

Columbia School Board Meeting Minutes							
Date		01/06/21					
Time		5:30 p.m.					
Location		Columbia Town Office					
Chairperson		Christopher Brady					
School Board Members				Principal		SAU Members	
P	Chris Brady	P	Carrie Klebe	P	Kim Wheelock	P	Debra Taylor
P	Stacey Campbell					P	Cheryl Covill

Roll Call: Chairman Chris Brady called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

Hearing of the Public: None

Reading of the Minutes:

S. Campbell / C. Klebe: Motion to approve the minutes of December 2, 2020, as presented.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Special Reports:

- Policy Review – December 2020 Policies
 - Reviewed the following policies: ACAC – Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy & Grievance Process, DGA – Authorized Signatures, DK – Payments, Checks & Manifests, and DK-R – Payment Procedures.

S. Campbell / C. Klebe: Motion to approve policies ACAC, DGA, DK, and DK-R as presented.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

- Reviewed the SAU policies as listed on the attached Table of Contents. Once adopted they will become policies for the SAU #7 office.
-

S. Campbell / C. Klebe: Motion to approve the SAU policies (see attached Table of Contents) as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

School Administrator’s Report: Kim Wheelock

- Addressed the school board regarding students playing basketball if they are a remote student. Colebrook approved remote students playing basketball.
- Portrait of Graduate Work
 - This is an extension of the vision work she began last year which aligns with her goals. This work also juxtaposes her curriculum goals with Competency-Based Education.

Superintendent’s Report: Debra Taylor

- Schools reopened on January 4th.
 - Overall, everything went well.
- Short supply of substitute teachers and paraeducators

- Reviewed the elected official school board opening and filing dates. Dates to sign up are January 20th – 29th

Business Administrator's Report: Cheryl Covill

- Preparation for the Annual School District reports has begun.
- In the process of drafting Warrant Articles, updating budgets, and reviewing current Budget Analysis.
- Several Home School students returned to school.
 - Columbia has 3 returning students and 1 new student.
- Gathering information and options available to the school districts for holding Annual School District meetings and aligning with the COVID guidelines.
- A great deal of time was spent in December to meet the state's timeline for expending CARES and Public School Supplemental Funds.
 - The Supplemental Public School Response Funds (SPSRF) had to be expended by December 30th. The funding came in two waves.
 - Colebrook Received close to \$ 100,000 in the SPSRF
 - Technology was the main focus of expenses for teachers: updated laptops, scanners/printers, document cameras, and student Chromebooks.
 - Reimbursed the district for facility materials.
 - Every student will have a Chromebook with the grant funds.
- Colebrook received a grant through NH Charitable Foundation - David Brooks Funds for the music department in the amount of \$1,300. Received the same amount last year which was not expended due to COVID and school closing.
- Regional Committee work – provided enrollment, tuition data, staffing projections, and personnel assumptions (staff related benefits).
- Reviewed the budget timeline if the school district meeting was held on March 9th.
- Further discussion on the meeting location. Based on NH guidelines a facility may hold a meeting up to 50% of their capacity however still required to maintain a 6' social distancing. All participants must be masked, or accommodation must be made for those who cannot wear a mask.
 - An alternative meeting option is the Virtual Meeting. A Virtual Meeting requires several layers of notification. The virtual process is similar to SB2 Budget Meetings.
 - Currently, the legislators are looking to propose extending the meeting period to a future date beyond the March deadline.
 - Stacey will speak to the Selectmen next Wednesday at their meeting regarding the Annual District Meeting location.
 - One option is to ask Colebrook to use their gym/cafeteria on a night that does not interfere with the town meeting.
 - Cheryl will give Stacey open dates for the use of the gym.

Unfinished Business:

- Budget 2021-2022
- Reviewed the revised budget.
 - Adjustments to the preliminary budget:
 - Tuition increased due to home school students returning to school and a new student who entered school after the preliminary budget was developed.
 - Warrant Articles

Discussed the Preschool Program

- Colebrook has budgeted to extend the preschool program by offering a second session next year. This will make the program available to Columbia students.
 - Board consensuses the school board agreed to add a warrant article for the voters to determine if they would like to support a preschool program at Colebrook Academy & Elementary School. The article will include a budget of \$ 18,000, which is an estimate of 4 students.

New Business:

- Eric Stohl contacted Stacey regarding the school board paying for him to attend the monitors' workshop held in February. The cost will be \$ 55. An invoice will be forward to the SAU for payment.

Connecticut River Collaborative Committee Update:

- The meeting was held on December 21st.
- Discussed Financial modeling.
- The NH and VT attorneys reviewed areas that need to be addressed in the Interstate Articles of Agreement.
- RHR Smith gave an overview of what has taken place regarding fact gathering and what is needed for data.
- The committee will meet twice in January:
 - January 13th to discuss items that were not covered at the last meeting, January 28th to review the financial data provided by RHR Smith and February 5th will be the next regular meeting

Information: None

Other Business:

- March Meeting date – Discussed under Business Administrators report

Next Meeting Date:

- Columbia School Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 3, 2021, @ 5:30 pm
- Columbia School Board Public Hearing: Wednesday, February 3, 2021, @ 6:00 pm.
- The meetings will be held at the Town Hall.

Adjournment:

C Klebe / S. Campbell: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Respectively Submitted,
Cheryl Covill
Business Administrator

Adopted 02/03/2021