

JACKSON SCHOOL BOARD
Draft MINUTES – January 16, 2018 6:00 pm
Whitney Community Center

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Jerome Dougherty, President. Present are Jerome Dougherty, Jessica DellaValla, Genn Anzaldi, Keith Bradley, Andrew Kearns. Also in attendance were Superintendent Kevin Richard, and Principal Gayle Dembowski. Absent: - Assistant Superintendent Kathryn Wilson
2. Ms. Anzaldi made a motion to approve the minutes of the 12-18-17 meeting, Mr. Kearns seconded. **APPROVED 5-0-0**
3. Citizen Comments - none
4. Presentation of School Programs/FYI ITEMS - none
5. Old Business
 - A. Preschool (Next Steps) – Ms. Dembowski presented the tuition recommendation. The recommended number of children is 10. \$6000 is the recommended tuition. The before/after care would be set at \$6 per hour. Enrollment deadline will be set. Sarah Clemmons – her research has shown that the outcome is not different with preschool if the parents are not involved. How will this affect the preschools that are already in progress and are supported by the town? Mr. Dougherty explained that all the concerns have been looked at and addressed. Ms. Della Valla responded to the questions individually. She explained the different types of preschools, and that we feel that we can provide the best opportunities for the children here in town. Regarding parental involvement, the research shows that early intervention better their lives for the rest of their lives. Mr. Dougherty supports the opinion that the data may not be valid for Jackson because of the small class sizes. Without attracting young families to the town, the taxes will go up in the future. Sarah would like to know if there is some data on a school our size that has tried this. She would like more research and information. Mr. Kearns spoke regarding the turnout of the young families that have been coming to the meetings lately. He is not clear on the comments about people losing their jobs and benefits. She clarified that she was concerned that if all the schools started preschools, the current private preschools would cut staff. Pam Stimpson spoke to clarify a couple of points. The money for Children Unlimited is not for the preschool program, it is for the family resource center. Joyce Allen – do preschool age children from Jackson not attend a preschool at all? That can not be discussed here. Preschool is not mandated in the state. Would they send their children if it were free? Bob Maloney – the \$6000 – what data drove that number, and does that include bus service? That does not include bus service. The numbers are from local comparisons. The costs involved were used to compute that number. Mr. Bradley feels that we need to decide where the priority should be for staff children – whether before or after out of town children. It seems that it should be before the out of town children. Sarah would like to know what the cost of the teacher would be. The number is already in place and will be talked about at the budget hearing. Staff salaries are \$92,635. Board should note their questions and bring them to the next meeting.

B. Pavilion Update - John McDougall and Chris Docktor have finalized the plans. Students are working on a budget breakdown. 6th graders are going to Tamworth to observe a logging operation and the logs will be brought here to be milled and used for the roof.

C. 6th Grade – Ms. Anzaldi - Tuition price will not be different than 7th & 8th grade price. \$23,600 is the number.

D. Jackson Student Mentor/Coach – nothing new to report

E. FYI – Policies JECC (Admission of Nonresident Student of an Employee) and JFAB (Admission of Tuition and Non-resident Students) – be aware of these in regards to preschool policies.

6. Instructional Issues - none

7. Consider Personnel Actions

A. Review Job Descriptions – Ms. Dembowski reviewed these.

1. Personalized Learning Coordinator (50%)
2. Technology Facilitator (part-time) – audience would like to know why this position is part-time. The teachers are responsible for a large part of the technology, so this position is only part-time.
3. Instructional Paraprofessional

8. Business Affairs

A. FYI – 2017-18 Budget Status Report – no questions

B. Review Draft #3 of 2018-19 Proposed Budget – Mr. Richard gave a brief overview of the draft. The only new change is the fuel cost, which has gone down a little bit. Budget is up 1.48% overall. Reserve funds and revenue sheets were reviewed. NH will be giving money to towns that have full day kindergarten. The tax rate is \$6.11 per thousand, up .02 per thousand. If the warrant articles are voted in, preschool will be .29 per thousand, Whitney will be .01 per thousand, resulting in a 5.61% increase overall.

C. Review Draft #3 of Proposed Warrant Articles –

- Article 1 – public preschool – in favor of recommending **4-1-0** – Mr. Bradley feels that we need to sharpen pencils on that number
- Article 2 – in favor of recommending **5-0-0**
- Article 3 – in favor of recommending **5-0-0**

D. Authorize Superintendent to Sign New Hampshire Interlocal Trust Confirmation Letter – To guarantee price, a letter of commitment must be signed. A motion to authorize was made by Mr. Kearns, Ms. Anzaldi seconded **5-0-0**

9. Administrators' Reports

A. Superintendent

1. January 18th Competency Based Education Presentation – 6 pm – at the auditorium at Kennett High School. Small group discussions to follow. Child care is available, contact the office.

