

New Hampshire
State Board of Education
Minutes of the March 24, 2016 Meeting

AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education was convened at 9:10 a.m. at the Department of Education. Tom Raffio presided as Chairman.

Members present: Tom Raffio, Cindy C. Chagnon, Bill Duncan, Gary Groleau, Helen G. Honorow, Gregory Odell, and Emma Rous. Virginia M. Barry, Commissioner of Education, and Paul K. Leather, Deputy Commissioner of Education, were also present.

AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cindy Chagnon led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bonnie Dunham thanked Board members for allowing multiple opportunities for input and suggested that an evening hearing be held on Ed 1100 Special Education Rules. Maureen Shields from Hollis also suggested multiple hearings at different locations.

AGENDA ITEM IV. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION

A. Update on Science Standards – Doug Earick met with Board members and discussed the National General Science Standards. Doug suggested a Google Forum for an Online Discussion. Public feedback sessions should be scheduled. Doug suggested putting the schedule up on the Department website. He will have a schedule for the next Board meeting. Helen said that the Board will be meeting at Souhegan High School in April.

B. Chairman Raffio reported on the following items:

1. that Greg is in a holdover position and will serve on the Board until someone has been appointed.
2. thanked Cindy for serving on the Christa McAuliffe Sabbatical Committee.
3. the NH Middle Schools meeting is May 26th; Cindy will attend.
4. the Charter School Dashboard is moving forward.

5. he had been interviewed by a professor on charter schools and he commended the Board and Department for our charter schools approval process.
6. he had been on the Exchange to discuss the opt out bill on testing.

AGENDA ITEM V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. K-8 History Education in New Hampshire – From the New Hampshire Historical Society, President Bill Dunlap and Director of Education and Public Programs Elizabeth Dubrulle reported to the Board on a precipitous decline they have witnessed over the past few years among New Hampshire school children in the students' historical knowledge. The Society works with thousands of kids in the state every year, including roughly 70 percent of New Hampshire's fourth graders. Dubrulle discussed changes made to the Society's school programs to address this decreased awareness and knowledge of both state and national history. Several of the Society's school programs have had to be "dumbed down" so they are more accessible to students, and one of the Society's educational outreach programs has been pulled altogether because students did not have the requisite base knowledge in American history to understand it. Anecdotally, Society educators are hearing from classroom teachers that they are spending significantly less time on social studies with their students in favor of test preparation and STEM subjects. Dunlap and Dubrulle wanted to bring this alarming trend to the Board's notice with the hope the Board would investigate further.

B. Trees for Troops and Forevergreen Programs – Susan Greenlaw, R+I Coordinator and Reading/Writing Specialist, Bethlehem Elementary School, presented a power point. In the fall of 2006, Pete Christnacht, Executive Director of Copper Cannon Camp, approached Susan about instituting a community service program for fifth grades. Community gardens, the creation of a skate park in Bethlehem, and the creation of a blood drive were just a few of the ideas generated by the students. At that time, Susan was approached by Nigel Manley about helping load some Christmas trees at The Rocks Estate as part of the Trees For Troops Program. On that day in 2006, through hard work and determination, they began what would become a very special relationship between the students of Bethlehem Elementary School, Nigel Manley, and The Christmas Spirit Foundation. They really wanted to do more to support the Trees For Troops program but struggled with how to devote the necessary time and accomplish the daily instruction of the students. They determined that all projects would offer students writing and speaking opportunities as well as authentic learning tied to organization, work ethic and leadership.

