

1 Amherst School Board
2 November 20th, 2014

3
4
5 ATTENDANCE

6
7 Amherst School Board

8 Lucienne Foulks, Amy Facey, James Manning, Peg Bennett, and Paul Prescott

9
10 Administrative Team

11 Peter Warburton, Betty Shankel, Gerry St. Amand, Porter Dodge, and Meg Beauchamp

12
13 Minute Taker

14 Beth Penney

15 CALL TO ORDER

16
17 Ms. Foulks called the meeting to order at 6:37pm.

18
19 ANNOUNCEMENTS

20
21 PTA

22
23 The PTA co-presidents presented to the Board, Shannon Daniel and Claire Bryson.

24
25 They thanked the board and administration for their support. They have had many
26 volunteers and have been able to do more for the teachers. The PTA is working on
27 community building activities to bring together teachers and families, including Holiday
28 shopping night, teacher appreciation, read-a-thon, reflections for math and science night,
29 CATS PTA play, book study group for parents, the AMS anniversary program, and the
30 after school theater program at Clark Wilkins. The PTA has a rotating meeting from
31 daytime and nighttime, Dec. 10th at Clark at 10am is the next meeting and they will
32 provide information to parents for the all day Kindergarten proposal.

33
34 The Board discussed the great things the PTA has been doing and thanked them for their
35 hard work.

36
37 Principals Reports

38
39 Mr. Dodge wanted to mention to the board that Craig Richardson and Terry want to bring
40 back Destination Imagination to the school. They have money from an old account to
41 fund the program and it can be part of the STEM program. They have parent volunteers
42 ready to go. The program was a great thing a number of years ago. He thanked the
43 Board for their support for after school programs.

44
45 Mr. St. Amand looking forward to having this group back together again.
46

47 Mr. Dodge discussed the Eagle block. He included reports from all teams of what they
48 are doing with the Eagle block and how they are working to improve the block and will
49 keep improving. AMS has been using late starts and faculty meetings to work on the
50 Eagle block. They have also been using a rubric to help guide the Eagle Block and
51 teachers are using Understanding by Design to plan the Eagle block. The list of topics
52 being taught are on the school's website. He would like to have teachers come in and
53 show the board what they do with the Eagle block and how they meet the needs of all
54 students. The math teachers are working with kids who are 40% below proficient as a
55 response to instruction (RTI). Other students are doing enrichment. This helps to not
56 pull students out of Math classes. He invited the board to the school to attend an Eagle
57 Block. He is very excited about what teachers are doing with students. 20 schools have
58 come to see Eagle block and RTI at AMS.

59
60 Mr. Warburton suggested that a few teachers come in February and again in May to
61 present. He likes the invitation to the Board to go visit the school.

62
63 Mr. Manning thanked Mr. Dodge for the level of detail. He did not know the
64 professional development day was about Eagle Block. He asked if the kids know what
65 Eagle block is. He is still hearing from kids that the block is Core and More. He
66 wondered if there is a step to get across to kids that the block is different.

67
68 Mr. Dodge stated that he could ask teachers to reflect and explain with kids why they are
69 doing Eagle Block. He will do that because some kids may still think the block is Core
70 and More and it is different.

71
72 Ms. Facey stated that the RTI work and service work is exemplary. Is the work being
73 done in the Eagle Block an extension of the curriculum, other work, or both? What is the
74 focus? Is it random or relatable?

75
76 Mr. Dodge stated that Eagle block is to enrich curriculum so it is meaningful and
77 relatable. There is an emphasis on inquiry and collaboration. They start with essential
78 questions, have reading, writing, and a technology component. Technology will be part
79 of best practice and same with RTI, soon. All teachers are having a paradigm shift to use
80 technology and RTI to improve student learning.

81
82 Ms. Facey asked if there has been thought about giving students a choice to pick what
83 they are learning about.

84
85 Mr. Dodge stated that at this time there are a large number of students especially in 5th
86 and 6th grade, so they are not to that point yet. Teachers do not want to integrate
87 something new because the kids who are doing math work would miss it. Teachers have
88 been discussing the potential for mini courses and kids could move across teams and
89 teachers. The school is just not there yet.

90
91 Mr. Warburton stated that if the Board goes to the school to see Eagle block they should
92 sit down with the teachers too.

