

**Merrimack School Board Meeting
Merrimack Town Hall Meeting Room
November 19, 2012**

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Ortega, Vice Chairman Powell, Board Members Barnes and Schneider, Superintendent Chiafery, Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin, Business Administrator Shevenell and Student Representative Crowley. Board Member Markwell was excused from the meeting.

Chairman Ortega explained that Vice Chairman Powell would participate via telephone. Vice Chairman Powell stated that he was participating from The Hampton Inn in Farmingville, Long Island in New York and that no other people were present.

Chairman Ortega noted the meeting proceedings would follow RSA 91-A:2 III which states that all parties must be able to hear and speak to each other, the meeting should be audible to the public, all persons present must be identified and all votes would be taken by roll call vote.

1. Call To Order

Chairman Ortega called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
Chairman Ortega led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of November 5, 2012 Minutes

Board Member Barnes moved (seconded by Board Member Schneider) to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2012 meeting.

Board Member Barnes requested the following changes to the minutes:

- Page 2 of 12, section 3, paragraph 2, correct the spelling of “polling”.
- Page 4 of 12, section 7, paragraph 2, after “...for a new VOIP” add “phone system”.
- Page 4 of 12, section 7, paragraph 5, correct the spelling of “Shevenell”.
- Page 7 of 12, section 9, second sentence should read, “The YRBS was designed to focus on behaviors among youth which relate to the leading causes of mortality and morbidity among both youth and adults. The study is designed to assess how these risk behaviors change over time”.

Board Member Schneider requested the following changes to the minutes:

- Page 3 of 12, paragraph 1, third sentence, remove “The” at the beginning of the sentence.
- Page 7 of 12, paragraph 7, should read, “Board Member Schneider stated that the board needs to understand that if things are not working as they are now, especially from a privacy issue, what the other options are.”

Vice Chairman Powell requested the following changes to the minutes:

- Page 1, paragraph 1, correct Vice Chairman Powell’s address to “Farmingville”.

Chairman Ortega requested the following changes to the minutes:

- Page 9 of 12, paragraph 4, second sentence should read, “With the addition of the MTA representative on the committee there is an equity of four teachers with only three administrators.
- Page 9 of 12, paragraph 4, add a last sentence to read, “He stated that the work of performance management is administration’s alone, and that he supported adding the three administrators.”

Board Member Schneider voted in favor of the motion.
Board Member Barnes voted in favor of the motion.
Vice Chairman Powell voted in favor of the motion.
Chairman Ortega voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-0 by a roll call vote.

3. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

4. Consent Agenda

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin presented the following item for approval:

- Approval of Administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey at Merrimack High School

Board Member Barnes moved (seconded by Vice Chairman Powell) to accept the consent agenda as presented.

Board Member Schneider voted in favor of the motion.
Board Member Barnes voted in favor of the motion.
Vice Chairman Powell voted in favor of the motion.
Chairman Ortega voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-0 by a roll call vote.

5. Summary of Merrimack School District Performance on Spring 2012 NECAP Science Assessment

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin presented the summary of the Science NECAP testing results for the past four years (2009-2012). He explained that science was first included in NECAP testing in the spring of 2009. Testing is only done in grades 4, 8 and 11. He added that there are 4 proficiency levels:

- Level 4- Proficient with Distinction
- Level 3- Proficient
- Level 2- Partially Proficient
- Level 1- Substantially Below Proficient

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin continued to report that there are two kinds of descriptive statistics, in particular, that are instructive when evaluating state testing performance:

- Comparison of performance levels over time within district-measuring the district against itself
- Comparison of performance levels over time with state results-measuring the district's grade levels against grade level peers throughout the state.

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin continued to explain that the district scores are parallel with state scores across all performance levels. He added that it is important to note that all content areas speak to areas of strengths and areas that need improvement according to domains. Life Sciences and Inquiry reflect consistency over four years for needed attention. The Merrimack School District curriculum committees have tried to be responsive to data when it is received.

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin continued to explain that in the science domain, Life Sciences and Inquiry, according to the data, are the areas that the NECAP scores point to needing focus. There is a curriculum committee that continues to focus on those two areas. He added that the low point in the scores are in the middle school, but pick up again in the high school. He stated that curriculum is discussed as a team effort across the spectrum of all grades.

