

Alison Buschmann, Hollis Brookline Middle School (HBMS) will be taking maternity leave beginning February 7th.

PUBLIC INPUT

Sue Connelly, 59 Dupaw Gould Road, Brookline

Commented on there having been teachers out, due to quarantine, and class sizes monitored. She wished to publicly state her gratitude for all of the extra efforts put forth. As a taxpayer for over 30 years, a teacher for nearly 30 years (next year), and a mom of a graduate from Hollis-Brookline, she felt it important to come before the Board and publicly thank the teachers in our school district, and those who are substituting, for going above and beyond. The work is appreciated in the community.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS/ATHLETIC REPORT

Noted was that Principal Barnes' report was inadvertently omitted from the agenda packet (copy attached).

Rick Barnes, Principal, Hollis Brookline High School (HBHS), addressed the reports provided by him, Principal Girzone, and Brian Bumpus, District Athletic Coordinator.

Principal Girzone requested he pass along his comments regarding the Master Schedule for the HBMS; he felt satisfied they have met the goal of maintaining the cap of 25 students in all courses (at or below 20 in-person learners in all classes). The particularly small 7th grade class contributed to some of the smaller section sizes, particularly in math, which includes additional remedial and advance sections. The common planning time was maintained for all teachers and common skills time for students and core teachers was achieved as was the goal from the Instructional Leadership Committee.

Special congratulations to Mrs. Lynne Ouellette who has been named New Hampshire Art Educators' Association Art Educator of the Year for the 2020-2021 school year. She will represent the State at the National Art Education Association Conference in March of 2021.

The HBMS delivered a successful PSAT 8/9. Results are typically sent out in February. The SAS test will take place next week for both in-person and remote students.

Principal Barnes spoke of an email received by him, Superintendent Corey, and members of the School Board regarding student concerns specific to DEI initiatives. The email was reviewed thoroughly. There are issues identified that have been investigated resulting in a finding, some that resulted in no finding, and others that were not attributed to a specific school. The majority, as is often the case with issues such as that, were not reported. He spoke of being proud of the district's ability and record of investigating thoroughly and fairly all issues brought before the Administration. Those investigations often require cooperation, which can, at times, be tough to come by. It is important to remember things that have already been done as a community, e.g., Challenge Day (immersive social emotional learning experience), themed field days, speakers addressing mental health and substance abuse.

Some of the comments in the email warrant further investigation. The spirit of what was being shared by the students was more that there are things that need to be acknowledged and more that needs to be done. He applauded their efforts. A meeting is set up for next week to meet with the authors of the email with the goal of engaging in open communication. With a topic such as this you want to create a safe space and identify the trusted adults that they can go to, and create that trust. The DEI Committee (SAU level) will provide direction. There is another plug for Advisory at the HBHS; that will become a key vehicle to allow for conversations to be

had and issues addressed in a more personal way rather than an assembly format, which is impossible at this time, due to COVID.

Principal Barnes congratulated Mrs. Plummer who has been selected for the University of Chicago's Outstanding Educator Award. The distinguished award has existed for more than 3 decades. Students accepted into the University of Chicago Class of 2024 were asked to nominate an educator whose guidance has helped them along their path towards intellectual growth. Responses were received from thousands of students in recognition of educators who have positively impacted their lives.

Student Council is looking to do something to help create that sense of normalcy. It was suggested they consider some sort of Spirit Week; beginning next week there is an activity for students to show school spirit and have something fun and engaging to do outside of academics.

A copy of the School Profile was provided. College acceptances in the particular group were exceptional. The SAT was not taken last year. Students just took that exam. SAT numbers identified are for the class of 2020.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock thanked the staff for making this year happen. Addressing the email provided by students, she thanked them commenting it was a very brave thing for them to have done. She wants them to know the Board has read it, taken it seriously, and is appreciative that the Administration is working with them.

Addressing the Athletic Report provided with the agenda, Principal Barnes spoke of participation and compliance with the protocols and procedures.

The Girls Volleyball and Boys Soccer teams are currently undefeated. The Golf Team won the State Championship; first time in history of program. The HBMS teams have been doing intramurals. The 142 athletes across 5 separate teams represent roughly 1/3 of the middle school participating in an intramural program.

The Girls Volleyball Team was able to continue their "Dig Pink" game and raise funds virtually for breast cancer research.

