

INTER-LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT
Inter-Lakes School Board Special Meeting Minutes
Inter-Lakes Middle/High School – Community Auditorium
Livestream Access
August 24, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Merrill called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

Ms. Lisa Merrill, Vice-Chair
Mr. Mark Billings
Mr. Howard Cunningham
Mr. Charles Hanson
Mr. Duncan Porter-Zuckerman
Ms. Nancy Starmer
Mr. Craig Baker (arr. 6:12 pm)

Members Absent:

N/A

Administrators Present:

Ms. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent
Ms. Trish Temperino, Asst. Superintendent
Mr. Michael Bryant, ILES Principal
Dr. Amanda Downing, ILM/HS Principal
Mr. Jeremy Hillger, SCS Principal
Mr. Mark Parsons, Technology Director
Mr. Brian Swanker, Facilities Director
Ms. Holly Vieten, Guidance Director

Others Present:

Mr. Chris Mega, Video Recorder
Mr. Jason Cornelissen, Auditorium Manager
Public & Guests

IV. SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR APPOINTMENT

Ms. Merrill called for nominations to fill the School Board Chair seat.

Mr. Cunningham moved, seconded by Mr. C. Hanson, that the Inter-Lakes School Board appoint Ms. Lisa Merrill as Chair and Mr. Mark Billings as Vice-Chair; and that each of these individuals serve in their respective position until the next regularly scheduled reorganization of the Board. The motion carried unanimously.

Prior to opening Public Input, Ms. Merrill reminding anyone wishing to address the Board should state their name and town of residence; comments should be 2 to 3 minutes per person, respectful and civil

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Mark Anderson, Meredith. Mr. Anderson addressed the Board with concerns of mandating the wearing of masks in school. He discussed health issues and the negative impact of mask wearing for students.

Christine Stovey, Sandwich. Speaking for the children – Ms. Stovey requests that the School Board reconsider the mask mandate; the need to build children's immune systems and stop living in fear and survival mode as we have been for 18 months.

Lindsey Weiner, Meredith. Expressed gratitude for all Districts continuing to work to keep everyone safe. Ms. Weiner supports the School Opening Plan, and is hopeful the Board will approve the plan tonight. Ms. Weiner noted that a virtual option is available if families are against masking.

Tara Staples, Meredith. Ms. Staples addressed the Board with concern of mandating masks in school as outlined in the School Opening Plan; children should not have to live in fear. Why can't medical choices be in the hands of parents for their kids. Please do not approve the mask mandate.

Stacy Bivolac, Meredith. Ms. Bivolac shared the struggles her student had with virtual learning last year; kids need people, a strong community of teachers, adults, friends. The School Opening Plan as written should not be approved.

Christy T, Meredith. Masks are keeping the sneezing and coughs from spreading germs in the air. Fully supports masking in schools this year, children are resilient and will get over living through the pandemic wearing a mask.

Natalie Taylor, business owner in Meredith. Voiced support of a mask requirement at Inter-Lakes. This is a matter not of personal choice but one of public health. We need to protect young children as well as vulnerable teachers and school employees.

Nicholas Obey, Sandwich. Mr. Obey expressed concerns with the opening plan requiring masks. If a child is not well, please stay home; if a parent feels mask helps your child, wear the mask. Reconsider the plan for reopening school – let parents make the choice to mask or not; we need to work together to promote overall good health.

Email read from Ashley Dunn, Meredith. Ms. Dunn expressed full support of the School Opening Plan. If families genuinely feel their child is going to be harmed by wearing a mask, there is a choice to homeschool, virtual school or go to a private school. People opposing the mask requirement need to look at and care about the community at large.

Whitney Stimpson, Center Harbor. Ms. Stimpson stated that the new opening plan takes away added mitigation if cases rose that was in the previous plan. Kids have been taking part in life all summer without masks, both indoors and outdoors. She expressed opposition to the School Opening Plan as proposed.

Email read from Kimberly Hyde, Center Harbor. Ms. Hyde supports personal choice. All summer kids have attended camps, visited friends, lived without masks. If a family chooses to wear a mask then they can do so; let parents choose what is best for their children.

Casey Sansiako, Meredith. Ms. Sansiako shared the difficulties experienced by her children last year with masks. Masks should be an option, it should be a parent's choice. Wearing masks at school should not be forced.