Board Member Barnes asked to further define "Inquiry".

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin explained that Inquiry is the ability of students to take a data set and be able to investigate, ask critical questions and try to find clues to try to determine an answer based on the data.

Board Member Barnes asked if it is consistent with the state or just our district where Inquiry is a problem area.

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin replied that it is a statewide trend.

Board Member Barnes asked if the testing done in our district takes place at the same time throughout New England.

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin replied that Science is the only test given in the spring and that is across New England.

Board Member Barnes showed interest in seeing comparative data across the New England States.

Board Member Schneider asked that since the state is delivering the test, given the trending, are they offering guidance on the curriculum to help improve the scores.

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin replied that that there is no guidance provided. The district has curriculum committees that look at the data and try to provide positive ways to increase the scores on the tests.

Vice Chairman Powell asked if the district is using the NECAPS this year, but plan on using Smart Balance and Common Core curriculums next year.

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin replied that has not been determined yet.

Chairman Ortega noted that the numbers seem to be pulling up from levels 1 and 2 to levels 3 and 4.

6. Update on Progress of Merrimack School District K-12 Science Curriculum Committee

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin noted a number of the members of the science curriculum committee were present. The entire district is committed to working on the science curriculum.

Bill Morris introduced the four committee members present, also noting the four members who were not able to attend the meeting. The members of the committee represent one teacher from each of the three elementary schools, two teachers from the upper elementary school, two teachers from the high school and one administrator. He added that the committee has been working on revising the current science curriculum since 2010.

Rebecca Vandenberg stated that she has been a grade three and grade four teacher at Thorntons Ferry Elementary School for eleven years and has been the science coordinator for six years. Highlights of her presentation included:

- The committee looked at the present Merrimack curriculum framework as well as the framework from the state. There are several workshops to attend to learn about the framework and the expectations and to see how the Merrimack and state curriculums are closely aligned.
- The committee used some of the nationally recognized books to make sure the proposed units were developmentally appropriate.
- The committee did not want to redesign the curriculum, but instead wanted to revise it.
- The committee used the Understanding by Design model from the beginning.
- The Merrimack curriculum has been closely aligned with the state guidelines.
- In the K-8 curriculum, some units needed to shift.
- No student would miss an entire unit
- Inquiry has been an on-going area of focus.
- One change is that the Inquiry piece has been embedded into each unit.
- A process skills section has been added to each unit.
- The committee wants all the teachers involved in the revision.
- This year the K-6 curriculum binders need to be finely tuned. Eventually the focus will be on grades 7 and 8 and then the high school.
- This is a slightly different process than in the past.
- This year the focus will be on the Physical Science strands.
- Life Science was the area addressed in K-6 this year.

Board Member Schneider asked if the committee wants to bring in the new curriculum as each area is completed, or do they want to bring the whole thing forward when it is complete.

Ms. Vandenberg replied that Life Science was phased in this year. The hope is to continue the piloting when each strand is completed. It is hoped that in three years all the strands will be phased in.

Board Member Schneider asked when all three strands are completed in the three elementary schools, would the committee then focus on the middle school and finally the high school.

Mr. Morris replied that many things are working in tandem. When the Life Science is completed this year it will be reviewed and refined by the committee as needed. It is hoped that the revisions will be completed for all the schools within the next three-year period.

Ms. Vandenberg stated that because they started Understanding by Design, the high school representatives were at the meetings when decisions were made about the understandings. The wording has not been finalized.

Board Member Barnes asked about the SNHU (Southern New Hampshire University) project.

Ms. Vandenberg replied that it is an effort to help districts develop curriculum. When the framework draft was being completed, eight New Hampshire districts came together to work on the science curriculum. SNHU brought in some workshops for teachers. The first priority was to get the curriculum done and then help the teachers implement it.

Board Member Barnes asked if anything is being done in response to the NECAP scores for the seventh grade.

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin replied that work has been done particularly around Inquiry, which transcends all subject matter.

Chairman Ortega commended the committee on the alternative approach in terms of the rollout. He asked how the process was going and how much feedback the committee has been receiving. He added that classroom teachers are very busy.