C. Windham Academy Charter School Application - Andrea Alexander, Esquire, Jim Fricchione, Sean Donahue, Chris Baker, Karl Dubay, were present. Some Board members had several concerns regarding the application at the February 11th meeting and decided to table this application until the March 24th meeting. Andrea Alexander, Esq. and Mr. Jim Fricchione from The Foundation for Student Achievement, spoke to the issues raised at the February 11th State Board meeting. Mr. Fricchione stated that the Arts were incorporated as part of the application, now a STEAM infused curriculum. Mr. Fricchione noted that the proposed Windham Academy Charter School has support from parents, community members, the Windham School District, and Southern New Hampshire University. Mr. Fricchione also noted that there is a need for STEAM education in New Hampshire schools. Board members continued to express their concerns regarding the charter school application. The Board noted concerns as to the understanding the Founders had regarding the special education process within public charter schools, a section of the application still referred to classical education, and the curriculum was not clearly articulated. Windham Academy Public Charter School plans to open with 100 students in grades K-4. In the future, the charter school intends to offer grades K-8. The proposed opening date is in the Fall of 2017. Windham Academy Public Charter School will achieve its vision through innovation project-based learning and a commitment to overall subject mastery. It wasn't clear to three Board members that the Windham Charter had the necessary educational content and vision to be successful. Also, does the curriculum and supporting discussion give confidence that the school will be credible in providing real learning for students and have they fully addressed the needs of special education students. Some Board members expressed concern regarding the application as they wanted all documents in one document for review. There is no special education coordinator even though there is an attorney who works with special education. There is no professional development line item in the budget. There is concern regarding class size from Board members. Some Board members also expressed concern regarding community engagement and are school districts in the area on board with this charter school, along with many other questions. The Windham Founding Board members did not have a clear understanding of the special education process within public charter schools. The Founding Board members were not able to clearly articulate the curriculum proposed for the Windham Academy Charter School. There was not an education consultant or board member with an educational background involved with the development of the proposed application. It was noted the Department provided an educational consultant to support Windham but the application was still fragmented and the Windham founders at the Board meeting still had difficulty articulating the proposal.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, that the State Board of Education authorizes the Windham Academy Public Charter School application to move forward.

VOTE: This was done by a roll call vote: Emma Rous – No; Gary Groleau – Yes; Gregory Odell – Abstain; Cindy Chagnon – Yes; Tom Raffio – Yes; Bill Duncan – No; Helen Honorow – No. The motion failed by a 3 – 3 vote with Gregory Odell abstaining.

The letter to be sent to the Windham Academy Charter School should include concerns expressed by Board members, such as community engagement, include a special education coordinator, cooperation from other school districts in the area, does the leadership have a clear vision for why they are starting the school and do they have the ability to carry out that vision.

D. Public Hearing – Comprehensive Family and Consumer Science Ed 507.48 and Ed 612.31(g) – Chairman Raffio opened the hearing at 11:00 a.m. Ed 507.48 contains the certification requirements for Comprehensive Family and Consumer Science teachers. The former rule expired December 17, 2012. Ed 612.31(g) also expired December 17, 2012 and contains requirements for educator preparation programs offering comprehensive family and consumer science education. The rules are being updated with competencies consistent with current standards and practice. There was no testimony. Chairman Raffio closed the hearing at 12 noon.

E. Public Hearing – Special Education Categoricals Ed 507.40, Ed 507.45, Ed 612.08, Ed 612.13 – Chairman Raffio opened the hearing at 11:30 a.m. The certification requirements are being readopted without amendments. There was no testimony. Chairman Raffio closed the hearing at 12:30 p.m.

F. Student/Newport School District – SB-FY-16-09-002 – Michael D. Hulser, Guardian Attorney, Grandmother/guardian, Dean Eggert, Attorney for the District, and Cindy Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools for SAU #43 Newport, were present. Chairman Raffio asked the parties if they would like the hearing held in public or nonpublic session. They elected to hold it in public session. The parent/guardian appealed the school board decision regarding Manifest Educational Hardship. Each party presented testimony.

MOTION: Bill Duncan made the motion, seconded by Cindy Chagnon, that at its March 24, 2016 meeting the State Board of Education voted to accept Part II and III of the Hearing Officer's Report, adopt Part II and III of the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact and Rulings of Law, uphold the local school board's decision to deny the request for manifest educational hardship reassignment and find that:

1. The parent/guardian originally requested that the Newport School Board assign the student to the Sunapee Middle School for the 2015-2016 school year. The Newport school district declined to do so and that decision was appealed to the State Board. At the hearing on January 13, 2016, the parent/guardian, through counsel, changed that request to be for the next school year with the student remaining at the Montessori school for the remainder of the 2015/2016 school year at the parent/guardian expense. The local school board has not had an opportunity to consider the request for reassignment for the next school year. Therefore, the state board cannot rule on that request.
2. The State Board's responsibility was to review the local school board's decision denying the parent/guardian's request. Therefore, the State Board's review is limited to the information presented to the local school board. That hearing was recorded, transcribed and reviewed by the State Board of Education when rendering its decision.
3. The parent/guardian has failed to present clear and convincing evidence that the manifest educational hardship requirements have been met.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by a 6 – 1 vote with Gregory Odell voting in the opposition.

