

Minutes of the Chester School Board Meeting
May 13, 2010

The May meeting of the Chester School Board was held on Thursday, May 13, 2010 and was called to order by Chairman Royal Richardson at 7:15 p.m. The meeting was broadcast live on analog channel 22 and digital channel 100.3 on the Comcast cable system and recorded for future playback.

Present:

- Chester school board members Chairman Royal Richardson, Valerie Weider, Catherine Treanor, Mat Stover (via a telephone conference call), and Michael Romick (who arrived at 7:55 p.m.).
- Superintendent Victor Petzy, and Principal Leslie Leahy.
- Guests Kelly Glynn, Kelsey Slade, and Matt Rittenhouse reporter from the *Tri-Town Times*.

Absent:

- Jana Ruiz, Special Services Coordinator, and Annmarie Scribner – District Financial Manager

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MANIFEST

Chairman Richardson presented the following manifests for approval:

Payroll Manifest #22	\$256,054.17
AP Manifest #23	\$261,242.71

The motion to “accept the manifests as read” was made by Ms. Treanor and seconded by Ms. Weider.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Richardson called for a vote on the above motion made by Ms. Treanor and seconded by Ms. Weider. The motion passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

MINUTES

April 7, 2010

Minutes submitted to board from the April meeting.

Ms. Treanor made a motion to “accept the April 7, 2010 minutes with the spelling and grammar corrections presented by Mr. Stover.” Motion was seconded by Ms. Weider.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Richardson called for a vote on the above motion made by Ms. Treanor and seconded by Ms. Weider. The motion passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

SCHEDULED GUESTS -

1. Pinkerton Student: Kelly Glynn gave an update on happenings at Pinkerton Academy and an update on future events. Kelsey Slade was unable to attend.

PUBLIC INPUT – None.

BUDGET COMMITTEE INPUT – None.

REPORTS – Written reports were provided to board members.

PRINCIPAL – report submitted and delivered by Ms. Leslie Leahy.
Summary of topics:

Academic

Science NECAPS - Will be administered this month. All materials have been received and schedule for administration is in final planning stage.

Fall NECAPS Review - GMADES and GRADE annual math and reading testing is currently underway for the whole building.

Personnel

6th grade science teacher hired. Jacqueline Gilbert was hired by Dr. Petzy.

Ms. Treanor made a motion to “accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to hire Jacqueline Gilbert as the primary 6th grade science teacher for the 2010-11 academic year.” Motion was seconded by Ms. Weider.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Richardson called for a vote on the above motion made by Ms. Treanor and seconded by Ms. Weider. The motion passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

Ms. Leahy reported that the position for the technology lab assistant is ongoing. Interviews are scheduled for May 27th with four candidates.

Student Management

Enrollment Report- Enrollments are consistent with last month.

Kindergarten enrollments for the fall are at 42 students.

	<i>Oct</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Sept</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>
	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010
Kindergarten			35	35	34	34	34	34	34	35	35
Grade 1	64	63	68	68	68	68	69	70	70	70	70
Grade 2	67	66	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	61	61
Grade 3	68	67	65	65	65	65	65	66	66	66	66
Grade 4	82	83	67	67	67	67	68	68	68	68	68
Grade 5	76	78	83	84	85	85	84	84	84	84	84
Grade 6	84	82	75	75	73	73	74	74	74	74	74
Grade 7	81	80	84	84	85	85	85	84	85	83	83
Grade 8	82	84	83	84	84	83	83	84	84	83	83
SUB-TOTAL	604	603	623	625	624	623	625	627	628	624	624
Pre-3 yr	6	9	7	7	7	7	8	8	9	8	8
Pre-4 yr	8	8	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7
Kindergarten	11	11									
SUB-TOTAL	25	28	13	13	13	13	14	15	16	15	15
TOTAL	629	631	636	638	637	636	639	642	644	639	639

Washington DC and Science Camp Trips-Both trips went well

8th Grade Graduation-a parent posed the option of combining graduation and awards night. The committee was undecided on whether to change the format and decided to poll the 8th grade parents. Surveys went out Monday, May 10th and will be returned by Friday, May 14th. Decision to follow.

Building and Grounds

Security Gate - was installed at the end of the main hallway to secure back part of the building; provides better control of the building when maintenance staff is cleaning and provide additional security for new technology equipment.