93

94 Mr. Dodge discussed the 40th anniversary celebration. There are 44 teachers and a lot of
95 volunteers that want to be involved in the planning. There are many opportunities to do
96 something big in the spring.

97

98 Commitment Reports

99

100 Mr. Prescott discussed the technology commitment where they have been working to post
101 progress reports online. The technology integration team has been holding tech class one
102 time per month for 1 hour after school at AMS. The team will be doing this at the
103 elementary school soon. The goal is to help teachers to learn how to integrate technology
104 better into the curriculum. The elementary teachers are entering grades into MMS. The
105 idea is to have ongoing grading reports. They have a very aggressive schedule for this
106 idea. The plan is to have pilot teachers, students, and parents start this as soon as
107 Tuesday. This is going to help with learning I39 and allows parents to have a single place
108 to where HW is, students can post to it, and have grade reports. There is a shifting
109 technology model in classrooms, the schools are moving away from desktops and instead
110 are getting 5 11 inch laptops for each classroom. Students can have the laptops at their
111 desks and work together. The schools will get rid of the laptop carts. This will be less
112 problematic and more efficient. The maintenance and replacement costs would go down.
113 He discussed that the Smart board projectors have all been rolled out.

114

115 Ms. Bennett stated that she would have an update next month.

116

117 Mr. Manning stated that at the October meeting the SAU Board approved the working
118 draft of the Strategic plan.

119

120 Mr. Warburton stated that this will be in the news paper, there will be public forums, and
121 small group meetings. They are looking for feedback and he will take the feedback to the
122 SAU board in December.

123

124 Ms. Facey stated that the Teacher Leader Effectiveness has analyzed the surveys of the
125 pilot and the results were sent to instructional leadership. There are some details to be
126 ironed out. Some people are visiting a district in NY in year 3 of Thoughtful Classroom.
127 The committee will then iron out any details that need to be finalized for Thoughtful
128 Classroom. She will have an update next moth for the other components of Teacher
129 Leader Effectiveness. The STEM workshop was great. They learned about roles,
130 initiatives, hands on integrated projects, integration into curriculum, and roles across
131 disciplines. They are working with teachers and will soon establish a vision for SAU 39.

132

133 Mr. Warburton reminded the board about new initiative to have a skating rink on the
134 AMS tennis courts at no cost to the district. The cost will be covered by the recreation
135 department and founded by the community. This is terrific for the children and there will
136 be set times for the adults. He thanked the recreation department, town, and the school
137 for working together. They will use a Bambini pulled by tractor to clean the ice.

138

139 **PUBLIC TIME**

140

141 No public present.

142

143 **CONSENT AGENDA**

144

145 Mr. Manning pulled the minutes.

146

147 Mr. Manning made the following changes: Line 211 Capital – HSA

148

149 Ms. Facey made the following changes: Line 78 Foundations

150

151 Ms. Bennett made the following changes: Line 83 Ferry Beach; Line 44 Harry Silver

152

153 Ms. Facey made the following changes: lines 180-185: on line 182 “the committee needs
154 to investigate all components” and delete all the rest to line 185

155

156 Mr. Vincent made the following changes: Line 138: Charlene Carper; Line 136 change
157 Stephanie’s last name to Grund; Line 135 drop the d replace with s, so is a ski; Line 135
158 Donella one n; Donny has two n’s

159

160 **Ms. Bennett made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda containing the amended**
161 **Minutes for October 14, 2014, Treasurer’s report for October 2014, Unanticipated**
162 **Revenue to the General Fund - \$2,030.60 Hockmeyer Studios, Inc and the**
163 **Retirement requests. Ms. Facey seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

164

165 **PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS**

166

167 **School Nutrition Report**

168

169 Danielle Collins, School Nutrition Director, discussed the past and the new regulations.
170 She discussed last year’s changes from the Healthy Hunger Act of 2010. Last year, there
171 were calorie minimums and maximums by age group, whole grains and vegetables and
172 fruits are grouped and have to be balanced. There was no response from students or
173 parents last year. This year there are changes at breakfast, sodium limitations, required
174 smart snacks and a wellness policy implementation. The sodium limitations have been
175 the hardest because there is sodium in everything. She discussed Smart Snacks. This
176 district’s policies have always been more restrictive than state and federal government.
177 Now the federal government is regulating calories, fat, and sugar. The state has regulated
178 above and beyond the federal guidelines and the regulations include what is provided to
179 students at the school. Parents can send whatever for their own kid, but if the food is
180 shared with peers it must fall under the regulations. Fruits and vegetables have no limits.
181 Class parties are the issue. She discussed the wellness policy implementation. The
182 district has had some pieces of a policy but now is accountable. The principal is the
183 leader and responsible for communicating to the public. The policies are on the website
184 also. The definition of a school day is midnight the night before to 30 min. after last

