

Colebrook School Board Meeting Minutes

Date	4/4/2023
Time	6:00 pm – Public Hearing SAFE Grant/School Board Will Meet Directly After
Location	Colebrook Academy & Elementary School library
Chairperson	Nathan Label

Attendance

Attendance Legend: **P** - Present **E** - Excused **A**- Absent **R** - Remotely

School Board Members Principal SAU Members

P	Nathan Label	E	Joey Sweatt	P	Kim Wheelock		Debra Taylor
P	Deb Greene	P	Tim Stevens		Asst. Principal	P	Bridget Cross
P	Rhonda Lyons	P	Tanya Young	P	Ron Patterson		
P	Robert Murphy				College Career & Technical Education Director		
				P	Tia Cloutier		

Public in Attendance: Richard Cole, Cindy Cones, Sherri Hawes David Brooks, Lisa Brooks, Wendell Woodard, Suzanne Gray, Ryan Eames, Dawn Hall, Kathi Lawton-Hynes, Gaetane Boire, Homer Davis, Michelle Strasburger, Amber Calhoun, Brooke Stevens, Judi Thompson, Shahanna Lebel

Minutes

Item	Subject	Action
1.	The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nate Lebel at 6:00 pm.	
2..	Public Hearing – SAFE Grant – Public School Infrastructure \$20,000.00. This grant is to install security window film throughout the school.	
3.	Agenda Adjustments – Kiwanis Park Renovations Report General Assurances – Information Only	

4.	Special Report -- Kiwanis Park Renovations Report Homer Davis and Gaetane Boire reported on the Kiwanis Park renovation plans. The School Board and Town Planning Board will review a plan for the work, provide information regarding changes and seek approval of the two boards. The School Board expressed appreciation for the update and their ongoing contribution to improving the park for the school and community.	
4.	Reading of the Minutes: T.Young/D.Greene: Motion to approve the Colebrook School Board Minutes of March 21, 2023.	VOTE: Motion Carries
5	Hearing of the Public: R.Murphy/T.Young: Motion to open public session at 6:17 pm. T.Stevens/R.Murphy: Motion to end public session at 7:35 pm.	VOTE: Motion Carries VOTE:Motion on Carries

6.	Principal Report – Kim Wheelock April Principal’s Report – Kim referred to her written report highlighting student accomplishments and upcoming activities.	
6.	College Career & Technical Education Director’s Report – Tia Cloutier April Report Tia referred to her written report noting student	

<p>7.</p>	<p>Superintendent’s Report – Debra Taylor</p> <p><u>April Superintendent’s Report</u> – Debra reviewed her report and noted that teacher contracts have been sent to all teachers electronically are expected to be returned before Spring Break.</p> <p><u>Teacher Resignations</u></p> <p>D.Greene/T.Young: Motion to approve Teacher Resignations including Jay Robertson, Michelle Desmond, Mariah Noyes, Samantha Thatcher.</p> <p><u>Regionalization, Collaboration and Building Project Report</u> – The report highlighted key aspects of regionalization, collaboration and building expansion spanning the last two decades in Colebrook School District, and the ENSU VT and SAU 7 North Country Region, 2000 through 2023.</p> <p>Timeline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2000-2001 – Colebrook Elementary School Built 2. 2012 – Governance Study Published 3. 2017-2021 – Interstate Study Committee Work 4. 2021-22023 – Colebrook Academy and North Point CTE Building Replacement Proposed <p>1. Colebrook Elementary School was built with 30% building aid at a cost of \$6.5 million to taxpayers through municipal bond. Plans for Phase 2 were outlined – aim to replace the Academy and Tech Building after the 15 year bond was paid off. However, no building aid was available at that time and the town asked the district to hold on the building project until the water/sewer project had been completed.</p> <p>2. Governance Study was published in 2012 and included these recommendations:</p> <p>Consolidating staff and services wherever feasible to increase learning opportunities for students. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sharing education staff and programming in areas like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Foreign language ○ Science ○ AP courses ○ Running start courses ○ Business education ○ Consumer science ○ Music 	<p>VOTE: Motion Carries</p>
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- Fine arts
- Physical education
- Sharing technology support staff
- Expanding Career and Technical Education for region
- Combining interscholastic athletic teams (ie: Pittsburg and Canaan)
- Sharing of staff in special education

3. Regionalization – Connecticut River Collaborative Interstate Committee

- State Boards Commissioned an Interstate Study Committee comprised of 5 NH and 5 VT voting representatives in 2018
- Identified twenty-six possible interstate models
- Studied facilities, instruction, staffing, governance, budget, and taxation
- Concluded:
 - New facility required for HS/ CTE
 - No agreement on HS school location – VT or NH
 - Taxation – Significant burden on Colebrook and Columbia Taxpayers

