

CONWAY SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 14, 2009

1 A meeting of the Conway School Board was held on Monday, October 14, 2009 at 6:30  
2 p.m. in the Loynd Auditorium at the Kennett High School.

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4 **Members present:** Chair Sheryl Kovalik, Assistant Chair Kelley Murphy, Dick Klement,  
5 Syndi White, Janine McLaughlan, Rick Breton. Randy Davison was not present due to  
6 illness. Carl Nelson and Assistant Superintendent Bob Godamski were also present.

7 **1. Call to Order (6:030 p.m.) by Sheryl Kovalik.**

8 **2. Salute to the Flag**

9 **3. Approve Minutes of 9-28-09.**

10 **Motion:** by Rick, seconded by Kelley, to review and approve minutes.

11 Randy's changes were noted and minutes were approved.

12 **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

13 **4. Personnel**

14 **A. Consider Regular Personnel Changes**

15 **1. Election of Dawn Vogel as Volunteer Cheerleading Coach at**  
16 **KMS**

17 **Motion:** by Kelley, seconded by Janine to review, discuss, and  
18 vote. **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

19 **2. Election of Alison Memoli as Guidance Counselor at JFS**

20 **Motion:** by Kelley, seconded by Janine, to review, discuss and  
21 vote. **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

22 Sheryl noted this was an impressive resume. This is someone with  
23 a Masters in Social Work followed by subsequent training in  
24 educational counseling and we are fortunate to have someone of  
25 this caliber. Kelley noted that this candidate is also a product of the  
26 Kennett school district. She is originally from Eaton and is  
27 returning.

28 **3. Election of KHS Team Leaders**

29 **Motion:** by Janine, seconded by Kelley to review, discuss, and  
30 vote. Dick still has a problem with having separate team leaders for  
31 the ninth grade. He thinks it's an extraneous position. Neal Moylan  
32 stated we have three distinct teams, the chemistry of which varies.  
33 The advantage of the team system is very apparent to him and  
34 having somebody that pulls them together on a regular basis as the  
35 team meets to discuss the students, the disciplinary curriculum, etc.  
36 He thinks the team leader does a tremendous amount. He is also  
37 just learning about the teams and the department heads and these  
38 people do a lot of work and one would destroy the team concept.  
39 Dick asked If they are needed at the ninth grade, why aren't they  
40 needed at the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>? Neal stated we don't currently  
41 have a team concept at the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The  
42 freshman house is running in teams which really allows a team of  
43 teachers to take a dedicated group of students and really focus in  
44 on those kids. It is working tremendously. Dick asked if the team  
45 leaders are teaching a full course load. Neal stated, "yes". Sheryl  
46 asked if Neal was confident that this team approach has been  
47 responsible for the continued success of our ninth graders. Neal

48 stated he would like to extend this to the sophomore house as well.

49 **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

50 **5. Presentation of School Programs/FYI ITEMS**

51 **A. KHS Student Representative – None.**

52 **B. Principals' and Directors' Reports (first meeting of the month).**

53 **Mark Zangari – John Fuller** - Not present due to illness but his report  
54 was in the Board's packet.

55 **Brian Hastings – Conway EI** - Not present due to illness but his report  
56 was in the Board's packet.

57 **Laura Jawitz – Pine Tree** –The beginning of the year has been welcome  
58 back; testing, testing, testing; and budget, budget, budget. NECAP testing  
59 is still going on and will end next Wednesday. They have been working  
60 with certified staff setting professional goals. They had a successful Walk  
61 to School Day thanks to the Health and Wellness Committee. This was  
62 part of International Walk to School Day. Pine Tree School's Green Team  
63 is going to do a presentation at Tin Mountain on 10/24<sup>th</sup>, presenting what  
64 they have accomplished. They had their student council induction  
65 ceremony. Thanks to Diane Gamache for advising student council for  
66 many years. Sheryl asked if Diane was continuing to advise. Laura state  
67 she is; she has been doing student council induction for 17 years. Dick  
68 asked Laura to explain to the community what "Trunk or Treat" is. Laura  
69 stated this is a PTA Halloween activity. People who volunteer come with  
70 their cars and line up in the parking lot. Their trunk is decorated, the car's  
71 owner is in costume, and treats are given out. It is really an alternative to  
72 trick or treating, especially for the younger students. Teachers and  
73 parents are involved. Sheryl asked if Walk to School was done only at  
74 Pine Tree. Laura said she was not sure; but at this time of the year, yes.

