

SAU #13 JOINT BOARD MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 13, 2012, 6:00 PM

Board members attending: Chairperson Ray O'Brien, Bruce Brooks, Jim Curran, Todd Desmarais, Wendy Grzesik, Carolyn Hemingway, Sloane Jarell, Brandon Knox, Marie Labrie, Coey Littlefield, Brett Taylor, Jack Waldron

Others attending: Superintendent Lou Goscinski, Mike O'Neill, MRI

CALL TO ORDER: PUBLIC SESSION BEGINS: Chair Ray O'Brien called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. All present pledged allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Jim Curran to approve the agenda, seconded by Todd Desmarais. The motion passed unanimously and the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 10/16/2012 SAU #13 Joint Board Meeting: Motion by Jim Curran to approve the October 16, 2012 SAU minutes, seconded by Todd Desmarais. The motion passed 8-3-0 with three abstaining. The October 16 minutes were approved and accepted.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

A. Calendar

1. Set Public Hearing for SAU #13 Budget: Motion by Jim Curran to set the SAU #13 Public Hearing for December 5 from 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM, followed by the Freedom School Board Meeting. Seconded by Sloane Jarell. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Updates from Chairs on Cooperative School District: Jack Waldron noted that if Madison and Freedom are interested in pursuing this, they have to put out a warrant article under RSA 195:18. He said if either district passes the article, then a planning committee could be formed, to which three people are either (1) elected, including at least one board member, or are (2) appointed by a moderator. He said the planning committee then would exist until dissolved or until a cooperative school district is formed. Jim Curran asked Superintendent Lou Goscinski to add the relevant RSA to the next agenda. There was a discussion of the pros and cons of a cooperative district. Superintendent Goscinski said he thought that if population trends continue in New Hampshire, you will see more and more cooperative districts formed north of Concord due to economy of scale. Chair Ray O'Brien asked if board chairs would put this on a warrant after further discussion. Jim Curran noted that putting this on a warrant only binds you to discussing it and not to actually implementing it. He said the research has to be done to know the costs. Jack Waldron said he thought a planning committee could do the study and discuss the best estimates. There was a discussion of the last experience in attempting to form a cooperative district, which

Bruce Brooks said was probably 15 years ago. Jim Curran thought it would be interesting to see if any of the documentation is still around. Todd Desmarais said he would look into this.

B. Other Matters: None

SCHOOL BOARD BUSINESS

Old Business

- A. Review Draft #2 of SAU #13 FY 13 Budget: Superintendent Lou Goscinski said last time we met we cut about \$10,633 out of the budget, including \$2,000 from liability insurance, \$4,000 from the equipment line, and \$5,000 from consultation services. He said we have added 5 hours for the finance assistant, which includes FICA and worker's comp., under Contracted Services line #2190300075. Mike O'Neill noted that we added \$1,068 for phones for the superintendent and special education director. Chair Ray O'Brien asked the board if they wanted to go line by line or ask for questions. Lou Goscinski suggested asking for questions. Wendy Grzesik had a question about an increased number for the administrative assistant to the special education director. To be discussed further in non-public session. Brett Taylor commented on an increase in a number of retirement lines. Mike O'Neill said the state rates went up 23% on all employees. To be discussed further in non-public session.