4. Building - Proposed Project Need, Scope, Total Cost and Taxpayer Impact Need:

- No high school or CTE facility
- Elementary school building inadequate PK-12
- Elementary Renovations Needed for Security and Repairs
- Improve, expand student opportunities in high school and CTE programs
- Respond to community population growth through the Balsams Development and American Performance Polymers Manufacturing.
- Serve Colebrook and surrounding region

Process:

- Board selects architect through bid process
- Board appoints building committee including board, staff, parents, and community members who analyze need and approve the design
- Building aid application is approved by the NH DOE
- Local Contractor offers to build at significant cost savings.
- Benefactor promises donation

Proposed Building Project Scope:

- 14,000 SqF high school and CTE addition plus necessary elementary repairs/renovations- \$11,597,332.
- 14,000 SqF gymnasium - \$3,244,800.

Funding: Board informed in December that Building Aid was

- Approved
- 60% building aid from state
- \$2.8 million donation
- \$1 million grant – Northern Borders Regional

	Commission ○ Total taxpayer impact ▪ \$2,136,852. bond over 15 years with likelihood of	
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	<p style="text-align: center;">additional grants ▪ 85% Off Total Cost</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Building Bond Vote Failed ○ Need Continues for More HS Classroom Space, CTE Classes and Labs, Gymnasium <p>Next Steps:</p> <p>Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reconvene Building Committee to Establish Direction and Plan for Renovation and Replacement Include Detractors and Other Districts AND ○ Seek Board Approval <p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Colebrook Building Aid/Bond Vote again in 3-2024 if state funds are available and continue to seek grants and donations. OR ○ Seek Grants and Donations for total project <p>Involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gather input form community and share results AND ○ Develop and implement multiple strategies for communication. <p>Advocate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sponsor public and private forums and events, AND ○ Engage school staff, students and parents as advocates <p>Implement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate and enact construction plan AND ○ Building school and community engagement and recruit families to the new HS/CTE facility. <p>Following the presentation, discussion ensued. Members of the public asked questions and commented.</p> <p>The Board will consider options, gather input and continue discussion at</p>	
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	future school board meetings.	
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8.	<p>Business Administrator’s Report – Bridget Cross T.Stevens/D.Greene: Motion to accept the \$1,674.00 donation from Don Noyes to pay for the Senior Field Trip Bus Transportation.</p> <p>D.Greene/T.Stevens: Motion to approve the \$20,000 Colebrook School District SAFE Grant</p> <p>D.Greene/T.Young: Motion to approve the quote on the Window film from Window Film Depot in the amount of \$19,230.</p> <p>D.Greene/T.Young: Motion to approve the North Point CTE Tuition Rate for 2023/2024 in the amount of \$8,396.</p> <p>Remaining Items in Storage Locker for Academy – Several items have been claimed and must be picked up by 4-14. A list with remaining items will be brought to the next board meeting.</p>	<p>VOTE: Motion Carries</p> <p>VOTE: Motion Carries</p> <p>VOTE: Motion Carries</p> <p>VOTE: Motion Carries</p>
9.	<p>NH School Board Association Business – Nathan Lebel Review legislative updates and remember to attend the NHSBA webinars for board members.</p>	
10.	<p>Co-Curricular Committee – Tanya Young Baseball and Softball seasons have begun. Scholar Athletes were recognized in Concord.</p>	
11.	<p>Building Facility Committee – Next meeting on 4/18 at 5:00 pm</p>	
12.	<p>Building Expansion Committee – No report</p>	
13.	<p>Policy Committee Report – Deb Greene Meeting on 4/6 at 5:00 pm</p>	
14.	<p>Negotiations Committee Report – None</p>	
15.	<p>Curriculum Committee Report – Meeting will be rescheduled.</p>	
16.	<p>Technology Committee Report None</p>	
17.	<p>Unfinished Business - None</p>	

18.	New Business – None	
19.	Information – None	
19.	Non-Public Session – RSA91-A :3(a) T.Stevens/D.Greene: Motion to enter non-public session at 8:30 pm. D.Greene/R.Murphy: Motion to return to public session at 9:00 pm.	VOTE: Motion Carries VOTE: Motion Carries

	R.Murphy/T.Young: Motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session. R.Murphy/D.Greene: Motion to offer Kim Wheelock a three-year administrative contract as Principal, 2023-2026.	VOTE: Motion Carries VOTE: Motion Carries
12.	Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAU School Board Meeting Thursday, April 13, 2023, Stewartstown Community School • Tuesday, April 18, 2023, Colebrook School Board Meeting – CAES Library 	
13.	Adjournment: T.Stevens/: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm.	VOTE: Motion Carries

Respectfully Submitted,
Debra J. Taylor
Superintendent

Minutes Adopted: April 18, 2023