Sarah Anctil, Meredith. Ms. Anctil asked the Board to reconsider the masks mandate; she reviewed the sharing of masks as student are doing is very unsanitary. The School Board should be more concerned with vaping; the addiction to nicotine should be focused on more than covid.

Email read from Catherine Fuster, Center Harbor. Gives support of School Opening Plan and mask mandate. A lot of emphasis has been on the rights of individuals but not for the community. We have a responsibility as a community to protect; we need to instill a greater sense of community with our children.

Ginny Hurd, Sandwich. Ms. Hurd thanked the School Board and administration for how they have navigated through the past 18 months. Vaccines do not prevent the virus, masks help when there is sneezing and coughing. Please consider the immunocompromised when deciding to not require masks.

Email read from Alyssa and Benjamin Yolda, Meredith. Expressed support of School Opening Plan updates in regards to mitigation response levels. While this plan is not perfect, we appreciate the direction it has moved in and hope you will vote to approve the plan as set forth.

Aaron Turgeon, Center Harbor. Mr. Turgeon expressed his concerns with the long-term affects of wearing masks; statistics are constantly changing. Children should not be forced to breath their own breath, it is not health. Everyone should have a choice whether their child wears a mask at school or not.

Nicole Beauboeuf, Sandwich. Ms Beauboeuf stated that she is a Nurse and has worked in ER since pandemic; not one child has been seen since the pandemic. Masks that we are wearing do not work; N95 masks that is fitted is the only mask that works. Reconsider the masks mandate.

Email from Lorie Oblique, Meredith. The focus as we return back to school is to keep everyone safe. The best learning for children is in-person and uninterrupted; please require masks when we return to school in the fall.

Email from Brian, Inter-Lakes Alum and Parent. Expressed deep concerns with School Opening Plan as proposed; changes do not reflect parent's choice. Many options were shared on how to improve the plan to benefit everyone. Let parents make decisions for their own kids; kids are least at risk for getting covid.

Kitty Green, Sandwich. Ms. Green expressed support of the School Opening Plan as put forward. From a teacher's perspective the strategies in place helps keep us in school.

Emails read:

- Kelly Chapman, Main Street Business Owner. Supports wearing masks, it is a simple measure that when used consistently, have shown to be a useful tool for curbing the community transmission of Covid-19.
- Jude Davis, Sandwich. Please take caution, let students be required to wear mask and social distance as long as there is a danger of covid. Thank you for advocating for our children.
- Barbara Bohl, Meredith. Expressed her opinion that masks don't work and it hinders her son's learning. Children need to interact and learn at school. Masks should be optional.
- Laura Arbogast, Sandwich. 100% against masking our children. Let kids' breath naturally, grow and learn. Allow parents to decide for their own children; make masks optional
- Kimberly Ide, Meredith. Supports personal choice. Kids have been attending camps, playing sports, sleepover, etc. without masks all summer. There is no research done on long-term mask wearing for kids; let parents choose whether their kids should wear masks or not.

Claire Jutras, Meredith. Hopes the Board will make it optional for masking; children are respectful and will wear masks when there is a need to.

Roland Jutras, Meredith. Masks have a threatening health issue if children have to breath their own carbon monoxide.

Bill Moriarty, Sandwich. The plan needs to take politics out, if you want to send your kid to school with a mask then do that. Parents should be able to make choices for their children.

With no further comments Public Input was closed at 7:12 p.m.

VI. MINUTES

A. Regular Board Meeting – August 10, 2021

Mr. C. Hanson moved, seconded by Mr. Baker, to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as written. The motion passed 5-0-2; Mr. Cunningham and Ms. Starmer abstained.

VII. CURRENT BILLS PAYABLE

A. General Operating Expenses

Mr. Billings moved, seconded by Mr. Porter-Zuckerman, to approve the payment of bills, manifest #3003 #3004. The motion passed 7-0.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT/ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

A. Hiring Update and School Opening Update

Superintendent Moriarty reported that we are still currently we are seeking an Industrial Arts Teacher. A request will be brought forward to change the IA Teacher position to an Art Teacher for the first semester in order to offer an additional elective. Advertising for the IA Teacher will continue; we are hopeful to fill the position for the second semester.

Discussion ensued regarding qualification requirements and certification for the Industrial Arts Teacher position. People who may be interested in working for the District should contact Ashley Dolloff, HR Director at 279-7947.