Ms. Vandenberg stated that the committee took that into consideration. During one of the sessions last year, a one page survey was developed for the teachers. Each question had a yes or no answer. If the answer was "yes" there were usually no comments, but if the answer was "no", comments were usually added. She stressed that the committee wants to make sure it is a teacher-friendly curriculum.

Chairman Ortega asked if would be possible for board members to review copies of the curriculum.

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin replied that he would make arrangements for board members to receive copies of the curriculum. The curriculum would also be put on line, but people need to realize that the curriculum revisions would be in draft form.

7. Update Regarding Structural Issues at the Special Services Building

Business Administrator Shevenell gave a brief report regarding the structural issues at the Special Services Building (the blue building). He explained that he and the Maintenance Director, Tom Touseau, met with Primex, the insurance company. The insurance company will replace the half of the roof which was damaged in the storm, removing ceilings, walls, wet insulation and flooring, other than the kitchen floor. This will bring the building back to working order. He continued to explain that these repairs do not satisfy concerns over other needed repairs that have been accruing over time, such as replacing the other half of the roof, repairing rotten soffits and fascia boards, replacing the boiler and adding a new foundation drain.

Mr. Touseau stated that at this point some ceiling tiles, sections of the walls, carpets and anything else they thought was damaged by the storm will be done. He stated that he is looking for guidance as far as the other on-going repairs.

Business Administrator Shevenell added that all the damage to the roof from the hurricane was on one side, so the insurance company will pay to repair that part of the roof. He stated that it would behoove the board to replace the other side of the roof at the district's expense.

Chairman Ortega stated that prior to the hurricane, the board had voted to move the consolidation of the Central Office and Special Services Building to this year's Capital Improvement Plan. Hopefully it will go before the voters as a warrant article. In the best case, the building will be made inhabitable until such time as the Special Services Department is moved into a voter approved new building. He questioned what would happen if the warrant article does not pass. He stated that if the warrant article does not pass, additional significant money needs to be spent to sure up the blue building in the years to come.

Superintendent Chiafery stated that the insurance company is ready to move forward with the board's approval of the repairs. However, this being the time of year for inclement weather, the other half of the roof needs to be fixed as soon as possible. Therefore a decision should be made on expending the money for the roof from the Emergency Repair Fund by the next board meeting on December 3, 2012.

Chairman Ortega asked about the cost of fixing the other half of the roof.

Mr. Touseau replied that the cost of repairing the roof is \$4,000. There is also a \$1,000 deductible from the insurance company to fix the storm damaged section of the roof. The district would spend a total of \$5,000.

Chairman Ortega asked if the building would be inhabitable for another one to two years if the insurance company makes the renovations and corrections and the second half of the roof is repaired.

Mr. Touseau replied that the repairs by the insurance company are just the beginning. If the basement is not used and the Special Services Office remains on the first floor, it can be done.

Board Member Schneider asked if there was any damage to the insulation in the “okay” part of the roof.

Mr. Touseau replied that the area had not been tested because it was near the peak where water did not enter.

Board Member Schneider asked Mr. Fabrizio if he felt his team could work in the upstairs area of the blue building for the next two and a half years.

Mr. Fabrizio replied that with some planning, it could be done. Some of his staff members have already moved to other offices; therefore, the upstairs would suffice for the time being.

Board Member Schneider asked if the layout of the inside of the building would remain the same after the repairs by the insurance company.

Mr. Touseau replied that the layout of the inside of the building would remain the same.

Board Member Schneider stated that, given what is known, he felt that it was prudent to invest the money into repairing the roof.

Chairman Ortega asked for some estimates for all the repairs from the Emergency Repair Fund.

Business Administrator Shevenell replied that the repairs in the basement could hold as long as there are no water problems from the rain in April and May. If there was more money in the fund the drain could be replaced. He added that incrementally is the best way to go.

Board Member Barnes asked if the insurance company was funding only the repairs to the roof.

Mr. Touseau replied that there would be additional funds for the additional repairs to the building, but he did not have those figures yet.

Board Member Barnes stated that she was not sure the “Band-Aids” to the blue building were going to fix the problems. She asked if the insurance money could be repurposed for renting other space for the Special Services office.

Business Administrator Shevenell responded that the insurance company hires contractors to do the repairs. The district does not directly receive any money.