Administration

Follow Up Report - Research and information request from school board regarding \$200 increase request for administrative stipend (substitutes) for next year. Report delivered to school board for review,

Scheduling for next year - currently working on a middle level schedule for next year and student class lists for next year are underway.

Community Relations

May 14th Early release at 12:30

May 14th Semi Formal 7-10pm

May 20th- Integrated Arts Night for grades 1 and 2 from 6-7:30pm

May 21st Ice Cream Sundae Fundraiser for DI-\$1.00 per student.

May 28th NJHS Induction from 6-7pm in the cafeteria.

Last two In the News-May 21st and June 4th

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADMINISTRATOR – No Report submitted, no new business to discuss..

FINANCIAL MANAGER – Report submitted by Ms. Annmarie Scribner. Report read by Dr. Petzy.

Regular Education is currently showing a positive balance of \$108,425.

Four areas responsible for this are:

1. Tuition - Public school tuition is showing a projected surplus of \$156,798
2. Improvement of Instruction - \$4,995
3. Office of the Superintendent \$8,834
4. Salary savings in Technology \$7,050

These positive balances are offset by deficits in salaries and benefits.

The salary lines are over due to lateral moves and substitute lines. The benefits are due to insurance/changes in family status. And NH Retirement mandated changes.

Special Education is currently showing a negative balance of (\$490).

All of the Grant Funds have been applied to the appropriate lines.

Overall, the district is currently predicting a \$107,935 positive balance as of the end of April.

Dr. Petzy gave an update on a bill pending in the legislature that would allow a carryover of "savings" if the "collar" provision relative to adequacy aid is lifted and districts like Chester end up getting less money in fiscal year 2012. Dr. Petzy said he will keep the board updated.

SUPERINTENDENT

Reference Superintendent Report by Dr. Victor Petzy.
Items covered throughout the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Superintendent Search: Update Chairman Richardson gave a brief summary of the process where the NHSBA (New Hampshire School Board Association) conducted a national search, a public forum was held and search committee was formed where three finalists were chosen. On Tuesday, May 11th a finalist was identified and a contract is under negotiations. Chairman Richardson hopes to have an announcement in the coming days.

Formation of Goals Committee

The school has notified the CEA who its representatives are for the committee – Mr. Stover and Mr. Romick. The CEA is in the process of identifying their committee participants and meeting dates will then be scheduled..

Telephone Conferencing Equipment Contract

Ms. Scribner set up the contract, and Mr. Stover is using it during tonight's meeting. .

***** Mr. Romick arrived at 7:55 p.m. *****

NEW BUSINESS

Review of 2009-2010 District Goals

Dr. Petzy sent to the board a very briefly annotated copy. Dr. Petzy said that almost off the goals and objectives identified for the 2009-10 year have been met. Dr. Petzy noted that the district did not meet AYP but showed significant improvement. .

Pinkerton Construction Project

Dr. Petzy reported that he and Chairman Richardson attended a meeting on this project recently. Chairman Richardson said that Pinkerton had the formal announcement of the construction of the new building that will house freshmen classes, freshmen administrators, teachers, and some transient teachers will have permanent classrooms. Chairman Richardson also added that Pinkerton brought forward the idea of asking Auburn to be a sending town. The reason stated was that enrollment was showing a decline, especially from Derry and that. In order to continue the level of service the trustees felt they needed have an enrollment in the areas of 3,300 students. Chairman Richardson said that there was discussion regarding contract renegotiations with the sending towns but the contract only provided for sending towns to give permission for small increments of students. Dr. Petzy handed out copies of the agreement as per Chairman Richardson's request.

Race to the Top Application: State-Memorandum of Understanding

The New Hampshire DOE has changed the format of its "Race to the Top" application for the second round. They have developed a state plan indicating what they will do and what participating school districts will do. They are asking school districts that wish to participate to submit a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the superintendent, school board chair, and teacher association president (if they wish). Dr. Petzy handed out the final draft of the Memorandum to the board and he reviewed the documents. The deadline for submission is June 1.

Discussion between board members followed.

In reviewing the list Mr. Romick felt that Chester was already doing some of the 51 listed items. Chairman Richardson was concerned regarding the data collection that would be needed Ms. Treanor felt it was a great idea, but did not want to burden the district, she also expressed concern of the amount of money the district would receive and if it was worth the cost in time, resources, and manpower. Mr. Romick felt that the district should not turn its back on money being offered and by signing into this gives the district the opportunity to partake in it.