185 school bell. She discussed her vision of how this will be a good thing for the schools.
186 She has applied for a Farm to School Grant, called Cultivating Healthy Students. This is
187 to help to get students excited about healthy eating. The planning grant is \$36,000 and
188 has many parts as in the presentation. She will know if the district got the grant in
189 December. There are already have teams gathering in school, many interested people in
190 the SAU and schools, and a trainer from UNH Cooperative Extension has offered to train
191 staff. The grant will help pay for books and materials to integrate health and wellness,
192 meet with farmers, buy local produce, a field trip for each student to go to farms, teachers
193 working with farmers, creating gardens at each school, and connections with curriculum.
194 She discussed the competition for grant because of the lack of free and reduced lunches
195 and diversity rates in the district. She will reapply for the grant till she is successful.
196 Year 2 of the grant is for \$100,000 for implementation. This is a community based grant
197 and will include the whole SAU and the community. The potential is limitless. The idea
198 also involves procurement of local foods, including transportation and purchase from
199 multiple farms. She discussed the vision and mission of the Wellness Committee that has
200 met over the years. Their work has brought Zumba and Yoga for adults and students.

201
202 Ms. Bennett thanked Ms. Collins for her great attitude and taking a new approach.

203
204 Ms. Collins discussed the wonderful support of the community.

205
206 Ms. Collins stated that all needed money is from the grant and nothing is coming out the
207 budget. The hardest part will be to get local and fresh foods. She always gives students
208 multiple choices and hey like any vegetable if it is prepared well.

209
210 Ms. Facey discussed advisory and sports teams.

211
212 Ms. Collins stated that sports are exempt from the regulation because many coaches made
213 comments during the comment period. Academic activities are not exempt. Advisory
214 has been impacted and SHS has an open campus. This is a developing procedure and the
215 cultural norm is shifting so that the choices are healthier. Advisories can order from the
216 cafeteria and Ms. Collins is happy to help groups find other options. SHS is working on
217 it and it is a large cultural shift.

218
219 Ms. Foulks thanked Ms. Collins for her hard work and her passion. There are challenges
220 for getting this grant and Ms. Collins is not going to give up. The SAU is very lucky to
221 have her passion.

222
223 Mr. Warburton stated that Ms. Collins presented to an Advisory at SHS and she is great
224 answering all of their questions also.

225
226 FY16 Budget

227
228 Ms. Shankel discussed the budget assumptions from last month, draft 1, and the warrant
229 articles that will be considered. The warrant articles include the Operating budget,
230 collective bargaining agreement, Full Day Kindergarten, and adding \$50,000 to the

231 Special Education Fund. She discussed the key drivers of the budget as in the
232 presentation. There will be a budget increase of 1.19% and the does not include any
233 raises because they are still negotiating. \$457,606 is NH retirement at a 10.7% increase
234 and Health Insurance is a 0.8% increase. They will get a premium holiday in August of
235 \$250,000. The ASSA, AEA, and CBA agreements are \$183,000. She discussed the
236 agreements including benefits and salaries and ongoing initiatives as in the presentation.

237

238 Mr. St. Amand recognized all of the SAU administration and the school personnel who
239 helped to put together the budget. He went over the focus of the budget as in the
240 presentation. He discussed enrollment of 611 students this year and the projected 608
241 stuents for next year. He discussed the fluctuation in the different grades. He discussed
242 staffing and the addition of the 0.5 Special Education for the preschool program and the
243 increase of the 0.5 preschool coordinator to full time. There is a reduction of 1 teacher
244 and reclassification of OT, special education, and para-educators as in presentation.
245 There will be a reduction of 0.5 professional staff. He discussed the non-certified staffing
246 as in presentation. The facility upgrades are included in the presentation, which total for
247 Clark - \$30,700 and Wilkins \$57,500. Mr. St. Amand stated that the 48-year-old sinks
248 are being replaced.