Superintendent Chiafery stated her concern that water problems from rain will resurface in the blue building in the spring. She added that if the board wanted more money in the 2013-2014 budget to handle extra repairs to the blue building she needed to know within the next five days.

Vice Chairman Powell stated that he would challenge Primex about using their own contractors and not distributing the funds. He asked for a copy of the insurance policy. He then asked Mr. Fabrizio if he was comfortable having his office at the upper elementary school.

Mr. Fabrizio responded that the conditions at the upper elementary school are not the best, due to lack of privacy. He added that if it were doable, he would like to return to the blue building until the elections in April when a decision would be made regarding the construction of a consolidated building for Special Services and Central Office.

Chairman Ortega explained that board members toured the damaged building as well as the Special Services office at the upper elementary school. He added that while the facilities at the upper elementary school were workable, they were not ideal.

Vice Chairman Powell stated that he received a video of the damages to the blue building. He is in support of taking care of the other half of the roof and getting the building back to livable conditions.

Chairman Ortega stated that in terms of process, this would be an agenda item for the December 3rd meeting.

Board Member Schneider asked if inclement weather during the two weeks could cause problems with the roof.

Business Administrator Shevenell replied that waiting two weeks could be a significant problem. He suggested that if the contractors are ready to fix the half of the roof damaged in the storm now, the crew should be kept there to complete the second half of the roof.

Board Member Schneider moved (seconded by Board Member Barnes) to waive the two-week rule and to expend \$5,000 (\$4,000 to repair the roof and \$1,000 for the deductible) from the Emergency Repair Fund to fix half of the roof at the Special Services building that is not covered by insurance.

Vice Chairman Powell asked if the motion by Board Member Schneider would replace the roof repair agenda item at the December 3rd meeting.

Chairman Ortega responded that the motion did take the place of the agenda item at the next meeting.

Board Member Schneider voted in favor of the motion.

Board Member Barnes voted in favor of the motion.

Vice Chairman Powell voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Ortega voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-0 by a roll call vote.

8. Proposed Modification to Roof Replacement at Merrimack High School

Business Administrator Shevenell explained that the Capital Improvement Plan budget currently has an estimated cost of one million dollars to replacing the roof at the high school. Now there is an \$800,000

burden to our budget for the increase in the New Hampshire Retirement System. Also, the latest adequacy figures show a loss of approximately \$400,000. He added that right now there are 1.2 million dollars in future needs that have to be in the board's level funded budget.

Mr. Touseau talked about the possibility of paring back the million-dollar roofing project into sections thus decreasing that expenditure. He spoke about either spending \$622,000 for two sections of the roof or \$386,000 for one section of the roof. The roof probably has another year, but cannot wait forever. There are sections that have leaked and have been repaired, but these are temporary fixes.

Board Member Schneider asked if one section of the roof was repaired this year, does the cost of completing the rest of the roof get moved to next year's budget, which already has \$382,000 budgeted for the roofing project for next year.

Mr. Touseau replied that he wants to keep the rest of the project in the Capital Improvement Plan for next year.

Board Member Barnes stated that this project is an obligation of the present school board and should not be left for future school boards to deal with. She stated that the board needs to "tow the line", realizing that the Retirement System is not going to go down anytime soon. She added that the whole project has to be looked at because a great deal of work has been done on Capital Improvement Plan to try to be stable, level and whole. There are things like state funding and the Retirement System that can no longer be relied on.

Vice Chairman Powell stated that he felt at a disadvantage since he was not able to view the paperwork that was passed out showing the different sections of the roof.

Chairman Ortega explained that the presentation was for information purposes and that no vote would be taken. He continued to say that the board must recognize that there are certain things that go into delivering a level funded budget. He commended Mr. Shevenell and Mr. Touseau for trying to meet the goal of a level funded budget while keeping projects like this on the table.

9. Request to Increase a Part-Time Preschool Teacher Position to Full-Time at Reeds Ferry Elementary School

Mr. Fabrizio presented facts and figures regarding the statistics of the Special Education program:

- According to new state and federal mandates it is recommended that preschoolers with disabilities be placed in classrooms with a majority of typical developing peers. The current practice is to enroll six or seven typical students in each class along with six or seven students with disabilities.
- The school district has experienced a higher number of three-year-old preschoolers with disabilities in the past five months. The increase in students diagnosed with autism and other significant developmental delays is requiring the district to provide intensive, expanded services.
- Students with autism are recommended to receive 20-30 hours per week of programming by a specialist. That is not possible with current staffing in the district's preschool programs.