The NHIAA proposes pushing the start of the winter season back to January 17th. There remains discussion of which sports will and will not run. The District will look to provide a more indoor-focused set of guidelines to accommodate winter sports.

- Class Sizes

Principal Barnes spoke of the ability for lower class sizes, which was helped by the small freshman class (currently at 817 (approx. 40 lower than last year)). The desired teacher workload is in the 90s or 100s. There have been many years where the district has been in the 115-120 for individual teacher workload. With the smaller Freshman class, many are now in the low 90s – 100s. The schedule allows for the continuation of a comprehensive list of offerings.

One of the sections with lower numbers is Social Studies. There may be some improvements that could be looked at for next year's program of studies around Latin. There are lower numbers in English, which is positive particularly given the district has worked towards writing numbers. SAT scores in writing and reading continue to climb.

With a smaller 7th grade coming in, there will be a dip in enrollment for the high school. In the past, with some of the lower sections; particularly visual and performing arts, there were blocks to accessing them. Those blocks have been removed, e.g., fundamentals of art. Some of the theatre courses have been turned into semester courses to provide additional opportunities for access. It will take a few years before seen, but it is believed as students realize the availability for those classes, enrollment will increase.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock clarified the number of students per class identified on the spreadsheet is the total number of students enrolled. The remote number simply calls out the number who are participating remotely.

Vice Chairman Solon noted there to be over 50 classes having enrollment of 10 or less, which is a higher percentage than he is used to seeing. Principal Barnes responded, in addition to less students overall, there are classes that are combined, e.g., Drawing I/Drawing II. In addition, there is an increased number of foundation offerings (not necessarily special education) that have lower enrollment.

Asked if some of the smaller sections are schedule driven, Principal Barnes stated there to be an element of being able to offer certain classes. At times they had to split classes to allow access. That can happen in some of the history and foreign language classes. He agreed the numbers are lower than in prior years. Asked if he believes they will be able to move away from that, e.g., alternate year offerings, etc., Principal Barnes stated the conversation where that will be relevant will be around French. They have looked into the possibility of sharing a French position with the middle school. When looking at Latin, he would like to see that open up to begin Freshman year. They will probably then take away from some of the other language courses.

Vice Chairman Solon stated his belief this will draw a lot of attention come budget and contract time. We have been experiencing declining enrollment. We see that it looks like it will be picking up, but the trend has been down, and the number of small classes is going up. That has been a vocal concern for a portion of the community. He is hopeful something can be done to mitigate that.

Principal Barnes noted within that too is the smaller 7th grade class. It is something that can be expected to be seen for the next 4 years. He would not recommend reducing Full Time Employees as you would end up having to hire them back.

Asked if the reduction in enrollment numbers is the result of the size of the Freshman class or if there is also an element of a move to home and private schooling because of COVID, Principal Barnes stated his belief it is mostly the result of the size of the Freshman class.

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug commented the current 9th grade class was rounding about 30 fewer students than any other class, and then there are certainly more home school students (10-12) this year. There continue to be families registering daily across the SAU. Seventh grade is a little smaller currently and 8th grade a little larger. The 7th grade class is not as small as the 9th grade class. She agreed it is hard to make a decision now that will have a long-term impact when you know what is coming in a few years.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock commented on how far ahead the budget is prepared, which is the reasoning for seeing the class size report in both May and October.

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug noted, as part of the budget, a 0.2 French teacher position was added. Currently we are able to offer 6 sections of French at the middle school, which we have never been able to do. That essentially gets rid of the every other year dip for the AP French, but it takes 4 years to get there because it is the 7th and 8th grade students.

Member VanCoughnett noted a lot of the lower enrollment classes are semester 2 classes, which are not actuals at this time. Some of the lower numbers may change. Principal Barnes commented on an impact of doing the schedule remotely; there has always been an opportunity for students to come down and for adjustments to be made before getting into the year, e.g., if noticing a smaller class, you could speak directly to the students to determine their level of interest before deciding if a class did not need to be run, etc. This year was difficult not having the desired access to students and families. It had an impact, but is not the impact.

Vice Chairman Solon stated his assumption any class, regardless of the distribution of in-person and remote, is a single teacher. Principal Barnes stated that to be correct. Asked if anything is being seen that would suggest the need for a policy adjustment regarding class size to maintain effectiveness in a split situation, Principal Barnes stated he has not seen that play out in this schedule. It is teacher specific. It is very difficult, particularly at the start, for teachers to teach on Zoom and have live students in front of them. They have adapted very well. He does not believe there to be a need to make changes to existing policy, based on the current year.