The consensus of the Board was to move the IA Teacher to an Art Teacher position for the first semester to allow students to have options for more hands-on courses.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Moriarty stated that emails received via open.conversations@interlakes.org were all forwarded to the School Board.

X. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recommended updates to the Mitigation Efforts for the 2021-2022 School Year; and 2021-2022 Inter-Lakes School District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service.

Mrs. Moriarty provided a detailed review of proposed changes to the Opening Plan, providing clarification and bringing awareness of protocols put in place.

Mr. Billings commented tat the adjustment to the matrix (pg. 7) provides consistency. Looking at total cases of towns within the school district should be modified to a higher range when moving from one level to the next.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding updates and adjustments to the plan to provide the safest options for the Inter-Lakes community.

Mr. Billings moved, seconded by Mr. Porter-Zuckerman, to approve the recommended updates to the Mitigation Efforts for the 2021-2022 School Year; and 2021-2022 Inter-Lakes School District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Serve; re-evaluating matrix Yellow and mask wearing outside as optional. The motion passed 7-0.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Additional American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ARP ESSER III) Funds Proposal

Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the proposed additional activities for use of ARP ESSER III funds. (Agenda Attachment 4).

Mr. C Hanson moved, seconded by Mr. Baker, to approve the proposed ARP ESSER III Grant activities as presented. The motion passed 7-0

B. Non-Resident Student Tuition Waiver

Mr. Billings moved, seconded by Mr. C. Hanson, to approve the non-resident enrollment request at Inter-Lakes Middle/High School for the 2021-2022 school year, as presented. The motion passed 7-0.

XII. POLICY

A. Minutes from the August 10, 2021 Meeting - No action required.

B. Second Reading and Adoption

1. Policy #3323.1 - Bidding Procedures and Policy #8346 - School Board Member Authority

Mr. Billings moved, seconded by Mr. Ch. Hanson, to approve second reading and adoption of Policy #3323.1 Bidding Procedures and Policy #8346 School Board Member Authority, as amended. The motion passed 7-0.

C. First Reading

Mr. Porter-Zuckerman moved, seconded by Mr. Billings, to approve first reading of the following policies, as amended:

- Policy #1335 (also #4335, #5335) – Use and Possession of Tobacco Products Banned in/on School Facilities and Grounds
- Policy #3260 – Disposition of Books, Supplies and Equipment
- Policy #3326 – Payments, Checks and Manifest
- Policy #3327 – Authorized Signatures
- Policy #3340 – Payroll Procedures
- Policy #3434 - Audits
- Policy #3546 – Data/Records Retention
- Policy #3725 – Emergency Care and First Aid
- Policy #4153 – Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace
- Policy #4158 – Data Governance and Security Policy
- Policy #5131 – Student Conduct
- Policy #5131.6, Student Drug and Alcohol Policy
- Policy #5149 – Student Discipline and Due Process
- Policy #5149.3 – Behavior Management and Intervention
- Policy #8130.1 – Policy Development and Review
- Policy #8344 – Public Participation at School Board Meetings
- Policy #9250 – Request for Legal Opinion

- Policy #9410 School Board Use of Email and Other Electronic Communication

The motion passed 7-0.

D. Rescind

Mr. C. Hanson moved, seconded by Mr. Porter-Zuckerman, to rescind the following policies:

- Policy #3420 – Classification of Expenditures
- Policy #4133 – Smoking
- Policy #5117 – Suspension of Pupils
- Policy #9325 – Policy Review

The motion passed 7-0.

E. Reviewed Polices (August 10, 2021) No Recommended/Required Changes

- Policy #3292 - Investment
- Policy #3325 – Petty Cash Accounts
- Policy #9210 – Function and Responsibilities of a Board Chair
- Policy #9270 – Functions and Responsibilities of School Board

XIII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

A. Members of the Board

Mrs. Moriarty request that the School Board consider providing her the authority to hire as generally provided in the summer, to enable moving forward with hiring for open position prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Billings moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to authorize the Superintendent to hire teachers prior to the next School Board meeting. The motion passed 7-0.

B. Members of the Administration None

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Inter-Lakes School Board @ ILM/HS Community Auditorium, Meredith NH

- Policy Review Committee – **5:00 p.m.**
- Regular School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

B. Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Inter-Lakes School Board @ ILM/HS Community Auditorium, Meredith NH

- Policy Review Committee – **5:00 p.m.**
- Regular School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Billings moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. The motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell
Recording Secretary