Mr. Fabrizio asked to increase a part-time preschool teaching position to a full-time position at Reeds Ferry Elementary School in the Merrimack Early Education Program. Children could then receive inclusionary and/or individualized programming according to their needs as identified in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Superintendent Chiafery asked what the cost would be for making this a full-time position, and where that money would come from to fund it.

Business Administrator Shevenell replied that it would cost \$21,220 for the remainder of the school year to support a full-time position. Looking at the current budget there is a savings in personnel of \$250,000 that could be used to fund the request.

Board Member Barnes stated that staffing is a supply and demand issue and it is clear that the demand is not being met. Since there are funds available, she stated that she was in support of using the existing funds to support a full-time teacher.

Board Member Schneider also supports having a full-time teacher. He asked if there was any reason for such an increase in preschool children with disabilities.

Mr. Fabrizio replied that predictability is very hard. New Hampshire rules and laws state that an IEP is needed for every disabled student once they turn three years old. This could happen throughout the year, based on the children's birthdays. Thus there is no way to determine the number of preschool children with disabilities all at one time.

Chairman Ortega stated that in terms of process, there did not seem to be any reason for waiving the two-week rule.

Superintendent Chiafery stated that she and Mr. Fabrizio had discussed the matter and felt the two-week rule should not be waived. This would give the board extra time to look over the statistics.

Board Member Barnes asked if there would be appropriate coverage for the students if the two-week rule was not waived.

Mr. Fabrizio replied that paraprofessionals can be used if need be during the next two weeks.

Chairman Ortega stated that this would be on the consent agenda for the next meeting.

10. Consideration of Side Bar Agreement with the Merrimack Teachers Association Regarding Reduction in Force

Chairman Ortega announced that he would recuse himself from the discussion since his wife is employed by the school district.

Board Member Barnes spoke about the sidebar agreement with the Merrimack Teachers Association regarding the Reduction in Force (RIF). The RIF agreement was reviewed by the Superintendent and legal council during the process to consider both its language and its viability for implementation considering current state laws governing Reduction in Force. The RIF sidebar also gives a transparency to administration and teaching staff with a formula-driven structure. A teacher will know, based on years of service and academic preparation, his/her score and can have an understanding where the score ranks among the peers within their teaching classification.

Board Member Barnes stated that prior to the revision, the RIF was based on tenure. After that, to comply with state law, it became based on academic preparation. The proposed point system takes both of these into consideration as well as years of service.

Board Member Barnes added that the MTA voted in favor of and approved the sidebar agreement.

Board Member Barnes moved (seconded by Board Member Schneider) to adopt the new sidebar agreement for Reduction in Force, waiving the two-week rule.

Board Member Schneider stated that the sidebar agreement is very clear and will be helpful to the teachers. He asked how the Teacher Evaluation and Performance Committee worked in parallel with the agreement.

Board Member Barnes stated that it was agreed that once an evaluation process has been adopted and accepted by the district and the MTA, discussion on a new sidebar agreement would be reopened when appropriate.

Vice Chairman Powell asked what happens if a new teacher contract is not accepted and the district has agreed to accept the sidebar agreement.

Superintendent Chiafery responded that the sidebar agreement was separate and distinct. She added that if a Reduction in Force were needed, she would look to this sidebar agreement as a model to assist her.

Vice Chairman Powell asked what budgetary process would be affected if the two-week rule was waived.

Superintendent Chiafery explained that there is no budgetary process, as this issue is related to letting the RIF affected employees known in advance the budget process if their position might be impacted.

The motion was put to a vote:

Board Member Schneider voted in favor of the motion.

Board Member Barnes voted in favor of the motion.

Vice Chairman Powell voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed 3-0-0 by a roll call vote. Chairman Ortega recused himself.

11. District Teacher Workshop Day –November 6, 2012: Summary of District Wide Activities

Assistant Superintendent McLaughlin explained that the theme of the workshops on November 6, 2012 was to familiarize everyone across the district with the Common Core Standards. A subset of this was trying to enhance and build internal capacity for the things people do for themselves.

