

**Sullivan School Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 16th, 2016**

**Board Members Present:** Stephanie Jacques Kleine, Mike Brooks, Stephanie Milotte, Paul Bolduc, Malinda Scherpa

Others Present: District Treasurer: Toni Ellsworth, Superintendent: Dr. Ken Dassau

**Public visitors:** None

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Stephanie Jacques Kleine

**Approval of Minutes.**

Motion: Mike B. motioned to approve the minutes from the Board's meeting from October 19th, 2016. Second by Stephanie M. **Motion:** Mike B. made a motion to amend the October 19th minutes to reflect the superintendent's report in non-public session to discuss a student matter. **Second** by Malinda. **Vote** Unanimous. No further discussion.

Vote: Unanimous. Motion passes and October 19th minutes approved

**Superintendent's Report – Dr. Ken Dassau**

Residency Update. Ken provided a general update on the district policies regarding his duties to establish residency for our family students.

**Authorized Regional Enrollment Area (AREA) Agreements**

Ken discussed the current situation concerning the AREA agreement discussion with Tim Ruehr, Keene/SAU 29 Business Administrator.

**6th Grade AREA.** Ken explained there presently is no AREA agreement. Memos were sent out from T. Ruehr describing the process.

6th grade Discussion:

Board members discussed the pros and cons of joining a 6<sup>th</sup> grade AREA with Keene and their current contract with Nelson and our 6th grade attending Keene Middle School.

We would need to establish a new article to our 2017 warrant to form a committee to explore the town of Sullivan School District joining and forming an AREA 6th Grade. The Sullivan School Board would need to establish a committee to explore the AREA agreement and especially Sullivan's relationships with Nelson and Keene. The Sullivan Board discussed the pros and cons of the tuition agreement as it affects our 6<sup>th</sup> grade by creating a 6th grade A.R.E.A. plan with Keene, Stoddard and Surry.

**Motion:** Malinda Scherpa **Moved** that the Sullivan School District at its 2017 annual meeting include an article as follows: Shall the Sullivan School District create an area school planning committee consisting of Sullivan School Board members Stephanie Jacques Kleine, Stephanie

Milotte, and Michael Brooks to study the advisability of forming a 6th grade A.R.E.A. in accordance with RSA 195-A. **Second** by Stephanie Milotte

Discussion: The AREA contract would reduce Sullivan tuition costs and offer a long term relationship which Keene. The relationship that Sullivan has established with Nelson concerning sending our kids to Nelson through the 5th grade is an important one to ensure that Nelson understands. The purpose of exploring the AREA agreement is to make a decision in the best interests of our kids and families. No further discussion. **Vote:** Unanimous **Motion passes.**

### **7th and 8th Grade AREA**

The Board next discussed joining the existing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade AREA.

Ken walked the Board through the steps described by T. Ruehr for the Board to join the existing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade AREA.

Board members discussed the pros and cons of the tuition agreement with Keene and joining the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade AREA.

Mike Brooks **MOVED** that in order to replace the tuition agreement with the Keene School District for grades 7 and 8 that the Sullivan School Board petition the Keene School Board to join the Keene AREA for grades 7 and 8, subject to a public hearing and voter approval by both Districts at their 2017 annual meetings. **Second** by Stephanie Milotte. No further discussion.

**Vote:** Unanimous **Motion passes.**

The Board directed Dr. Dassau to forward the minutes of this meeting to the SAU 29 Superintendent for the response of the Keene Board of Education.

### **9th - 12th Grade AREA**

Ken explained the process for joining the 9 through 12 Keene AREA is essentially the same as the process and motion for joining the 7 and 8 just completed by the Board.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of the tuition agreement with Keene vis-a vis joining the Keene A.R.E.A. plan. Malinda Scherpa **MOVED** that in order to replace the tuition agreement with the Keene School District for grades 9 through 12 that the Sullivan School Board petition the Keene School Board to join the Keene A.R.E.A. for grades 9 through 12, subject to a public hearing, and voter approval by both Districts at their 2017 annual meetings.

**Second** by Paul Bolduc. No further discussion. **Vote:** Unanimous **Motion passes.**

The Board directed Dr. Dassau to forward the minutes of this meeting to the SAU 29 Superintendent for the response of the Keene Board of Education.

### **Treasurer's Report -**

Toni shared a great deal of information that Joann had worked on.

She noted that the town has been asking for payment to the trust reserves.

Manifest: The current manifest for this month is for the amount of \$271,050.58 Motion to approve the manifest was made seconded and approved.

## **2017 -2018 Budget:**

Toni shared the first budget draft. She will finalize the numbers and firm up the student enrollment over the coming weeks. Some general discussion about the budget.

First Student: Updated Contract Needed

Superintendent & Business Manager; Contracts still valid, no change.

Nelson & Keene Tuition enrollments will change. Ken received two pre K referrals last week.

Building Loan: Budgeted to be paid off.

Expendable Trust: Ken felt that we need to know what the operating budget amount will be and the tax impact prior to deciding on adding money to the capital reserve.

Budget and Town Report

Discussed general timeframes and desire to get ahead of the process so we're not rushing at the end.

Toni desires to plan a work group to go over the budget in detail. Work group set up.

Public Comment: None

Upcoming Meetings / Events

The next Sullivan School Board Meeting will be held on December 21st @ 6:30PM .

Adjournment

Paul Bolduc made a motion to adjourn.

Seconded by Stephanie Milotte

Meeting closed at 8:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Paul Bolduc