BUDGET COMMITTEE UPDATE

Member VanCoughnett stated the Budget Committee continues to discuss guidance. The committee has requested the contract be completed by January 28th in order to be considered.

Superintendent Corey noted the Administration has completed its first round of budget discussions, which depicted an approx. 4.85% increase. A budget meeting was conducted last week during which further discussion brought the percentage of increase to slightly over 3%. That is the first version that will go before the Budget Committee. The committee will be asked to discuss utilization of the Maintenance Trust versus a bond as well as the potential change to the Athletic Trust (becoming a revolving account). There will be further discussion around upcoming contracts. It is hoped the committee will move towards some form of guidance. The Business Administration will discuss the increases in contributions to the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) and the Guaranteed Maximum Rate (GMR) of increase for health insurance, and the potential to exclude those items from guidance.

Vice Chairman Solon questioned if the decision of the committee relative to the contract was that they would not consider voting on it if received after January 28th or that they would vote against it if received after that date. Member VanCoughnett stated her belief the committee would not take a vote if received after that date.

Vice Chairman Solon stated concern with too much discussion around the contract in budget committee meetings given it is a public discussion. From past guidance received from legal, there is no real grounds for the budget committee to enter non-public session. He requested there be every effort taken to minimize the depth of discussion that occurs around contract negotiations. Superintendent Corey indicated he would forward the concern to the Chair of the committee.

Student Council Report

Noted was that the Student Council has just started its work. Membership has split into sub-committees to discuss what policies will be worked on. What has been discussed to date are procedures around snow days, bell schedule; enjoying current schedule and would like to incorporate moving beyond COVID, remote Fridays, and increased social distancing in the lunch room.

With regard to Halloween, the juniors have stated they would do a week of dress up days to celebrate.

Vice Chairman Solon spoke of the policy around class rank, which is before the Board for discussion. He questioned the desire of the Board relative to receiving input from the class that will be directly affected by a change in policy. He questioned if there would be support from the Administration should the students want to implement it with their graduating year. Principal Barnes responded if the junior class wanted to do that, the Administration would be completely open to that. He does not believe that will be the case.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock stated the desire for the Student Council Representatives to bring back to the Council notice that the policy is in its 1st reading, and the current policy recommendation from the committee is to no longer announce the top 10, beginning with the current sophomores. If there are students that would like to provide comment they can do so during public input at upcoming meetings. They can also reach out to the Principal and make him aware. Vice Chairman Solon commented on very strong sentiment expressed through student input during committee meetings.

DISCUSSION

- FY 2020 Revenue and Expense Report

Superintendent Corey noted the year-end summary provided with the agenda. The budget and year-to-date expenses resulted in a remaining balance of \$1,678,922. That was based on decisions made during COVID to limit transportation and a host of other items. Carryover expense (monies encumbered for outstanding purchase orders) was less than anticipated resulting in an additional \$11,083 for a total of \$1,690,005. The revenue side of the ledger was \$16,083 above projections. The total Unreserved Fund Balance was \$1,706,088 (projected was \$734,000). The balance remaining after voter approved allocations made to the Athletic Trust Fund (\$67,000), Maintenance Trust Fund (\$200,000), Special Education Trust (\$25,000), Contingency Fund (\$100,000) and Retained Fund Balance (\$189,000) is \$1,125,088 to be returned to the tax base to offset the amount that has to be raised through taxes.

Approximately \$250,000 will be returned to the tax base in the Hollis School District and \$450,000 in the Brookline School District.

One of the areas that went over budget was site improvements at the high school. The largest expense was related to the day tanks (water tanks).

Assistant Superintendent Thompson and Amy Rowe, Student Services, have done a terrific job completing the required meetings for special education. It is due to their efforts during the pandemic to provide for the needed services, that it appears there will not be much in the way of required compensatory services required.

The SAS tests are beginning at the middle school. PSATs were just taken at the high school. State tests are occurring at the elementary level. Those tests will provide concrete data points to review actual progress for students while they were out during the pandemic.