New Hampshire Board of Education
Student/Newport School District
SB FY 16-09-002

DECISION

Findings of Fact

1. The student attended 5th grade at the Towle Elementary School in the school district during the 2014/2015 school year.
2. During the 2014/2015 school year, the parent/guardian filed a bullying complaint with Towle Elementary School staff.
3. The parent/guardian disagreed with the outcome of the school's investigation, so in May 2015, the parent/guardian appealed the decision to the school district's Superintendent. The Superintendent presented the information to the middle school bullying committee.
4. Around that same time, in May 2015, the parent/guardian provided a list of students in the student's grade to Towle Elementary staff with notations about their interactions with the student in an effort to influence who would be in the student's 6th grade class.
5. The school accommodated the parent/guardian's requests regarding which students would be in the student's 6th grade class.
6. On June 15, 2015, the Superintendent wrote the parent/guardian a letter noting that the middle school committee found the bullying complaint to be substantiated and that the student was bullied by two students. The letter noted that interventions would be put in place including staff training and improved investigation strategies.
7. Prior to 6th grade starting, the parent/guardian filed a request to have the student reassigned to Sunapee middle school (which starts in 6th grade).
8. The school board met to consider the request on August 10, 2015.
9. On August 18, 2015, the school board vice-chair wrote a letter to the parent/guardian noting the board's decision to deny the request finding that the requirements of ED 320.01 were not met.

10. The August 18, 2015 letter also noted that the board was providing two options to the student: 1) return to the Towle Elementary School in the class of students that the guardian/parent had helped to select, or 2) the student could be promoted to the 7th grade and attend the Newport Middle School.
11. The student tried the middle school option for two days and then the parent/guardian decided that the student would return to the elementary school for the 2015/2016 school year.
12. The parent/guardian appealed the local school board's decision denying the manifest hardship reassignment to the State Board of Education.
13. The hearing officer for the State Board of Education held a prehearing on October 7, 2015. Both the school and the parent/guardian appeared without counsel.
14. At the prehearing, the parent/guardian raised a variety of factual incidents that had occurred during 6th grade which she argued demonstrated that the elementary school option was not working out for the student. The parties agreed to go back to the local school board to present this information to allow the local board to consider it as part of a renewed educational hardship request for reassignment.
15. The 6th grade issues included an allegation that the student was slapped by another student on the playground, pushed to the ground by a student on the playground, called a name by another student, and had her finger bitten by another student. The school investigated these incidents and found that they were not substantiated. The local school board met on October 22, 2015 to consider the renewed request for reassignment. Both the parent/guardian and the school presented evidence.
16. At the hearing, school staff testified that the student's needs were being met and that the student was doing "ok" academically with grades averaging to a B-.
17. The local school board denied the request for educational hardship reassignment noting that the requirements of ED 320.01 were not met.
18. Around the time the board issued its decision, the student stopped attending school. The parent/guardian met with school staff on October 28, 2015 to discuss the student's return to school.

19. At the meeting the parent/guardian requested that the student be assigned to the other 6th grade classroom. The school denied the request noting that the class the student was in was designed based on the parent/guardian's requests regarding which students should and should not be in the student's class and they were not able to change the assignments at that point.
20. On October 30, 2015, the parent/guardian met with the Superintendent to develop a plan for the student's return to school. The parent/guardian signed a plan and said they would give it a try, but the student did not come back to school.
21. The parent/guardian ultimately enrolled the student in a Montessori school and the student will remain there for the rest of the 2015/2016 school year.
22. The parent/guardian filed several requests to continue the State Board hearing to allow her time to obtain counsel. All of those requests were granted.
23. The parent/guardian obtained counsel and the parties held a hearing before the hearing officer on January 13, 2016. The parties were given time to file post hearing submissions afterwards.
24. During the hearing, counsel for the parent stated that the student would remain at the Montessori school for the 2015-2016 school year and that the parent/guardian's requested relief was assignment to the Sunapee Middle School for next school year.