249

250 Mr. Dodge thanked everyone involved and thanked the SAU staff for their hard work on
251 the budget. He discussed the budget focus as in the presentation. He discussed
252 enrollment numbers and the 20:1 ratio. Enrollment is down to 614 students. There will be
253 no change in the professional staff because it is hard to remove a teacher since the
254 students are spread across the grade levels. They will add 3.0FTE for support staff to
255 meet the needs of students. He discussed the professional staffing and non-certified
256 staffing comparison as in the presentation. The Facility upgrades for AMS are in the
257 presentation and total \$134,055. He discussed future district wide planning including
258 STEAM, world language program, and future facility needs.

259

260 Mr. Prescott asked about the large facility ticket items including the gym floor, bleachers,
261 and playground at AMS.

262

263 Mr. Dodge stated that they have been looking to repair the floor for a number of years.
264 This is a good price and they can move the court over to create an out of bounds for the
265 sports. The school will have a regulation size court and will have an out of bounds
266 making it safer. The bleachers are 22 or more years old. They do not always open and
267 close. The new ones will open and close electronically and are designed to seat more
268 people. He explained that the \$50,000 for the playground is just a placeholder for now
269 and that they need to have more people involved to make decisions.

270

271 Full Day Kindergarten Proposal

272

273 Mr. St. Amand and Ms. Heimarck thanked all involved in this proposal and the
274 community who took the survey.

275

276 Mr. St. Amand stated that the expectations for Kindergarten (K) have changed and
277 Amherst has changed. There are many more working mothers and fathers and single
278 parents families. The half-day model no longer serves the purpose for academic, social,
279 emotional, and development of the students. The students need more time to play and
280 learn how to interact with others.

281

282 Ms. Heimarck stated that the district is proposing for 2015/16 a full day Kindergarten
283 program. There are changing needs of the student population and this is not unique to
284 NH. With the initiation of the Common Core State Standards and increase in academic
285 rigor for all students K-12 there is a need for full day kindergarten. There are 87 plus
286 districts offering full day K and about half are fully funded by the school district. 76% of
287 school districts in the nation offer public K to students.

288

289 Ms. Heimarck discussed the comprehensive literature and research review about full day
290 K. Many speak to academic benefits of full day K because of changing academic
291 standards for students. She discussed the new standards where K students must read
292 emergent reader text fluently at a level D or E by the end of K. For Math K students must
293 have a conceptual understanding of 0-20 and count to 100. The expectations also include
294 understanding of place value for 0-20, 11-20 has one set of 10 and a number of ones,
295 decomposition and recomposition of numbers, add and subtract pair buddies from 0-10,
296 sense of 10s and 1s, and add and subtract fluently from 0-5.

297

298 Mr. St. Amand discussed the increasing expectations for the higher grades and how full
299 day K will help support those high demands for 1st and 2nd graders. 1st grade has the
300 highest percentage of children receiving interventions. They have already aligned with
301 Common Core and need extended time with K to get them to that point so students can
302 make gains in socially, emotionally, and academically.

303

304 Ms. Heimarck stated that the studies fall short of the real impact on students for
305 academics in full day K because no studies have been done since the new rigorous
306 standards. They need to look at the learning progression for students after K and will
307 need to adjust the 1st and 2nd grade curriculum. The schools are already aligning with the
308 new sets of standards in all grades K-12.

309

310 Mr. St. Amand discussed the benefits of full day K including increased independence,
311 more involvement in classroom learning, reflection on own work, and increased social
312 and emotional development. Play is a child's work and they want to provide enough time
313 to let kids play to better support social and emotional opportunities. This program will
314 allow for reduced remediation. There will be more time to give kids services,
315 enrichment, play, and allow for creative activities. The students would also get art,
316 music, technology, and physical education.

317

318 Ms. Heimarck stated that the non-academic effects of full day K are seen longitudinally
319 including increased attendance and decrease in remediation. The NH Work study
320 practices are what are referred to as soft skills. Schools are moving in the direction of
321 recognizing the values of these skills for post secondary and when students enter the

322 work force. These skills include self-direction, self-advocacy, collaboration, and
323 communication.