75 **Lori Babine – CTC** – The CTC is very busy. They had a deadline of  
76 tomorrow for some new state reporting. She noted they are working on  
77 the budget. They are working on observations and goal setting with the  
78 teachers. She wanted to recognize that the CAD students who, along with  
79 Ed Bergeron and Charlie Allen, are working on the design of the bridge.  
80 Dalton L'Heureux is working on it as his Eagle Scout project. The girls in  
81 the metals program won first place in the metals division at the Fryeburg  
82 Fair for their trellis. FBL A, DECA, and Health Science Technology  
83 students are participating in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer  
84 Walk this Sunday. The ice house is almost done. They have picked up a  
85 couple of jobs; building air conditioning covers at the library, and the Town  
86 of Madison has contracted to have the Property Management Students  
87 build some picnic tables. The CTC has six teachers participating in a  
88 Learning Through Teaching grad course that Penny Kittle is running  
89 through UNH. The Mineral Springs Café had a nice write-up in the paper.  
90 They are well underway with serving the public, doing some catering  
91 events and take out dinners. They will be hosting a dinner tomorrow night  
92 for staff prior to open house. In a previous meeting, Dick had a question  
93 on enrollment numbers. Lori stated that with the courses they have  
94 scheduled available, there are 633 seats. 526 of those seats are filled.  
95 427 students are taking one career tech class; the remainder would be  
96 taking two or more.

97 **Kevin Richard – Conway Middle School** – They have been testing for  
98 NECAPs and NWEA just finished up. They have been balancing and  
99 testing from 7:40 to 11:00. Then the teams are working with kids to start

100 the portfolio process to reflect their learning. This is the pilot year for the  
101 portfolios and they look forward to bringing in more information as they  
102 work toward their goal. The NH Science Teachers Assoc. who hold their  
103 annual conference at different locations. This year it is at Attitash. Four  
104 science teachers decided to be presenters to the organization and they  
105 also have decided to do field trips for all of the teachers who will be there  
106 as well. They will be taking advantage of Tin Mountain, Redstone Quarry,  
107 Cathedral Ledge, etc. Thanks to the PTSA who had their first meeting on  
108 10/06; the topic was how to better communicate with the school. They  
109 talked about team meetings, IEP meetings, transition meetings, how to  
110 use ed line, etc. They had a book raffle today and they gave away books.  
111 The goal is to give brand new books to every student in the middle school.  
112 The librarian has put in a book exchange shelf in the library. School  
113 Resource Officer Maddie was at the school and the Technology class  
114 raced their CO2 cars. RSO Maddie brought his radar gun and the top  
115 speed was 31 mph. Drama club is working on a presentation that they will  
116 be putting on in November. Dick asked Kevin to forward by distribution to  
117 the Board the learning objectives that the students were subject to when  
118 they went through the maze at Sherman Farm.

119 **Neal Moylan – KHS** – Tomorrow night is open house. The guidance  
120 department will be putting on a college workshop for parents of seniors  
121 from 5:30 to 6:15. Parents can walk through their student's schedule and  
122 meet the teachers. KHS is in the process of modifying KHS identification  
123 cards. It will now contain a bar code and this will be able to be used in the  
124 cafeteria which will provide anonymity. They are hoping that a significant  
125 number of students who have not been eating will now take advantage of  
126 the government benefits that are available to them. Homecoming was  
127 successful with a football game and a dance. There were probably  
128 between 400 to 500 students at the dance. Thanks to Mr. Richard and Dr.  
129 Nelson for chaperoning. Crystal Drew of the JAGS program has been  
130 chosen as 1 of 5 NH ambassadors to represent NH and the school. She  
131 has made successful strides. They have engaged in an educational  
132 discussion with the faculty and pulled together a steering committee to  
133 look at the schedule that they currently have. There are far too many kids  
134 sitting in study halls. He provided a one page handout that was given to  
135 faculty to begin discussion as to why we should discuss the way we do  
136 business here at KHS. He believes we should always look at how we  
137 could do things better which is a specific goal. However, having sat here  
138 a number of times and having had to ask permission to run courses with  
139 less than 12 students, having taken a look at courses that have not been  
140 able to have had access by the students, specifically in the health science  
141 technology program, and looking now at SAT scores which have declined  
142 over the last four years, he does believe that the time has come to have a  
143 rigorous discussion with the staff as to how we can do things better. He  
144 reviewed the handout and stated that they have also set up internally  
145 within the high school a blog. He would like to push the faculty for a vote  
146 at the November faculty meeting. Sheryl noted she is sort of hearing that  
147 students will be better served if they are in academically oriented class  
148 time instead of sitting in study halls. Neal stated, yes. Rick asked  
149 regarding homecoming will we get back to having a parade. Neal stated  
150 that the kids have asked about this and he thinks it is time that we should  
151 look having a parade again. Perhaps starting from Wal-Mart parking lot,

but the problem is it is during fair week. He will look into it.