Rulings of Law

1. RSA 193:3 states:

Any person having custody of a child may apply to the school board for relief if the person thinks the attendance of the child at the school to which such child has been assigned will result in a manifest educational hardship to the child. If the person having custody of the child is aggrieved by the decision of the school board, the person may appeal to the state board of education, and the state board of education, after investigating the case and giving notice to the school board, may order such child to attend another school in the same district, if such a school is available, or to attend school in another district....

2. State regulation Ed 320.01 Change of School Assignment states:

(a) If a parent(s) or guardian thinks the attendance of the child at the school to which such child has been assigned will result in a manifest educational hardship to the child, a parent or guardian may apply to the school board for a change of school assignment to:

(1) Attend another public school in the same district; or

(2) Attend a public school in another district.

(b) In order to apply to the school board for a change of school assignment based on manifest educational hardship a parent shall demonstrate the detrimental or negative effect on the pupil if the pupil continues to attend the school to which he/she is assigned.

(c) If a school board determines that manifest educational hardship has been found, the school board shall issue a waiver of the school assignment and the student shall be reassigned to a reasonably available public school, in the district or in another district.

(d) Each school board shall establish a policy, which shall allow a school board, with the recommendation of the superintendent, to take appropriate action including, but not limited to, assignment to a public school in another district when manifest educational hardship is shown.

(e) The local school board shall issue a finding of manifest educational hardship if it determines that there is clear and convincing evidence that:

(1) A substantial portion of a pupil's academic, physical, personal and social needs cannot be met by the assigned school or are not found within the student body of the assigned school;

(2) The assigned school's failure to meet the pupil's needs will impair the educational progress of the pupil; and

(3) Another public school, either within the district or in another district, may reasonably meet the pupil's educational needs.

(f) If a parent or guardian is aggrieved by the decision of the school board, cooperative school board, or the authorized regional enrollment area receiving school board, he/she may appeal to the state board in accordance with the provisions of Ed 200.

3. On appeal, the parent/guardian has the burden of establishing that the local school board made the wrong decision meaning that the parents must show that the school board was presented with clear and convincing evidence that the educational hardship requirements were met.
4. The parent/guardian has not met this burden on appeal.
5. The record before the local school board and the State Board does not demonstrate clear and convincing evidence that the educational hardship requirements were met.
6. The parent/guardian's request for educational hardship is based on a substantiated complaint of bullying in the 2014-2015 school year and several unsubstantiated complaints of bullying in the 2015-2016 school year. A finding of bullying does not in and of itself demonstrate that the requirements for educational hardship are met.
7. The parent/guardian's request for reassignment was originally for the 2015-2016 school year and the appeal was of the local school board's decision denying that request, so that is what the State Board considered.

Order

The New Hampshire State Board of Education upholds the local school board's decision to deny the request for manifest educational hardship reassignment.

The New Hampshire State Board of Education finds that:

1. The parent/guardian originally requested that the Newport School Board assign the student to the Sunapee Middle School for the 2015-2016 school year. The Newport school district declined to do so and that decision was appealed to the State Board. At the hearing on January 13, 2016, the parent/guardian, through counsel, changed that request to be for the next school year with the student remaining at the Montessori school for the remainder of the 2015/2016 school year at the parent/guardian expense. The local school board has not had an opportunity to consider the request for reassignment for the next school year. Therefore, the state board cannot rule on that request.
2. The State Board's responsibility was to review the local school board's decision denying the parent/guardian's request for the 2015-2016. Therefore, the State Board's review is limited to the information presented to the local school board. That hearing was recorded, transcribed and reviewed by the State Board of Education when rendering its decision.
3. The parent/guardian has failed to present clear and convincing evidence that the manifest educational hardship requirements have been met.

Signed by Tom Raffio, Chairman
State Board of Education

G. Student/Pembroke School Board – SB-FY-16-12-007 – The parent appealed the school board decision regarding Manifest Educational Hardship. It is recommended that the State Board dismiss this Manifest Educational Hardship appeal.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, that the State Board of Education accepts the Hearing Officer's Report and adopt the Hearing Officer's Recommendation by Granting the Parties' request to Dismiss this Manifest Educational Hardship.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