324
325 Mr. St. Amand discussed the social emotional benefits of full day K. The challenge of
326 the half-day program is the high demand for morning half day. There has been a change
327 within society and parents struggle to arrange schedules to have kids attend the half-day
328 program. Some kids start their day somewhere else, then are at Clark, then to another
329 provider, and then back to take a bus to Wilkins to end their day. The full day program
330 will allow students exposure to play, lunch-recess, and specials. Students will have lunch
331 recess with all of the K students. The full day program would be doing more for the
332 children and with more time. The schools need to work on the development of the whole
333 child. Science and Social studies get neglected and with full day program there would be
334 more time to integrate more.

335
336 Mr. St. Amand discussed the survey, which closed on Monday morning. He will send
337 out the results and FAQs tomorrow. There were 499 answers to the survey. 75%
338 surveyed have children in school including preschool. 25% stated that they would enroll
339 in K for 2015-2016 and 4% said maybe. 75% stated that they support offering full day K,
340 16% did not support the idea and 9.5% were undecided. There were hundreds of
341 comments that Ms. Landwerhle and Mr. St. Amand looked at. The comments discussed
342 the tax impacts, impact on grade levels, developmental appropriateness, length of the day,
343 space availability, early intervention, need of full day for working parents, benefit to the
344 town, increased social development in play and integrated arts, and consistency and
345 readiness for grade 1.

346
347 Ms. Heimarck stated that she looked at other districts in NH and MA. There are 200
348 districts with 90 SAUs and 87plus districts are offering full day K. Many started last year.
349 The districts are listed in the presentation. There are many going to start next year
350 including Bow and Oyster River. Some districts offer options for full-day K, but are not
351 fully funded by the district including Bedford and Hollis. SAU 39's comparative districts
352 have already made or will make the transition to full day K by next year. She discussed
353 that only 12 districts do not have full day K in over 300 districts in Massachusetts.

354
355 Ms. Heimarck and Mr. St. Amand discussed that the full day program would be a less
356 hurried school day for kids and staff and address the needs of the whole child. The pace
357 today is hurried because of rigorous standards. This program would increase the
358 opportunity for students to practice their skills in an authentic setting allow for more peer
359 and group work. The current intervention block is short and limited, but the full day
360 program would allow for more flexibility and could provide longer intervention for those
361 who need it. Science, Social Studies, integrated arts, and work-study skills could be
362 included. The number of transitions in the day for many K students would decrease with
363 the full day program. There would be more opportunity for home and school
364 communication because teachers will have smaller number of students in the course of
365 the day. The teachers would have more time with students, to get to know them as
366 learners and to connect with them on an individual level.

367

368 Mr. Prescott asked about the number of students per teacher.
369
370 Ms. Heimarck stated that now teachers have 40 students because they teach 2 half day
371 sections. The full day program would allow each teacher to have 20 students because
372 they would have one class.
373
374 Mr. St. Amand discussed the benefits to parents including bussing, an uninterrupted
375 schedule, equal access to all students for learning, reduce rate of stress for kids, and the
376 delivery of a developmentally appropriate curriculum at a much better pace.
377
378 Ms. Heimarck discussed the benefits for the community including that many families are
379 attracted to Amherst because of the schools and a full day K would attract more families.
380 Those current families tuitioning out of district for K will come back to the public
381 schools.
382
383 Mr. St. Amand –stated that there could be a positive impact on home values also.
384
385 Ms. Heimarck stated that the response of the community is very supportive to start a full
386 day K for next year.
387
388 Mr. St. Amand stated that the 1st grade is going to be all at Wilkins for the first time in a
389 long time. Clark would be the preschool and Kindergarten school. This would allow
390 space for 3 additional K classrooms.
391
392 Ms. Shankel discussed the financial impact as in the presentation including 3 classroom
393 teachers, special education staff, specials, food service, curriculum development,
394 professional development for K teachers, equipment and supplies, and facility changes.
395 The K classrooms need bigger spaces so 4 classrooms would change. \$120,000 is an
396 estimate. Total cost for the proposed full day Kindergarten program is \$740,593.
397
398 Ms. Bennett asked if there would need to be facility changes to accommodate the half-
399 day program.
400
401 Ms. Shankel stated yes, but would they would like to do the classrooms all together.
402
403 Ms. Bennett asked about the tax impact of the \$740,593.
404
405 Ms. Shankel stated that she just got the tax rates today and will have the tax impact
406 numbers for the next meeting.
407
408 Ms. Facey stated that the facility changes and equipment would be only a year one cost.
409
410 Ms. Heimarck stated that the ongoing costs would be supplies, staffing, and professional
411 development.
412

413 Ms. Heimarck discussed the 1st steps for the community presentations and discussions
414 including the PTA meeting, presenting at local preschools, the library and other venues to
415 target more than just people with school aged children.