The K-6 workshop for teachers was site-based. Participants were broken down by Professional Learning Teams (PLTs) and facilitated by designated team leaders. The focus was on the strands of English/Language Arts and Math that were related to the deficiencies in the NECAP scores. They produced a concrete plan to describe to themselves what the strands meant for numbers and operations and Inquiry. This workshop was internally facilitated.

Grade seven and eight workshops consisted of conversations about Common Core and were facilitated in the context of SCALES work and Common Core Standards work they have done. Outside facilitators were used and participants were broken down into teams.

High school staff discussed Common Core filtered through competencies. The work was department lead. They discussed what was effective and what needed to be worked on.

Para Educators receive Common Core support all the time. The focus of the morning session was “Para Professionals and the Law” including students’ rights and responsibilities. The facilitator was an attorney. The afternoon session dealt with assessment and evaluation. A professional from Rivier College was the facilitator.

The nurses’ workshop was held at Rivier College. The focus of the workshop was head injuries and holistic health. Rivier College did this as a courtesy for the Merrimack School District.

12. Proposed Date for School District Deliberative Session

Superintendent Chiafery explained that an administrative assistant from Town Hall called to find out when the district had scheduled its Deliberative Session. In response she contacted School District Moderator Christensen to discuss possibilities. She suggested Wednesday, March 6, 2013 as the date with March 7, 2013 as the alternate or back up date, adding that she would like a decision before the end of the year.

Board Member Schneider asked if there was any reason that the meeting would be on a Wednesday, instead of Tuesday, as in the past.

Superintendent Chiafery responded that the board has its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 4, 2013. The proposed date of Wednesday will provide spacing between the board’s commitments.

Chairman Ortega stated that setting the March 6, 2013 date for the Deliberative Session will be put on the Consent Agenda at the next board meeting. This will give Board Member Markwell time to review the proposed dates.

13. Other

a) Correspondence

- Chairman Ortega received an email from a Budget Committee member inquiring about the retirement incentive in the contracts. He will respond to the email.
- Chairman Ortega received a request to add an agenda item to a future meeting to discuss the use of social media.

b) Comments

- Board Member Schneider spoke about having a discussion regarding setting up a Facebook page to get official information out to parents in case of an emergency.
- Superintendent Chiafery reported that earlier in the day she attended an awards ceremony during which the six Merrimack schools were recognized for strong volunteer programs and strong business partnerships.
- Chairman Ortega participated in Challenge Day at the high school. He reported that the day was very inspiring. He thanked the administration for asking him to attend.

14. New Business

Board Member Schneider stated that the Budget Committee submitted a formal request for a schedule of departmental reviews so the committee members can be prepared for the meetings.

15. Committee Reports

Student Representative Crowley gave a report on high school events. The first Homecoming dance in five years was held on October 20, 2012. The \$500 raised from the dance will go towards the Hypnotist Show on December 13, 2012. She also reported that students at the high school are participating in “No Shave November”. An award will be given out for the craziest beard.

- a. Board Member Schneider attended the Professional Development meeting on November 8, 2012. Training sessions for “My Learning Plan” (a web based program used to manage professional development) were discussed. Future training and requests for funds was also discussed.
- b. Board Member Schneider attended the Budget Committee meeting on November 13, 2012. At that meeting Business Administrator Shevenell gave an in-depth review of last year’s budget. The liaisons are in place and they are getting ready to review this year’s budget.
- c. Board Member Barnes reported that she went to Concord for the New Hampshire School Board Association General Assembly on November 14, 2012. They reviewed the results of the General Election and how the makeup of the New Hampshire House, Senate and Executive Council could affect educational funding. They discussed contributions to the Retirement Fund as well as the future of gambling in the state. They also reviewed legislation over the last year. They learned what to watch for and take into account as the budget process begins.

16. Public Comments on Agenda Items

There no public comments.

17. Manifest

The Board Signed the Manifest.

At 9:55 p.m. Board Member Schneider moved (seconded by Board Member Barnes) to adjourn the meeting.

Board Member Schneider voted in favor of the motion.

Board Member Barnes voted in favor of the motion.

Vice Chairman Powell voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Ortega voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-0 by a roll call vote.