Vice Chairman Solon questioned if the areas of exceptional savings would be described as windfall or systemic in that they put us on a different track for this year's budgeting. Superintendent Corey stated he would call them windfall because a great deal was related to unfilled positions or individuals who decided they did not want to work during the pandemic. When we look at regular education, a savings of \$260,000 is interim savings due to people being out and not filling positions during the pandemic. The same is the case with some of the special education costs as fewer out-of-district services were required (addressed in-house) and the cost of transportation for those students was not expended.

When looking at the numbers for class sizes, it may be that the decision is made not to fill a position if left vacant due to a retirement, etc. Those funds would eventually go back to the taxpayers, but the position would remain within the budget. Trying to plan for what enrollment will look like next spring and budget for that will be very difficult.

Asked, he explained further, there are students who are out-of-district placements, and travel a distance, e.g., MA. Most of those districts closed during the pandemic. Those students came home to their families and needed services. Van transportation was coordinated, using district vans, and the required services were delivered at the high school. Those services were not identical to what the students would have received in their residential/daily placement, but they allowed the district to maintain a continuity of education for the student.

Vice Chairman Solon remarked for the current year and projecting out, where we have students in the school buildings for regular education, that option no longer exists nor is the need there. The out-of-district services are once again available to those students, and they are once again being transported.

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug commented in September of 2019 a few out-of-district placement students moved out of the community. That scenario cannot be planned for.

- FY 22 Budget Discussion
 - Maintenance Trust

Discussed under the heading of Budget Committee update.

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Update

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Advisory Committee (Committee) conducted its first meeting nearly two weeks ago. It went very well and included introductions, organization, and discussed the framework. The Committee meets again tomorrow night, and will work on the vision and goals and objectives. The goal for November is to begin providing regular presentations at the board level. Committee members will be asked to provide their input.

Superintendent Corey spoke of the timely input received from students. Students were asked to provide input on where they would like to see the work of the Committee go. There will be components where teacher and community input are sought.

There are a number of things that Administrators and teachers have begun to put forward on their own knowing where the community wants to head. The PTA at the HBMS is sponsoring a monthly poster that focuses on different topics around DEI. Both Superintendent Corey and Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug are immersing themselves in readings by different authors. The District is relying heavily on the Collaborative for Academic Social Emotional Learning (CASEL) and Choose Love programs, which are already incorporated into the curriculum.

The Committee will review the resolution that was brought forth by the community. The intent is to bring a resolution back to the school boards for approval.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock asked for clarification of whether there would be public forums conducted to solicit public feedback. Superintendent Corey stated the intent to be to conduct public forums whether they are able to be in person or via Zoom. Feedback through public input at meetings has already begun to occur.

Asked if curriculum and support materials are part of the discussion, Superintendent Corey stated the procedure will be to first work with the Administration and teachers to identify what is currently in place, e.g., lessons, novels. In terms of the curriculum, instruction, and assessment component, the information will be turned over to Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug and that is where the work will begin of involving more faculty members in the discussion. At times there will be several groups working simultaneously. The Advisory Committee will compile the information and bring it back to the boards. Superintendent Corey stated his desire to ultimately bring back a series of informational type of documents and a packet that brings it all together. That packet would be the strategic direction for the next several years.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock commented involving faculty is clearly a goal as is involving students as much as possible in public forums.

- HB Elevates Update

Superintendent Corey stated the HB Elevates organization met last month. They continue to do remarkable work. There are a number of things in the pipeline. One of the issues asked about immediately was if there was something, from a technology point of view, they could assist with in regard to the pandemic. He reached out to the Principals for a list of items. That list was included with the agenda packet. Examples of the items include Science lab tables, wide angle webcams, acoustic wall panels, and wireless overhead projector at the high school and iPad for SmartBoard (wireless), iPencil for iPad, wide angle webcams, and Chromebook chargers at the middle school. Cost of items identified was \$13,700.

The information was provided to HB Elevates. That group responded with a pledge of \$5,000 to cover the cost of the items, excluding the Science tables, which were viewed as a budgetary item. Should the tables not make it through the budget process, an additional request could be put forth for consideration.

