

BRIDGEWATER, HEBRON & GROTON STEERING COMMITTEE

297 Mayhew Turnpike
Bridgewater, NH 03222

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Terence Murphy
Bridgewater Selectman

Patrick Moriarty
Hebron Selectman

John Rescigno
Groton Selectman

Erick Piper
Bridgewater Representative

Jennifer Larochelle
Hebron Representative

Virginia Parker
Groton Representative

Derry Riddle
BHVD – Ex Officio

William White
BHVD – Ex Officio

November 15, 2023: Meeting called to order at 6pm
Meeting Location: Bridgewater Town Hall

Committee Members Present: Jennifer Larochelle, Terence Murphy, Patrick Moriarty, Virginia Parker, Erick Piper and John Rescigno

BHVD Ex-Officio Representatives Present: Derry Riddle, and William White.

Ms. Larochelle called the meeting to order.

Ms. Larochelle asked for any updates to the minutes of the November 1, 2023 meeting.

Ms. Riddle made the suggestion that the location of the meetings be added for all future meetings.

Ms. Larochelle made a motion to accept the public meeting minutes as amended. Mr. Piper seconded. All in favor. No abstentions.

Ms. Larochelle requested to contact the PTO and schedule a meeting.

Ms. Parker replied that is a good thought.

Mr. Piper said make it happen. Where should the meeting be? You could always use the Town Hall.

Ms. Larochelle stated that she would like the logistics of the meeting to offer babysitting. Therefore at the school would be ideal.

Education Committee Updates:

Ms. Larochelle brought up a question that the teachers are concerned about. Their current contract ends 6/30/25 and their negotiations for a new contract will happen in the fall of next year. Can they negotiate with Newfound and the New SD at the same time?

Discussion ensued around the timing of the new contract and how the new SD contract should mirror the existing contract.

Budget Committee Updates:

Ms. Parker stated that the proposed budget was presented Monday evening at the School board meeting and that she should receive an excel spreadsheet in the next week and can prepare something for the committee to review.

Mr. Piper stated that in the budget there are 11 teachers and 17 support staff. It was stated that there may be 5 less. 80% of our costs will be salaries.

In addition if we do a lease back for pre-k we may arrange that the school district lease the classroom for \$1 but provide the teacher and then our students attend for free.

Contract Negotiations Committee Updates:

Ms. Parker reviewed the meeting with the subcommittee of the school board. She explained that the current goal is to work out a tailings agreement. Other contract services, we will most likely look elsewhere.

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Mr. Piper added that reciprocity for Alexandria students coming to our school will be included in the tailings agreement.

Mr. Murphy stated that the tuition agreement and tailing agreement MOU's will come from the attorney. The agreement will have an opt in clause and basically nothing will be signed until after the vote.

We have been contacted by SAU #48 and they would like to discuss tuition agreements.

SAU #2 will be discussing admin and superintendent services.

A discussion ensued regarding superintendent services.

Hillary Coles asked wouldn't superintendent services be a revenue item for SAU #4.

Multiple individuals responded yes it would.

Facility Committee Updates:

Ms. Larochelle stated that Ms. Riddle is being added to this subcommittee as an ex officio member.

Mr. Murphy supplied an update that the grant for the playground in the amount of \$182,000 has been approved and we may receive the funds shortly.

Ms. Parker asked is we are at the point to reconfigure classrooms etc.

Mr. Moriarty asked if there will be pre-k negotiations.

Ms. Parker responded that they have been laser focused on an MOU for the tailing agreement.

We did discuss that if we do not hear back by a certain date, we may not have space for the pre-k.

Mr. Rescigno said we need to focus on where our students can and will go.

Ms. Parker stated that the tailings agreement is a brief interjectory for a shorter period of time which will provide for transition until our school is up to k-8.

Mr. Piper replied that the tailings agreement is through 2031 and we may also have other options prior to that.

Mr. Moriarty mentioned that when speaking with the DOE, there hasn't been an instance when a tailings agreement hasn't happened.

Ms. Parker stated that they would like to have a tailings agreement and we would like it to be reciprocal.

Ms. Larochelle brought up the need for a parent representative as part of our committee. The focus should be an individual with children in the school system.

A discussion ensued regarding possible candidates.

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Ms. Larochelle asked if the superintendent and admin services will be turned over to Ms. Parker and Mr. Piper.

Mr. Murphy replied that he would like to stay involved.

Mr. Moriarty asked if we should be looking at other school districts for the services.

Mr. Murphy stated that he has a couple others in mind.

Mr. Piper stated it would be nice to find one with grant writing.

A discussion ensued regarding the specific types of services we should be looking for.

Mr. Murphy noted that as things progress we will need to engage with the public.

Ms. Larochelle requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Piper made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Rescigno seconded. All committee members were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59pm