

JACKSON SCHOOL BOARD
Thursday, March 1, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.
WHITNEY COMMUNITY CENTER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Jerome Dougherty, President. Present are Jerome Dougherty, Jessica DellaValla, Genn Anzaldi, Keith Bradley, Andrew Kearns. Also in attendance were Superintendent Kevin Richard, Assistant Superintendent Kathryn Wilson and Principal Gayle Dembowski.

2. Mr. Bradley made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2-1-18 meeting. Ms. DellaValla seconded. A correction is noted on Page 5 -donation was \$3000.
APPROVED as amended 5-0-0
3. Citizen Comments – A presentation on school safety was made by a Priscilla Protasowicki. She feels that there are precautions that need to be taken. She requests that the school board request grant money for better locks, steel doors and bulletproof glass. NH allows concealed carry permits at schools. She would like have at least one armed person at the school. (see attached document)
4. Presentation of School Program/FYI ITEMS- none
5. Old Business
 - A. Preschool -
 - B. Pavilion Update – Molly DellaValla gave a brief update about the pavilion. A poster and pamphlets are available.
 - C. KHS Program of Studies
6. Instructional Issues
7. Consider Personnel Actions
 - A. Accept Resignation of Dennis Savilonis – Ms. Anzaldi made a motion to accept with regret, Mr. Kearns seconded **5-0-0**
 - B. FYI – Appointment of Caitlin Purnell as Long-term Substitute Art Teacher – Mr. Bradley made a motion to approve, Ms. DellaValla seconded. **5-0-0**
 - C. Consider Election of Caitlin Purnell as Lead Counselor for the Summer Program – a motion to approve was made by Ms. Anzaldi, seconded by Ms. DellaValla **5-0-0**
8. Business Affairs
 - A. FYI – 2017-18 Budget Status Report
 - B. Consider Approval of Food Service Agreement with Bartlett (2018-19 - A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Anzaldi. There is no change in the cost **5-0-0**

9. Administrators' Reports

- A. Superintendent – Executive Board meeting at SAU next Thursday, 6 pm
- B. Principal – surveyed 6th graders about their experiences. Responses have been summarized for the Board. The first issue of the school newspaper has been published. GA has a question about the student led conferences. They were for grades 4, 5, and 6. Only the 6th graders were asked for their opinions. The students really enjoyed sharing their experiences.

10. Citizen Comments – Sarah Clemons – suggests making this available for purchase as a fundraiser

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

- A. Set Date for Next Meeting (April 16, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.)

12. Signing of Manifest

13. Mr. Bradley made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 pm. Ms. Anzaldi seconded. **5-0-0**

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Donaldson
Recording Secretary

School Board Meeting

Thursday, March 1, 2018 8:29 AM

Recently there has been discussion on school safety amid recent school shootings. I have discussed this with many people all over the country, and the discussion needs to continue here in our school. Our schools here in New Hampshire are very safe. I would not be here if our schools were not the most safest schools in America. School Safety is the most important thing to me as a parent whose child attends Jackson Grammar School. I trust our teachers, administrators, staff, and the Principle. Especially, I am proud of our School Board for being understanding of parents who care and are worried. However, there are simple reinforcements as a precaution that I feel this school needs to take. We need to harden our schools and there are several ways to go about that.

I have surveyed the schools grounds and their emergency procedures, and everything looks affirmatively safe. However, I would suggest that the school board requests grant money that may become available to schools in the near future. This money should be put into getting better locks, steel doors, and bullet proof glass all throughout the school.

Apart from being structurally safe, we are socially smart. We are lucky to be in New Hampshire which has a rare exemption to schools being armed. We are 1 in 6 states in the country, which are the only states to allow concealed carry weapons at schools. This means that with a permit, a Teacher or staff member could be trained to provide security at school. This type of security must only be in the capacity of an emergency situation if there is an active assailant. I am unaware of any school staff being a concealed carrier. Hypothetically speaking, whether Teachers are armed or not, this simple rule of law acts as a deterrent. If there was at least one person in the school with this authority to act as an armed defense against an armed assailant, I would feel greatly more protected for my child. There is always the argument that this is the job only for Police, however the Police are not infallible and Gun Control Laws are not infallible. It would take minutes for the Police to get to a situation where seconds count. We have a hardened state thanks to the preservation of our gun rights, and we need to follow this hardened strategy within our schools to make them also a hardened target. I would suggest having one or more of the staff members or Teachers be concealed carriers in the event of an emergency. This is the most powerful and proven deterrent, along with signage that lets intruders know that our school is armed and trained. This will make everyone: parents, children, and school members ALL safe.

Priscilla
Profasowicki