

**SAU #15 Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 26, 2013 - 6:00 p.m.
Auburn Village School – Music Room**

Note: These minutes were approved by the SAU Board.

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Trickett, Chair, called the SAU Board meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Those in attendance were Board members David Pearl, Trisha Korkosz, John Lyscars, Phil Denbow, Nicole Laflamme, Kim Royer, Deb LeBlond, Mary Rapaglia, Alan Villeneuve, Brian D'Amelio, Anita Gildea and Keith Leclair; Superintendent Charles P. Littlefield; Assistant Superintendent, Marge Polak; and Business Administrator, Karen Lessard. Also in attendance was attorney Melissa Hewey.

Mr. Trickett led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROOF OF POSTING

Dr. Littlefield provided proof of posting.

Mr. Trickett welcomed new Hooksett Board member, Phil Denbow, and all participants introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Trisha Korkosz, seconded by Mary Rapaglia, to table the approval of minutes for the May 22 meeting and non-public meeting. With John Lyscars and David Pearl opposed, the motion carried in the affirmative.

Dr. Littlefield introduced Attorney Melissa Hewey from Drummond and Woodsum.

Motion by Alan Villeneuve, seconded by Mary Rapaglia, to enter into a non-public session at 6:05 p.m. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trisha Korkosz, seconded by Kim Royer, to enter back into a public session at 7:12 p.m. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Pearl suggested that in the event of another non-public meeting, that privacy shields be placed over the door windows.

After reviewing videos and emails and speaking with various SAU staff members, Attorney Hewey suggested that the Board adopt resolutions in order to assure privacy, professionalism, respect and personal responsible behavior. In addition, the resolutions suggested would curb the amount of communication from individual Board members to the SAU staff and administration.

David Pearl stated that because this was not an agenda item nor was it in the packet, he would not act on it at this time.

Asked by Alan Villeneuve if these resolutions were in place in other SAU's, Ms. Hewey said there are other SAU's with similar resolutions.

Motion by Trisha Korkosz, seconded by Deb Leblond to accept Resolutions #1 and #2 as presented. Ms. Korkosz stated that she felt it was very important in order to vaccinate the Board from liability.

David Pearl asked the difference between a policy and a resolution and felt a policy held more weight. He suggested this Board adopt policies. Attorney Hewey stated that the resolution states viewed intent. Mr. Pearl asked what the penalty would be if the resolutions were not followed. Alan Villeneuve stated that if necessary, the language to the resolution could be changed at further meetings.

Mr. Pearl objected to Chair Trickett considering voting on this item. He said the Board was not provided with the material until this evening and he will abstain. Mr. Pearl hoped this action would not be perceived as his being uncooperative. John Lyscars echoed Mr. Pearl, stating he would abstain as well as it was not in the agenda.

Chris Trickett stated that the definition of a resolution was a statement of intent.

Trisha Korkosz called for a vote. This was seconded by Deb Leblond. With David Pearl and John Lyscars opposed, all others in favor, the motion carried.

Resolution #1

We, the Board of SAU 15 hereby resolve as follows:

1. We recognize the rights of employees of SAU 15 and its member Districts to respect and confidentiality.
2. We insist that all members of the SAU 15 Board treat each other, as well as SAU 15 employees and the employees of its member districts, with respect during Board meetings and direct the Board meetings shall not be used as an occasion to criticize employees.
3. We support the work of our Superintendent and his administration.
4. We affirm that critical and negative behavior toward our employees does not reflect the view of the Board or the SAU.
5. We recognize and affirm that individual Board members are personally responsible for the consequences of their own behavior.

A vote was taken on adopting Resolution #1 was taken. With David Pearl and John Lyscars abstaining, all others in favor, the motion carried in the affirmative.

Motion by Trisha Korkosz, seconded by Nicole Laflamme, to adopt Resolution #2 as presented. Ms. Korkosz stated that based on information Attorney Hewey was cause to adopt this resolution in order to vaccinate the Board from liability.

David Pearl stated that this Board cannot limit power and has no authority over individual policies of individual Boards. Ms. Korkosz stated that the Attorney did state that the SAU Board has that authority. After reviewing the language of the proposed Resolution, Trisha Korkosz withdrew her motion and Nicole Laflamme withdrew her second.

Discussion ensued.

David Pearl suggested adopting the Resolution as a policy.

Nicole Laflamme stated that because the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution #1, that that is the will of the Board. The will of the Board is to treat Dr. Littlefield with respect and not inundate his office with hundreds of emails. John Lyscars questioned if Dr. Littlefield would be bound by the Resolutions as well, and Trisha Korkosz stated that since he is an ex-officio member of the Board, these would indeed apply to him as well.

David Pearl asked how he would ask follow up questions if the number of emails is to be limited to which Chris Trickett stated that questions should be sent to the Chair.

Dr. Littlefield asked Attorney Hewey for clarification as to who directs the work of the SAU to which she replied that that is the responsibility of the Superintendent. He then stated that he could instruct his employees to not respond to emails, but by doing so would not be in a punitive sense. He voiced concerns that Board members may send an unreasonable amount of emails to their Chairs.

Trisha Korkosz called the question and was seconded by Alan Villeneuve. David Pearl-No, and John Lyscars-Abstain, the motion carried in the affirmative.

Resolution #2

In order to assist in the orderly operation of SAU 15 and its member Districts, and to ensure the equitable division of time of SAU 15 employees between the member Districts, Board Members, with the exception of the Chairs of the Boards of each member District, should not normally communicate with the Superintendent or other SAU 15 employees and, if they do, they should limit their communication to no more than one email or telephone call per day and we instruct the Superintendent and other SAU 15 employees that they are not required to review or respond to communications in excess of this limit.

Motion by Trisha Korkosz, seconded by Mary Rapaglia to adopt Resolution #2 as amended (above) and with John Lyscars and David Pearl abstaining, the motion carried in the affirmative.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Todd Allen from Candia stated that he felt the Resolution could be broken very quickly and that the role of the Chair is one for guidance and order and not one of hierarchy.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mary Rapaglia, seconded by Anita Gildea to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca SJ McCarthy
Recording Secretary