416
417 Mr. St. Amand stated that a committee would look at examples of full day K and he
418 welcome thoughts from the board and the community.

419
420 Mr. Prescott stated that he would like an update on a regular basis. This program is
421 important, but expensive. He appreciates the detail for the benefits to student, parents,
422 and community.

423
424 Ms. Bennett stated that she would like there to be a school board member involved in the
425 process.

426
427 Ms. Heimarck stated that they would like a representative group from the board,
428 community, PTA, parents, and ways and means to do some full day kindergarten visits.

429
430 Mr. Manning and Ms. Heimarck discussed the research about the impacts on academics if
431 a child goes to kindergarten or not. The literature from 1976-2009 cites that there are
432 academic benefits. About 1/3 are consistent in their findings that there is a fade out by
433 the end of 2nd or 3rd grade because the implementation of full day K has not been looked
434 at in the full progression of grades. The literature does talk about how Kindergarten has
435 lead to reduced remediation rates. 76% of public school districts offer some sort of Full
436 day K. Some districts give families an option for half and full day program.

437
438 Mr. Manning and Mr. St. Amand discussed why schools offer Kindergarten at all as
439 opposed to having students start in first grade. Children are ready to learn at an earlier
440 age. Studies show that world language can be more easily learned at an earlier age. 5
441 year olds are ready to learn skills. Kindergarten now more resembles a 1st grade program
442 where 10 years ago it was not. Society has shifted to more rigorous learning and kids are
443 ready.

444
445 Ms. Heimarck stated that a large percentage of the student population is going to pre-K.
446 Many kids are ready to go to Kindergarten.

447
448 Mr. Manning stated that there is tons of data for the social emotional benefits and the
449 administration tends to focus on the academics. He stated he is not opposed to this idea,
450 but they need to emphasize the social emotional aspects and the stress of academics at a
451 young age. He discussed the importance of social emotional importance because of the
452 mental health issues and social emotional problems for families and kids.

453
454 Mr. Prescott stated the message should be clarified that the world has changed. Students
455 need exposure to a second language and know how to use of technology. The current K
456 program is trying to cram 1st grade learning into a half day and there is not enough room
457 to educate the whole child and include social emotional learning also.

458

459 Ms. Facey asked if the administration feels that they have the capacity to implement the
460 full day program next year and do it well.

461
462 Ms. Heimarck, Mr. Warburton, and Mr. St. Amand all stated yes.

463
464 The Board and the administration discussed that the Board would like more information
465 before making a decision. The decision must be made before the Public Hearing in
466 January. They also discussed how this process seems rushed, where other processes take
467 so long. The administration reminded the board that there was discussion last budget
468 season that this would be included for this coming years budget. The administration will
469 bring the Board more information in December.

470
471 Mr. Manning stated that he thinks this is a good thing and that they have needed a full
472 day K for a long time. There is a budget issue, a big chunk of money, and an increase in
473 the operating budget. It is important to get a sense from the town before making this a
474 warrant article.

475
476 Mr. Warburton stated that they will have a public forum during an evening and people
477 can speak and be heard about the program and the cost of the program.

478
479 Ms. Facey asked for this to happen in December.

480
481 Gene discussed that a full day K will help to increase the level of curiosity of kids. He
482 discussed his own experience with young kids and the level of their questions. The K
483 environment offers opportunities where kids can get answers to those questions.

484
485 Mr. Manning and Ms. Heimarck discussed the work-study skills and how doing well with
486 those skills leads to better post secondary and work success than competencies in the
487 core subjects.

488
489 The Board discussed how they want to hear more about the public's opinion next month.
490 They discussed how they want to visit a full day program to see how a 5 year old lasts in
491 a full day program. They were glad that the presentation spoke to stress. They would like
492 to see the research about the transition for kids from a 2hr. 45min. day to a 6-hour day
493 plus a bus ride and the impact on students.