Vice Chairman Solon commented one of the reasons he wished to see this particular list come before the Board was to ensure that these al-a-carte items fit with the larger strategy. In the past, chunks of technology have been brought in only to find it did not support the software being used or the curriculum. Before accepting such a donation and purchasing the identified equipment, he wished to be certain they fit in with the practices being employed and planned. He wished to understand if this provides HB Elevates a magnitude of how much we would like to have in a kitty to support STEM related items as the funds earmarked for this expense were specifically donated to support STEM. He also wished to make the public aware that HB Elevates asked a larger question; what type of goals and target they should use for long-term fundraising campaign to support facility, STEM, and things of that nature. Towards that end, he, Superintendent Corey, and the building administrators will begin to look at that. Now that we have this athletic field well underway and much of the

heavy lifting has been done, there may still be donations for things such as offsetting the cost of the bond, etc. There has been a community and school focus on overall space needs and particularly supporting some of our newer technology needs.

Superintendent Corey noted every technology purchase goes through the Technology Committee. All purchases are considered with regard to bandwidth, agreement language, budgeting, curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Nothing is included within the proposed budget that does not align with the technology plan. What is being looked for from the Board are discussions around how we enhance more offerings for high-end classrooms either in the existing physical structure or an increased physical structure.

He commented the district has done a good job during remote learning, but has also received donations of 70” monitors so that the math class projects better, for example. The Science Department was able to purchase devices; all of a sudden everyone’s whiteboard was in their hand, but it went directly to the computer, which is directly to Zoom. It just changed the dynamics. From the point of view of HB Elevates, they believe these are the type of things that parents would wholeheartedly support.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock remarked HB elevates should be used to enhance the schools; that is the fundraising mechanism. The needs of the school remain the responsibility of the Board and taxpayers.

- State Infrastructure Grant Update

Infrastructure projects are being completed, e.g., cameras and other security projects. Monies were received from the State (80/20 cost share). Those projects need to be completed by the 30th of December. Because of the work of the Business Administrator, the SAU was recently notified it will be receiving an additional \$32,000 for the HBMS security projects. The receipt of those funds was the result of being ready to move forward with a project when another district was unable to complete a planned project and returned monies to the fund.

The district has significantly upgraded its cameras, which provides greater protection. They are much more difficult to access than those in place prior to the upgrade. A camera will be added either this or next year that will provide the ability to view the entire back turf and softball fields. It may allow for the technology to do some streaming of games as well.

DELIBERATIONS

- To see what action the Board will take regarding the committee appointments proposed by the COOP Board Chair.

Budget Committee

SAU41 Governing Board Budget Cmte.

COOP Policy Committee

SAU41 Governing Board Policy Cmte.

Negotiations – HEA

Negotiations – HESSA

Facilities Committee

Signing of Manifests

Instructional Best Practices Steering Cmte.

HB Elevates

Cindy VanCoughnett

Beth Janine Williams

Holly Deurloo Babcock, Krista Whalen, Beth Janine Williams

Cindy VanCoughnett

Tom Solon, Elizabeth Brown, Cindy VanCoughnett

Holly Deurloo Babcock, Krista Whalen, Kate Stoll

Holly Deurloo Babcock, Cindy VanCoughnett

Beth Williams, Kate Stoll, Cindy VanCoughnett, Alternate

Holly Deurloo Babcock, Krista Whalen, Tom Solon

Tom Solon

MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENTS, AS PRESENTED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy **IHAMA** - Teaching About Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

- 1st Reading; 2-12-20

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING OF POLICY IHAMA - TEACHING ABOUT ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND TOBACCO, AS PRESENTED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Deurloo Babcock noted the Policy Committee added the legal references to the draft policy.

The “Legal Reference Disclaimer” should be removed.

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy **IKC** – Class Rank

Given its first Reading;

MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF POLICY IKC – CLASS RANK, AS PRESENTED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Deurloo Babcock spoke of the presentation provided at the Board’s last meeting. The policy has been amended so that it reads “Beginning with the Class of 2023, class rank will not be reported. The exception will be for class rank to be reported for the sole purpose for the Service Academies' application process upon receipt of waiver and non-disclosure agreement from the student, parent or guardian to release his/her class rank.”.

An email was received regarding the service academies’ application process. The Policy Committee felt that, at the first reading, the policy should be presented with that exception still in place. Input from the Board is sought.

Vice Chairman Solon stated he would like to explore the possibility of whether the class of 2022 would like to have the policy changed to affect them. He is of the belief the impetus around beginning with the class of 2023 is to protect the interest of that class, and if their preference is to implement the change for their graduating class, he believes that input should be considered by the Board. During discussions that occurred it was the benefit of the few versus the many that influenced a lot of that.