- 152  
153 **6. Public Comments – Jim Lefebvre** asked Neal when the ninth grade team was  
154 established. Neal stated they are in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Jim asked if he would call this  
155 the equivalent of what Mr. Richard does with the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Neal stated,  
156 yes. Jim asked if significant improvements would be shown in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade  
157 PSAT tests. Neal said this would be certainly one area that they would look at.  
158 Carl believes the significant improvement will show in the dropout rate. **Lloyd**  
159 asked if, in light of the Conway Education Assoc voting not to ratify the Fact  
160 Finders Report, will the Board be taking any action with a vote of their own.  
161 Sheryl stated they haven't discussed taking a vote, they have no time parameters  
162 on it at this time Negotiations have started with the Negotiating Committee. It is  
163 Sheryl's point of view that it is detrimental for the Board to take a positive or  
164 negative position on the findings with negotiations in process. **Lloyd** asked if the  
165 Co-curricular Committee would be talking tonight about where they are regarding  
166 equity or if there are any plans to meet prior to the principals presenting their  
167 budgets so they have some direction on how to make the sports teams all  
168 equitable. Kelley stated the Co-curricular Committee is very active and diligently  
169 working away at the activities code. They have just started to touch upon the  
170 equitable funding and participation numbers for the fall. They will be meeting  
171 again next Monday at which time they hope to come up with a final version of the  
172 activities code to send back to the Policy Committee. If they get through that in a  
173 timely fashion, they have given a couple of directions as they move through the  
174 budget cycle but they don't have any concrete answers yet. **Sheryl** noted they  
175 did have an inquiry from a citizen who wanted to help with the Co-curricular  
176 Committee. The teachers' contract governs membership on the Co-curricular  
177 Committee and it constrains some of our ability to include others that would have  
178 a voting position. We don't shun anybody's offer of help but sometimes we are  
179 constrained.

180 **7. Old Business**

181 **A. Election of Linda Mason-Sullivan as Computer Lab Aide (Project**  
182 **SUCCEED) at PTS**

183 **Motion:** by Rick, seconded by Janine, to un-table this item and review,  
184 discuss, and vote.

185 Laura Jawitz stated Linda has been employed here since 1991. Dick  
186 stated since this person is going from special ed aide to computer lab  
187 assistant, it would have been nice to have a current resume. Sheryl  
188 stated we really would like to know when people are applying for jobs, that  
189 their background qualifies them for the position, even if they are current  
190 employees. Carl noted you have to have faith in the administrator who  
191 made the recommendation. Kelley clarified that she is not leaving her  
192 current position. She is pickup up the technology piece at the end of the  
193 day, in addition to her full time position as an aide. Rick asked if Dale  
194 should be involved. Sheryl stated this is billed out of Project SUCCEED.  
195 Dick stated since it is computer related, Dale should be involved. Sheryl  
196 made a recommendation to Bob Godamsky that Dale have some review  
197 or orientation with these folks. **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

198 **8. Instructional Issues**

199 **A. Consider Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policies**

200  
201 **1. IGBJ – Costs Associated with Independent Education Evaluations**

202 **Motion:** by Kelley, seconded by Janine, to review, discuss and  
203 vote.

204 **5 in favor, 1 opposed (Dick), 0 abstained.**

205 **9. Business Affairs – None.**

206 **10. Administrators' Reports**

207 Carl made a change in the budget presentation schedule. The elementary  
208 principals will provide their budget presentation at the November 9<sup>th</sup> Board  
209 Meeting during the principals' reports. Other administrators would be exempt  
210 from attending the meeting. Carl will make sure the Municipal Budget Committee  
211 is notified. There is an SAU Executive Board Meeting on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30  
212 at the SAU office to review the first draft of SAU budget. There is an SAU Board  
213 Meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup> at Eaton Town Hall at 6:30 and hopefully will have a  
214 budget for the SAU full board. At a previous meeting, Randy asked for  
215 enrollment counts. These were given to the Board members in the packet of  
216 materials.