Mr. Romick made a motion to "participate in the 'Race to the Top' and have Chairman Richardson and Superintendent Petzy sign the State Memorandum of Understanding." Motion was seconded by Ms. Weider.

There was no further discussion.

Chairman Richardson called for a vote on the above motion made by Mr. Romick and seconded by Ms. Weider. The motion passed by a voice vote of 4-0 with one abstention vote – Ms. Treanor..

CORRESPONDENCE – Chairman Richardson had a follow-up telephone call with the parent who had requested their child be allowed into first grade after the cut-off point. Chairman Richardson said that the parent understood the board's position.

Chairman Richardson emailed the board a copy of the power point presentation made by the Pinkerton Academy trustees.

Chairman Richardson said he had numerous telephone calls and emails with the NHSBA regarding the Superintendent search.

POLICIES –

2nd Reading of Policy JFAB – Admission and Tuition of Nonresident Students . Policy read by Chairman Richardson.:

JFAB Admission & Tuition of Nonresident Students

**ADMISSION OF NONRESIDENT STUDENTS
(And Tuition)**

1.) Non-Resident Students / Pending relocation to Chester

Non-resident students shall attend Chester Academy (grades 1 thru 8) tuition free for a period not to exceed 30 school days if the students(s) parents or guardian are in the process of constructing or purchasing a home in the Town of Chester, providing that said home is to become the student’s permanent residence once purchased or constructed.

The tuition fee will be based upon the cost to educate a student in the Chester School District, which is set by the School Board annually, and then divided by 180 to get the daily tuition rate.

2.) Non-Resident Students / Application to attend Chester Academy

It is the policy of the Chester School Board that non-resident students will not be considered for acceptance to attend Chester Academy as tuitioned students.

The only exception to this policy is governed by JFABB Admission of Exchange and Foreign Students. The board shall accept foreign exchange students who meet the established guidelines for admission to district schools.

Ms. Treanor made a motion to “accept Policy JFAB Admission & Tuition of Nonresident Students as read ” Motion was seconded by Ms. Weider.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Richardson called for a vote on the above motion made by Ms. Treanor and seconded by Ms. Weider. The motion passed by a voice vote of 5-0

PERSONNEL

Administrator Contracts Non-Public Session)

OTHER – None

ANTICIPATED DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, June 2, 2010.

NONPUBLIC SESSION, RSA 91-A: 3II (c, e)

Ms. Treanor made a motion “to move the meeting to a Non-Public Session, pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3II (c,e) for personnel and student issues” Ms. Weider seconded the motion.

Chairman Richardson called for a roll call vote on the above motion made by Ms. Treanor and seconded by Ms. Weider. Roll call vote was taken and board members Richardson, Treanor, Weider, Romick, and Stover all voted in the affirmative, 5-0.

Meeting went into Non-Public session at 9:05 p.m. on May 13, 2010.

Also in attendance and participating in the Non-Public Session were Superintendent Dr. Vic Petzy and Chester Academy Principal, Leslie Leahy.

Ms. Leahy left the Non-Public session at 11:00 p.m. on May 13, 2010.

CLOSURE OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Ms. Treanor made a motion “to conclude the Non-Public Session, pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3II (c,e) for personnel and student issues” Mr. Romick seconded the motion.

Chairman Richardson called for a roll call vote on the above motion made by Ms. Treanor and seconded by Mr. Romick. Roll call vote was taken and board members Richardson, Treanor, Weider, Romick, and Stover all voted in the affirmative, 5-0.

The meeting returned to Public Session at 11:55 p.m, on May 13, 2010.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Pursuant to the discussion of the Administrative salaries Ms. Weider made a motion “to accept the proposed salary increases as presented by Dr. Petzy.” Ms. Treanor seconded the motion.

Board Members Richardson, Romick, Treanor and Weider all voted in the affirmative.

There were no further specific items for the Board's consideration or any additional items to vote upon.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Romick made a motion “to adjourn the meeting.” Ms. Weider seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Richardson called for a roll call vote on the above motion made by Ms. Treanor and seconded by Ms. Weider. Roll call vote was taken and board members Richardson, Treanor, Weider, Romick, and Stover all voted in the affirmative, 5-0.

The Meeting adjourned at 12:00 a.m. on May 14, 2010.

Draft minutes respectfully submitted May 25, 2010.

Minutes Approved on June 2, 2010 by a voice vote of 4-0.

A true Attest.

Robert S. Grimm, School District Clerk