He questioned if the requirement for the service academies remains valid. It has been a number of years since that has had to be addressed formally, and there has been a wave of changes regarding class rank on a national level. He would like to test whether that is necessary and required to be included in the policy.

Member Williams noted the starting point (class of 2023) has been the line the committee was uncertain where to place. Feedback should be solicited from all current students.

Vice Chairman Solon noted what came up in the meetings was the feeling it was 2 years. The whole process got pushed a year because of our inability to address it the last school year. Had it been implemented per the committee work; it would have been posed for 2022. That is the reason he is bringing it up. It is not a general thing of let's find out what the students want; we went through a very extensive process, and that process produced the result that the recommendation was to start it with the class of 2022. There were a number of students and families involved. He wants to see whether changing that is warranted. He does not consider 2022 a change from the committee output. He considers this a change from the output, which is why he is questioning it.

Member Williams stated her concern to be with the level of awareness. Chairman Deurloo Babcock remarked the committee decided that because the class of 2022 were sophomores. When talking about it, they were talking about making the change and not impacting the seniors and juniors. In essence, what is coming out of this is what the committee was recommending. It is just that we could not process this during March, April, May, June of last year. The recommendation of the committee was based on where students are in the high school.

Vice Chairman Solon stated his point of view to be that that did not happen in private. Although it has taken time to get through the process, based on what was presented at meetings, the feedback received, the discussion that took place, etc., he does not think this will come at people out of the blue.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock stated appreciation for hearing the sentiment that this should not be seen as a negative. It should be seen as a positive as it is a good thing for our students, our school, and the culture in our school. It is possible there is a significant number of students in the class of 2022 who feel like this is a good thing, and why are they not experiencing the change.

Principal Barnes stated one school he was able to confirm with was Bedford. Bedford is not supplying rank and we know students are getting into service academies from Bedford. He was not yet able to confirm with Souhegan. They are getting students into service academies, and they widely advertise they do not rank.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock spoke of an email received from a representative of one of the service academies who works with our students. He felt very strongly that having rank there really helps our students get accepted to the service academies. For her personally, she would vote on the policy with or without the exception. If not required for service academies and provided, there may be requests made for other situations. She would like additional information from the service academies.

Vice Chairman Solon stated that to be his concern; creating exceptions opens the door for appearing to be a discriminatory policy. When this was put in, the district had received a copy of a letter from the service academies that clearly stated that to be considered you have to have a published class rank in the top 15% of your school. It is unknown if that remains the case.

Member VanCoughnett stated she would have a hard time supporting the policy revision with the exception included. She feels you either rank or you don't. Member Williams stated agreement.

Member Stoll suggested asking if a few different academies what their percentages are in terms of acceptance of students who were ranked and not ranked.

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy **GADA** - Employment References and Verification;
Second Reading
- 1st Reading; 2-12-20

Given its Second Reading;

MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO AMEND POLICY GADA - EMPLOYMENT REFERENCES AND VERIFICATION, IN ITS ENTIRETY, BY REPLACING IT WITH THE COPY PROVIDED WITH THE AGENDA, AND ACCEPT THE SECOND READING, AS AMENDED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS

ON THE QUESTION

Member Williams commented on the discussion and the recommended changes that resulted from the Board's February 12, 2020 meeting.

The suggestion was made to further amend by removing the line that reads "At least one of the following conditions applies:" and by adding "or" following the language in "a" and "b".

Vice Chairman Solon questioned if the language proposed to be stricken was originally included because of prior law that has changed, and was informed the language was included within the sample policy provided by the New Hampshire School Board Association. It was stricken because it basically creates the idea that the prohibition doesn't apply if it has been reported, but there is no outcome (a reference could be sent). The Board did not feel that should be the case; should be that the matter has been closed, there has been some sort of investigation, etc.

Asked if the other districts have approved the policy absent that language, Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug stated the Hollis School Board approved the policy with the language stricken. Legal counsel has reviewed it, and did not see the point of the language; knew the intent, but didn't feel that added strength to the policy, and felt comfortable removing it.

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy **DAF** – Administration of Federal Grant Funds
- 1st Reading; 2-12-20

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING OF POLICY DAF –
ADMINISTRATION OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS, AS PRESENTED
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS**

ON THE QUESTION

Noted was that reference to “his/her” has been changed to “their”.

Vice Chairman Solon questioned if the legal references are current. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug stated the version of the policy to be the most recent, and required to accept federal funds.