494
495 Mr. Warburton welcomed the board to look at two books at the SAU with all kinds
496 research about full day K.

497
498 Mr. St. Amand passed out the FAQs and stated that they will be posted on the website
499 tomorrow.

500
501 Ms. Heimarck stated that this document would be updated regularly.

502
503 Ways and Means Comments

504

505 Mr. Vincent stated that Ways and Means has a lot to think about and discuss. They start
506 next Tuesday, by going through the budget line by line and compiling a list of questions.
507 The Sub committees will meet btw. Tuesday and Dec. 16th.

508
509 Ms. Foulks stated that the Board would be at that meeting on Tuesday.

510
511 Mr. Vincent stated that they would discuss the warrant articles and full day K also. They
512 are looking at dollars and not all of \$740,000 is not recurring and will go on the
513 subsequent budgets so this will raise the cost per student. They will need to look at
514 whether voters are prepared for that ongoing investment. The total number of hours that
515 any student spends in school for preK-12 is already a lot of hours. The 1st grade
516 curriculum is being pushed back to K and more kids are going to pre-K and more
517 academics earlier and earlier. He wondered if the trend is to push academics earlier and
518 earlier is a good thing. This is a big transition for kids to go from a half-day and full day
519 program. This idea changes the way people traditionally have thought of K.

520
521 Mr. Prescott agrees that this idea changes the way people think of K and that people may
522 not know what K is today.

523
524 Ms. Facey stated that she is curious to see the impact of cost per student because they are
525 also adding students, while adding cost.

526
527 Mr. Manning stated that the cost per student might not go up.

528
529 **ACTION ITEMS**

530
531 **Policy JKAA and Policy EGA**

532
533 Ms. Foulks stated that both policies were discussed at the SAU board meeting. This is
534 the first read for the Board.

535
536 Ms. Beuchamp stated that Policy JKAA is because the state law has changed and the law
537 went into effect on Sept. 30th. The new policy takes the law and defines what it is talking
538 about for physical restraint, seclusion, and intentional physical contact. The goal is to not
539 put hands on a student, unless the student is going to harm themselves or others. The age
540 of the student has been changed to age 21 and does not end at 17. It has changed to allow
541 the use seat belts or five point harnesses and buckle buddies. The policy defines
542 restraints. It states a way to report to parents when there is an incident. Parents need to
543 know before the child is back in the parents care verbally and the school has five days to
544 have a written report, which has requirements based on the laws. The policy is important
545 for transparency about when staff will and will not put hands on kids. Previously the
546 school had an incomplete policy.

547
548 Mr. Manning asked if there is a situation do we have the rights to change the situation so
549 not impacting the other students.

550

551 Ms. Beuchamp stated that they do not want to be in a position of putting hands on kids,
552 so they do other things to change the situation unless the student is dangerous to
553 themselves or others.
554
555 Ms. Beuchamp discussed the difference between an isolated incident and a pattern of
556 incidences.
557
558 Mr. Warburton stated that if there is an incident the schools have trained people who are
559 trained every year.
560
561 Ms. Bennett stated that the Board should vote next month because they may get feedback
562 from the other districts.
563
564 Mr. Warburton agrees with this idea for both policies.
565
566 Ms. Facey stated that for policy EGA she would like to hear Bruce Schmidt's comments
567 because he was not at the SAU meeting and is the in house expert.
568
569 Ms. Foulks discussed the railing on the front step of town hall. The Chapel Museum
570 would like to do the same thing. They need permission to put the hand rail up.
571
572 Mr. Coughlan stated that the handrail is a mess at town hall and is an obstruction to
573 traffic.
574
575 Ms. Shankel stated that this museum is open once or twice a year and the railing is for
576 esthetics. The museum has asked for permission because the district leases the building
577 to them.
578
579 **Mr. Manning made motion to approve the railing per the request.**
580
581 Mr. Prescott asked if there would be a cost.
582
583 Ms. Shankel stated that there would be no cost.
584
585 **Ms. Bennett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**
586
587 **Mr. Manning made motion to go into NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3 II. (a)**
588 **(b) (c) at 9:38pm. Mr. Prescott seconded the motion and the roll call all yes.**
589
590
591