Jack Waldron had a question on health insurance rates. Mike O'Neill said the actual rate this year is 1.7% because the insurance company is giving us a premium holiday of 3% as discussed in previous board meetings. There was a discussion about what amount to be put in this budget because there will not be a premium holiday next year when the rate will be 4.7%. The board agreed that more than 1.7% could be left in this year so there will not be a big jump next year. Lou said for this budget we could cut about \$1,500 out of the health insurance line. Wendy Grzesik questioned whether we need \$20,000 in the SAU Consultation Services line. Lou Goscinski suggested keeping it in as a hedge because at some point it will have to be made up when budgeting for a new superintendent. Jack Waldron said he thought it was important to manage the budget so we try to keep things relatively level. Bruce Brooks asked what the percentage of increase is for the 2013-2014 budget as compared to the expended figures for FY 10-11. Mike O'Neill said it would be about 6%. Jim Curran said the only problem with looking back is all the staff changes, issues with transportation, and so forth. Bruce agreed with this and said he didn't know how thoroughly people would be looking at our budget; and because we don't do transportation anymore, and we've eliminated one full-time position in the office but hired back one part-time, if they would expect the SAU to start showing a smaller budget. He said if something is eliminated next year such as rent, you would need to show that there were increases to offset this. Brett Taylor said he could understand what Bruce was saying. He said if a large volume of money is cut out of the budget and then you have a zero budget, it means you have increased other lines and you have to show the offsets.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Motion by Bruce Brooks to go into non-public session, seconded by Jim Curran. On a roll call vote the board entered non-public session at 7:00 PM.

Ray O'Brien – Aye
Bruce Brooks – Aye
Jim Curran – Aye
Todd Desmarais – Aye
Wendy Grzesik – Aye
Carolyn Hemingway – Aye
Sloane Jarell – Aye
Brandon Knox – Aye
Marie Labrie – Aye
Coey Littlefield – Aye
Brett Taylor – Aye
Jack Waldron – Aye

The Ayes have it.

- A. Personnel Matters
- B. Other Matters

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion by Wendy Grzesik to return to public session, seconded by Marie Labrie. On a roll call vote the board returned to public session at 7:56 PM:

Ray O'Brien – Aye
Bruce Brooks – Aye
Jim Curran – Aye
Todd Desmarais – Aye
Wendy Grzesik – Aye
Carolyn Hemingway – Aye
Sloane Jarell – Aye
Brandon Knox – Aye
Marie Labrie – Aye
Coey Littlefield – Aye
Brett Taylor – Aye
Jack Waldron – Aye

The Ayes have it.

ACTION AS A RESULT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion by Jack Waldron to agree to fund up to .6 for the special education administrative assistant. Seconded by Marie Labrie. The motion passed 8-1-3 with one abstention.

Motion by Todd Desmarais to amend the superintendent's contract to have 20 sick days cumulative to 30, and to add \$532.05 to be taken from line #012320110073, SAU Consultation Services. Seconded by Sloane Jarell. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Wendy Grzesik to remove \$10,000 from line #012320110073, SAU Consultation Services. Seconded by Carolyn Hemingway. After discussion the motion failed 5-1-6 with one abstention.

Adopt SAU #13 FY 13 Preliminary Budget for Public Notice & Public Hearing: Motion by Jim Curran to move the SAU budget at \$600,147.25, seconded by Jack Waldron. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Carolyn Hemingway to change the SAU Consultation Services line to \$15,000, seconded by Wendy Grzesik. The motion passed 8-1-3, with one abstention.

Mike O'Neill distributed a report of the Fund Balance Unaudited showing a total projected fund balance of \$67,608.16 as of June 30, 2012. It was recommended that \$20,000 of the fund balance be used to offset the budget.

Motion by Jim Curran to use \$20,000 from the Unaudited Fund Balance to offset the SAU apportionment, seconded by Sloane Jarell. The motion passed unanimously.

Jack Waldron suggested that something needed to be done to cut down on the amount of meeting time for the superintendent. He suggested that the length of board meetings could be reduced to 2 or 2 1/2 hours. He said we need to keep the length of negotiations down. Ray O'Brien suggested that the SAU could probably only meet four times a year.

Lou Goscinski noted that tuition rates are in. Mike O'Neill said there is a significant swing in the apportionment in FY 13-14 based on current figures as follows: Freedom \$156,121.28; Madison \$211,526.11; and Tamworth \$212,499.61.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Jim Curran to adjourn, seconded by Bruce Brooks. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

SAU #13 Joint Board Meeting, November 13, 2012
Draft Minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Ambrose
Recording Secretary