

**Lempster School District  
School Board Meeting  
Tuesday, November 14, 2023  
5:00 PM  
Lempster Community School Library  
Approved Meeting Minutes**

**Present-Board members:** Kelly Caron, Jillian Thomas, Jessica Hooper and Bruce Cragin

**Superintendent/Director of Student Services:** Jim Lewis

**Principal:** Ralph Peterson

**Absent board member:** Rachel Tirrell

**Call to order**

**K. Caron**

The meeting was called to order at 5:02pm by chair, Kelly Caron.

**Agenda Adjustments**

**K. Caron**

The agenda was revised to add the Emergency Operating Plan which will be after State reports

**Review of minutes from (10.3.23)**

**Board**

*Bruce Cragin made a motion to approve the amended minutes of 10.3.23, second by Jessica Hooper. All were in favor.*

**Public comment;** members of the public included first grade teacher, Amy Murray and parent Selena Leite

**Welcome Goshen School Board**

**Board**

Members of the Goshen School Board introduced themselves. Present were Bonnie Belden, John Scranton, Superintendent Dr. Gail Paludi, Jim Carrick and Peter Brigham.

The Lempster Board introduced themselves and shared their experience on the board and with the school. A long time was spent sharing stories of the history of attending the school when it was Goshen-Lempster Cooperative and how unfortunate it was that it had to change. The Goshen Board was impressed with our school ranking, the increase in Goshen students (currently 17), communication by way of Mr. Lewis' newsletter and mailings, our excellent sports programs, our stellar preschool program, our fantastic PTO and fundraising efforts, our ski program, the solar array, our new website and the improvements made to the building, which they saw on their tour!

They asked where our students went to high school and were told, mostly Fall Mountain, with a few going to Sunapee, some to Newport, one to Keene and one to Bow.

**Administrative reports**

**J. Lewis**

Mr. Lewis recently received a letter from a parent whose student had moved on from elementary school, yet he continued to receive the newsletter and was writing to ask to be removed from the list. He always appreciated getting it and was thankful for it. A nice gesture!

**Webpage**

**J. Lewis**

The page is up and running and continues to have additions daily!

**Negotiations****K. Caron, J. Hooper, J. Lewis**

Three meetings have taken place. There will be an update next month.

**Policies****Policy Committee**

The committee is prioritizing, reviewing and trying to streamline the process. More to come next month.

**Bus Update****R. Peterson**

Patton's has agreed to service the buses, one will get tuned up next week. The bus runs for 45 minutes in the morning and afternoon. The van does 2 runs morning and afternoon. There was a discussion about getting another van since we can't find another bus driver. So that would give us 2 vans and 1 bus for transportation.

**Sports****R. Peterson**

Co-ed soccer went well and ended with a Jamboree. Girl's and Boy's Basketball has started, since Unity doesn't have enough players, they may be additions to our teams here. We have the only elementary cheering squad in the area and a large one with 16 girls!!!

**Parent Conferences****R. Peterson**

Parent teacher conferences went well! Mr. Peterson is very pleased with the incredible teaching and paraprofessional staff that our school has. They are dedicated and strive to go above and beyond for their students daily. It's a happy place, the scores are good, there is continuity, good control in the classroom and it's a good place to work and he feels fortunate to work with us all!

**Solar****J. Lewis**

They were here today continuing to finalize the electrical end of the project, making sure that all the transistors and wiring is as it should be. It should not be much longer.

**Monthly Building needs maintenance update****J. Lewis**

The grant for the alarm system is funded and will be started over vacation. It will not cover all of the doors but most of them. The list was shared with the board and prioritized by Mr. Lewis.

**Finances****J. Lewis**

The manifests were reviewed and signed by the board

**Mount Royal Academy Consideration****Board**

This was previously discussed in a non meeting. The next step would be to set up a meeting to have the headmaster of Mount Royal set up a presentation to the board.

*A motion was made by Jillian Thomas to have the headmaster of Mount Royal make a presentation to the board, second by Jessica Hooper. All were in favor.*

**Lunch Price Increase****J. Lewis**

The lunch price will be increasing to \$3.25

**After School Program Funds****J. Lewis**

A possible new grant 21CC out in January, may help with the program.

**State Reports****J. Lewis**

Although the state offered no help with the DOE 25, the numbers were balanced.

The Emergency Operation Procedure was reviewed by the board.

*A motion was made by Jillian Thomas, second by Bruce Cragin to accept the Emergency Operation Procedure, subject to fire chief approval. All were in favor.*

**Budget First Draft****J. Lewis**

Each board member was provided a first draft of the budget, which will be reviewed in December.

**Other items****Board**

Mrs. Murray asked if the school was going to get a librarian again, so that the children could learn how to find a book. She also asked if any other positions would be eliminated in this budget and was told no, by Mr. Lewis.

**Agenda Building****K. Caron**

Web page, negotiations, policies, solar, Mount Royal, Budget, bus, sports, manifests

**Time and Place of next meeting****K. Caron**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5 at 5:00 pm, with a second meeting on Tuesday, December 19 at 5pm.

**Adjournment**

*Jillian Thomas made a motion to adjourn at 6:15pm, second by Bruce Cragin. All were in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lichty  
Board Secretary