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy **EFD** – Wellness

Given its first reading;

**MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF POLICY EFD -
WELLNESS, AS PRESENTED
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS**

ON THE QUESTION

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug commented a few years prior the Board considered a wellness policy presented by the Wellness Committee. It was adopted in Hollis and in Brookline, but was not brought before the COOP School Board for a variety of reasons. We continue to be audited by the DOE. There is the need for a change to the elementary policies to include a metric and smart goals, and need to have a policy in the COOP School District or all of the school lunch programs (SAU-wide) would be in jeopardy. By not having it in the COOP School District we are negatively impacting the other two districts.

One concern had been the potential need to remove ourselves from the school lunch program. Since that time, a new Food Service Director was hired, the program is revenue generating, etc.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock remarked in order to be part of the Federal school lunch program, we need to comply with their policy guidelines. This policy achieves that.

Asked if this policy, in its current form (amended), has been passed by the other districts, Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug stated it has not. The policies of all of the districts within the SAU do not have to have the exact same language to comply.

Vice Chairman Solon stated concern with some of the language. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug commented it does not read like a traditional policy. We’re being asked by the DOE specifically to have it in this format. There are certainly some aspects that just seem strange for inclusion in a policy.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock requested Board members forward any particular questions/concerns to the Policy Committee for discussion.

Vice Chairman Solon requested he be provided with a copy of the USDA Smart Snacks regulation.

The Wellness Committee created this document, which is vastly different from the original.

Vice Chairman Solon noted Section 1, under Nutrition Promotion, and requested information be provided with regard to whether or not the district, by its own choice, already fulfills the requirements or if a change would be required. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug stated all requirements are currently being met.

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

HB HIGHLIGHTS

Superintendent Corey noted the poles and wires are up at the turf field, and Eversource is scheduled to be onsite Friday afternoon to bring power to the field. Following that, the construction company can return and bring it to the lights.

Vice Chairman Solon commented the children of a co-worker of his attend Souhegan. They were in town playing on the turf field for an event, and described it as a phenomenal experience.

Member Williams commented on having had the opportunity to attend games and what a great experience it has been. She spoke of the positive experience she has had serving as a substitute on both campuses, and encouraged other residents to participate in this way.

Vice Chairman Solon commented on Mrs. Ouellette having been named New Hampshire Art Educators' Association Art Educator of the Year for the 2020-2021 school year, and of being pleased to see her efforts receiving formal recognition.

REPORT OUT BY PROCESS OBSERVER

Member Williams stated the Board moved through the beginning of the agenda quickly. The one area that took more time than was scheduled was during deliberations of policies. Overall the meeting is ending ahead of schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO ADJOURN

SECONDED BY MEMBER VANCOUGHNETT

MOTION CARRIED

6-0-0

The October 21, 2020 meeting of the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Date _____

Signed _____

To: Andrew Corey, Superintendent
From: Rick Barnes, Principal
RE: October Board Report

Return to School: While we are currently working our way through our first positive case of COVID-19, we remain pleased overall with how our return to school has gone. We continue to build upon our strengths while improving upon identified areas for growth.

The credit for our success goes to our hard working and flexible students and staff. Both demonstrated their ability to pivot on Tuesday morning with the rain. With no notice, students were able to transition from their outdoor waiting areas to a socially distanced gym. This was a good thing to practice because as the weather continues to shift, there will be times like Tuesday when there is no benefit to being outside.

Congratulations to Mrs. Plummer!! We are proud to announce that Stacey Plummer has been selected for the University of Chicago's Outstanding Educator Award. This distinguished award has existed for more than three decades. Students accepted into the University of Chicago Class of 2024 were asked to nominate an educator whose guidance has helped them along the path toward intellectual growth. Responses were received from thousands of students in recognition of educators who have positively impacted their lives.

Master Schedule Review: (Attached)

School Profile (Hard Copy to be provided)

Red Ribbon Week: As you know, this themed week is promoted on a national level in support of healthy, drug free kids. Due to the impact of COVID the School Counseling Department is in creative collaboration with Officer Bergeron to mark the occasion during lunches on a day to be determined during the week of 10/23.

Halloween Spirit Week: Student Council has been hard at work as they seek ways to promote school unity and spirit. As a replacement for not being able to run Trebuchet Day and the Halloween Pep Rally, Student Council will be promoting a spirit week of sorts with activities throughout the week.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Barnes
Principal