217 **11. Board Members' Issues**

218 **A. Committee Reports**

219 **Kelley** - Co-curricular Committee is something that is established in the CEA  
220 Contract with a very specific purpose and a very narrow agenda of topics to be  
221 covered. In the last few months a lot of things are being sent to the Co-curricular  
222 Committee that might not necessarily have been the original task when that  
223 committee was formed. There are a lot of things such as student activity code  
224 and the budgeting of new sports and what not that were not originally intended  
225 for such a specific group of people and she is looking into that and they may  
226 have to expand a board committee and get some more input on that as they  
227 move forward. Sheryl suggested reviewing what the contract says and  
228 everything not covered by the contract should be given to a new committee.  
229 Kelley stated the very specific task was to meet once a year and review existing  
230 new activities. Now a lot of things are coming forward such as guidelines for  
231 coaches and sportsmanship and a lot of things that are very valuable and all  
232 participating parties should know about, but it is time to regroup and move  
233 forward. Randy, through email to Sheryl, noted his thoughts as follows. He  
234 thinks participation in the Kennett athletic program is a privilege, and it's the  
235 athletic code of conduct should be in effect 365 days a year on or off school  
236 grounds. **Syndi** went to the School Improvement Team Meeting. There were no  
237 teachers there. They discussed the increased numbers of kids attending The  
238 Eagle Academy and some of the problems they are seeing are increased  
239 behavioral problems. There are a lot of kids with IEPs, 405s, etc. and there is a  
240 need to address these within the regular school instead of having all of these kids  
241 jump over to The Eagle Academy. This is something that as we move forward  
242 we really need to start looking at. There was also discussion of the difficulty kids  
243 are having in HS because of difficulty at home with the economy. This brought  
244 up the fact that a lot of students in high school are homeless. It is really affecting  
245 the kids. She thinks we need to pull together and look at this. Sheryl noted that  
246 The Eagle Academy screening lies fully with the administrators, along with the  
247 support of guidance. This doesn't need to come to the Board level. Sheryl  
248 stated on the second issue, this is a big concern and the Board was warned  
249 through many different channels, not just locally but nationally, that the economic  
250 situation would have these affects and they needed to be prepared for it. She  
251 would like a recommendation from the administrators as to an overview of the  
252 situation and what we might be able to do to address it.

253 **B. K-8 Educational Research Committee Report**

254

255 Via email to Sheryl, Randy stated the following: Participation in the  
256 Kennett athletic program is a privilege. With this privilege comes certain  
257 responsibilities. Student athletes represent SAU#9 towns in the  
258 classroom, in the hallways, in the athletic arena, and in the community.  
259 The Athletic Code of Conduct must be in effect 365 days of the year, 24  
260 hours a day, and 7 days per week. The conduct applies to behavior that  
261 takes place ON OR OFF school grounds. I would also like to request that  
262 the K-8 Educational Research Committee Report be Tabled so that I will  
263 be able to participate in the findings. Randy requested through email to  
264 Sheryl that she ask the Board if they would table discussion of this report  
265 until he can be present. Dick had a number of questions on the report  
266 before he can make an honest decision of what he thinks of it. He would  
267 be happy to prepare an email to Carl and Sheryl with his questions but as  
268 it sits, he cannot make a decision on it. Sheryl would like someone to give  
269 an overview for the public's benefit regarding the findings and  
270 recommendations. Discussion on this is postponed. Dick suggested a  
271 PowerPoint presentation which could be handed off to Lloyd. Syndi,  
272 Kelley and Randy will prepare an overview to be presented to the public at  
273 the early November School Board meeting.

274 **Motion:** by Kelley, seconded by Janine, to move the K-8 Education  
275 Research Committee Report to the first meeting in November.

276 **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

277 **12. Public Comments (time permitting) – None.**

278 Prior to the meeting, Dick was asked questions relating to the position of the  
279 American Flag. He stated if there is a podium, the American Flag is to the  
280 speaker's right. If there is no podium, the American Flag is to the audiences'  
281 right. If he has erred in reading the US Code of the US flag etiquette he  
282 apologizes. If anyone finds anything different, please let him know so they can  
283 change it. From his reading, the American Flag is in the proper position.

284 **13. Nonpublic Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II**

285 **Motion:** by Rick, seconded by Janine, to enter into nonpublic session for  
286 personnel and student matters. By roll call vote, all in favor.

287  
288 The regular Board meeting ended at 7:27p.m.

289  
290 Nonpublic Session Minutes

291 A student issue was discussed.

292 A personnel issue was discussed.

293  
294  
295  
296 **Janine McLauchlan moved to return to Public Session and adjourn. The motion**  
297 **was seconded by Kelley Murphy and passed 6-0-0 at 7:50 p.m.**

298  
299 Respectfully Submitted,

300  
301 Xann Teryek

302 Recording Secretary