2nds. There are no objections and the motions carries.

Deborah Gelsi motions to accept the minutes of July18th 2005 as amended: "Francis Muzzey as selectman indicates that he would be willing to represent the town agent as a town official". Laurie Dustin 2nds motion. There are no objections, motion carries.

Principal's Report

Jeff informed the School Board that the boiler was installed. The rooms are being painted. On August 20th, the "dome" was installed on the playground. Four students are taking Algebra I at the high school.

Correspondence

No action taken.

Discussion Items: Policy Work Session

The School Board agreed to update the 1999 Kindergarten Contract. Ethel will have it ready for School Board Chair's signature at the next School Board meeting. The School Board directed Ethel to call the Warren School Board Chair to inquire about Kindergarten tuition costs.

Privilege of the Floor

Francis Muzzey inquires about mowing bills. He wants to offer "Math Problem of the Month Contest" for 7/8 graders. He expressed his concern over legal fees and wants the School Board to stop the legal fees.

Deb Gelsi moved to Nonpublic at 7:10 pm for the purpose of personnel and student issues. . Lauri Dustin 2nds motion. There are no objections, motion carries.

Nonpublic Session (RSA 91-A:3):

Entered into Non-Public Session at 7:10 pm Present: Deborah Gelsi, Laurie Dustin, Jeff Keene, Ethel Gaides, 1 parent.

The parent updated the School Board on her sons IEPs. She wants one of her son's placed at Plymouth Elementary School. She said her son is two years behind and in severe violation of

FAPE. Parent left the meeting at 8 pm

Returned from Non Public at 8:06 pm

Deborah Gelsi motions to approve Rebecca Sweeney at the middle school teacher for the 2005-2006 school year. Laurie Dustin 2nds. There are no objections, motion carries.

Deborah Gelsi motions to adjourn at 8:10 pm Laurie Dustin 2nds. There are no objections, motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ethel Gaides
Assistant Superintendent