B. Principal

1. After School Program – is held on Mondays and Wednesdays, and the sessions are well attended. A report was distributed to the Board. Each child pays a registration fee unless they have a need for a scholarship.

10. Citizen Comments – Sarah Clemmons – re: after school programs – wonders if this is a babysitting service or if it is academic. Ms. Dembowski - The crafting was for the craft fair, and was community service. The others are connected to curriculum. Pumpkin people are a community project as well. Mr. Dougherty – this is an enrichment program. \$5500 is in the budget for it. Mr. Maloney would like to know if there are projections of student numbers for upcoming years. Ms. Dembowski states that we are aware of children in town down to 18 months of age. That information can be found in the Annual Report. Next year's Kindergarten is planned at 8-10 children.

11. Board Member Issues -- Board Discussion/Committee Reports

A. Set Date for Next Meeting

(February 1, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. – budget hearing is at 6:00 p.m.)

Mr. Kearns – follow up on the bus – a letter from Gredel Shaw was found, from 2014 (copy attached). This is in reference to skis being transported on the bus. The bus driver can not get off the bus to assist in unloading. If there is someone to load in Bartlett and at the end of the route at the grammar school, that would work. Stops in between could not happen. There are State guidelines as well. Ms. Anzaldi wonders if we could ask someone at Bartlett to assist, then parents at our end. Mr. Kearns will contact Mr. Voci. The other piece of this was about them leaving school early to come to the trails. The coach has scheduled 3 days already.

His other topic is SB-193 monies. The feeling has been that it would not affect Jackson much. 529 monies will now be able to be used as well, due to the new tax laws.

12. Signing of Manifest

13. Adjourn – Ms. Anzaldi made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 pm. Mr. Kearns seconded.
APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Donaldson
Recording Secretary

MEMORANDUM

To: Andrew Kearns, Jackson School Board
From: Gredel Shaw, Transportation Coordinator
Date: January 17, 2014
Re: Transportation of Skis

We have researched and discussed this in length. In response to your email in regard to the transporting of Jackson Middle School students, we are unable to pick up skiers with their equipment at each regular bus stop for various reasons. There are too many to list, however, I can provide you with those reasons if necessary. I have spoken with our Jackson bus driver that goes between the two schools (JBES and JGS) about setting up a shuttle system for the ski equipment and here's what we've come up with:

Jackson bus #5 arrives at Jackson Grammar School at approximately 8:20-8:25am each school day.

The NH School Bus Manual states:

"Saf-C 1306.04 Unattended School Bus

(a) A school bus driver shall not leave a school bus unattended when passengers are on the bus, except in the case of an emergency..."

Mark Blotner has contacted the State Police and they indicated the driver must remain in the cockpit of the bus to insure it's "attended." The rationale involves the possibility of the parking break brake and transmission failing, and the bus rolling forward or backwards with students on board. Under this interpretation there MUST be another adult (NOT the bus driver) available to meet skiers/parents and their ski equipment at Jackson Grammar school to load the under carriage of the bus. The skiers would be responsible to load the equipment in to the under carriage of the bus and the adult would securely latch the door.

However, Jim Hill's (and others) interpretation of "unattended" does NOT mean the driver must be on the bus, in the driver's seat whenever students are on the bus. Rather he/she can be proximate (beside it) helping the students load/unload skis. In this case the bus would be placed in "park", the

parking break would be engaged, the bus shut off, and the keys removed from the ignition. If the Board accepted this interpretation having another adult present would not be necessary.

Once the bus arrives at Josiah Bartlett School, ALL students will unload from the bus and wait for the driver to turn the bus off, remove key from ignition, and perform a safety check before he is able to assist with the opening of the under carriage. The students are again responsible to unload their equipment from the bus to bring it to the ski racks inside the school. It will also be the student's responsibility to get the ski equipment on and off/to and from the buses each day as needed. This same system will be used but in reverse order when bringing equipment back to Jackson from Josiah Bartlett School.

Important Notes:

The District should insure the driver/school district will not be responsible for lost, misplaced or damaged equipment during this process. The latches on these compartments have failed in the past. In addition, the skis are not secured in the compartment. They will certainly shift as the bus travels to and from each location.

It will be the students' responsibility to get the equipment on and off/to and from the bus.

Should anything be left behind, the driver will place it outside at the school in an unsecure location.

The bus will not wait for parents. This bus MUST get to JBES on time for school and can not be delayed by this process.

I hope this answers your questions. If you need further information, please let me know.

Cc: Jackson School Board
Carl Nelson, Superintendent
Jim Hill, Dir. of Admin. Svcs.
Gayle Dembowski, Principal
Jackson bus drivers