

PASQUANEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SAU #108 School Board

297 Mayhew Turnpike
Bridgewater, NH 03222

SAU#108 Board meeting January 15, 2025 at 6pm Bridgewater Town Hall

Pro-Tem Board members present: Virginia Parker, Mark Coulson and Erick Piper

BHG Steering Committee members present: Terry Murphy

BHVD Commissioners present: Terry Murphy

Ms. Parker called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM

Ms. Parker requested a review of the draft meeting minutes from January 2nd. Mark Colson stated they looked perfect. Virginia Parker made a motion to approve the January 2nd meeting minutes. Mark Colson seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

Public Comment

Bridget Barnard raised a concern regarding SAU 4's agenda item to approve tuition agreements.

Ms. Parker confirmed that they would sign the agreement tonight, but it also needs to go to the public for approval at the voting session. If the three-year agreement is voted down, they can pursue a one-year agreement.

Updates

Review of MOUs with SAU 4

Ms. Parker reviewed the Part-time position MOU, which is a single-year MOU that can be reviewed annually.

Mr. Coulson made a motion to sign and approve the fixed cost part-time position MOU. Eric Piper and Virginia Parker were in favor.

The second MOU pertains to Pasquaney grades 6-8, SAU#4 allowing participation in co-curricular activities for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 school years. An addendum to the tuition agreement will be sent, and they will verify with the attorney if it needs to carry over through a warrant article, whereas this is a multi-year agreement.

Mr. Coulson made a motion to sign and approve the co-curricular MOU. Eric Piper seconded. Virginia Parker was in favor. All were in favor.

Mr. Coulson noted that the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays are available for SAU 108 meetings at Hebron town Hall during February and March.

Ms. Parker announced that the DOE hearing approved March 11th for ballot voting and March 25th for the annual hearing. The budget hearing is scheduled for February 13th, 2025, with a strong priority from the PTO to hold it at the school. A facility use form needs to be completed and posted by February 5th, 2025.

Mr. Piper mentioned that the PTO would need to assist with any necessary facility changes. Kathleen Connor and Jennifer Pickney expressed their willingness to help with event setups.

Ms. Parker discussed working with the PTO on the mission, vision, mascot, and school colors. The board aims to support the staff in their efforts.

Mr. Piper will take charge of transportation, while Mark Colson will work with him on this.

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Ms. Parker will focus on PTCO and community engagement.

Mr. Coulson inquired about the food service decision. Russ confirmed that they have formulated an RFP to send out to two potential vendors. Ms. Parker noted the limited number of vendors in the area.

Mr. Piper reported that teacher contracts are in progress, and they are close to finalizing them.

Ms. Parker stated that the budget needs to be finalized in the next week or two. Mr. Piper mentioned that Robin has a budget in place with minor modifications needed. In addition, Mr. Piper is working on a budget update to compare with the interim budget created during the Bridgewater Hebron and Groton Steering Committee. A high-level summary of budget changes will be provided to the public.

New Business

Russ reported that draft warrant articles have been completed.

Mr. Murphy discussed the SAU liability and workers' compensation contract, currently has BHVD as additional insured.

Mr. Murphy continued noting a meeting is scheduled with architect for expansion project. A \$500,000 donation secured for the project, which will include parking expansion and paving. Mr. Piper emphasized the need for lighting in the parking lot for buses.

Mr. Coulson asked about custodial contracts.

- Jennifer Pickney expressed satisfaction with Jerry, the current custodian.
- Concerns raised about the evening crew's activities and supervision.
- Mr. Murphy suggested checking with Robin regarding Jerry's budget and the nighttime contract.
- Virginia Parker noted that Groton's road agent, now a Road Scholar, may be willing, to share expertise.

Aubrey Freedman mentioned a 35% increase in transportation costs as discussed at the budget hearing.

- Eric confirmed awareness of the increase and noted it is a statewide issue.
- Miss Parker highlighted the benefit of newer buses.
- Aubrey Freedman inquired about putting transportation services out to bid.
- Eric clarified that there is only one other company that would consider bidding, but costs would be higher.

Jennifer Pickney expressed appreciation for the commitment to transportation, especially for parents needing assistance. Can we now have discussion on live streaming meetings to increase community participation.

- Eric mentioned potential technological advancements could happen for future meetings with new board.

Roger Larochelle, as interim moderator, will appoint supervisors of the checklist for voting day on March 11. He will also appoint town moderators to accept school ballots.

Ms. Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Piper seconded the motion.

- All were in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

The next meeting will be held at the Hebron Town hall on Wednesday, January 22, 2025

- Non-public session at 5:15 PM and Public session at 6:00 PM