H. Student/Manchester School Board – SB-FY-16-10-005 – The parent appealed the school board decision regarding Manifest Educational Hardship. The parties requested that the matter be dismissed.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education accepts the Hearing Officer's Report and adopt the Hearing Officer's Recommendations by granting the Parties' request to Dismiss this Manifest Educational Hardship appeal on the basis of mootness, and denying the Parties request for a substantive order mandating the terms of their voluntary resolution of this appeal.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

I. Program Approvals

1. Granite State College Newly Proposed Ed 612.13 Blind and Vision Disabilities and Ed 612.09 Deaf and Hearing Disabilities Programs – Virginia Clifford was present and introduced Barbara Cohen and Beth Odell. Nicole Heimark reviewed the program approval process with Board members. Granite State College is scheduled for a site visit from a national accrediting agency in April 2016. In June 2015, the College requested a program extension for the expiration date for the programs to allow the institution to receive its institutional accreditation report before participating in the Department's program approval process. The State Board granted the request in June 2015. At the request of Granite State College a review team reviewed two newly proposed programs in Deaf and Hearing Disabilities and Blind and Vision Disabilities in November 2015. Based on the final report, the Council for Teacher Education recommends the following motion.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gregory Odell, that the State Board of Education grant full program approval through December 31, 2018 for the following professional educator preparation programs at Granite State College: Ed 612.09 Program for Deaf and Hearing Disabilities and Ed 612.13 Program for Blind and Vision Disabilities.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

2. Hellenic American University Ed 612.06 English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program – Virginia Clifford was present and introduced John Slater, Operations Manager in the Manchester Office. The site visit for the proposed English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) certification program occurred on January 26-27, 2015. On September 9, 2015 the State Board of Education granted conditional approval through March 31, 2016 for some programs and a required progress report to address recommendations. Based on the submission and progress demonstrated in their progress report dated January 22, 2016 report, the Council for Teacher Education recommends the following motion.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education grant a six-month conditional approval extension through September 30, 2105 for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program at Hellenic American University. In their annual report, to be submitted by August 1, 2016, Hellenic will need to provide greater specificity on letter (c), the incorporation of district, state, and federal requirements regarding English Language Learners with respect to special education and state eligibility and reclassification requirements for ELL. Specifically, the review team, Council for Teacher Education and the State Board of Education want to see strong connectivity across the matrix, courses offered in the program of study and these requirements.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

J. Oz Land Early Learning Center/NH DOE – SB-FY-15-08-001 - Hearing Officer's Recommendation on Motion for Reconsideration – This item was tabled.

AGENDA ITEM VI. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

A. Initial Proposal – Specialist in Assessment of Intellectual Functioning (SAIF) Ed 507.19 and Ed 614.08 – Diane Fenton and Ginny Clifford met with the Board. A vote is needed by the Board to enter the rulemaking process to adopt this proposal. These rules are being updated to reflect current standards and practices. If the Board adopts the Initial Proposal, the Department will enter the rulemaking process by filing with the Office of Legislative Services, along with a request for a fiscal impact statement. The Board will hold a public hearing at its May 26, 2016 meeting. This information will be published in rulemaking next month.

MOTION: Gary Groleau made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education adopt the Initial Proposal for Ed 507.19 Specialist in Assessment of Intellectual Functioning (SAIF) and Ed 614.08 Specialist in the Assessment of Intellectual Functioning (SAIF) Preparation Program. I also move that the Board will hold a public hearing on this rulemaking filing for May 26, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

B. Final Proposal – Ed 507.15 Health Educator and Ed 612.16 Health Education – A vote is needed by the Board to adopt the Final Proposal for Special Education Administrator Ed 506.07 and Ed 614.15. The Final Proposal will be submitted to the JLCSR for its review. After approval by the JLCAR, the Board may then adopt the final rule at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, that the State Board of Education adopt the Final Proposal for Ed 507.15 Health Educator and Ed 612.16 Health Education.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

C. Final Proposal – Special Education Administrator Ed 506.07 and Ed 614.15 – A vote is needed by the Board to adopt the Final Proposal for this rule. The Department has made changes to the Initial Proposal as annotated in response to comments from the staff attorney for JLCAR. The Final Proposal will be submitted to the JLCAR for its review. After approval by the JLCAR, the Board may then adopt the final rule at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

MOTION: Gary Groleau made the motion, seconded by Gregory Odell, that the State Board of Education adopt the Final Proposal for Special Education Administrator Ed 506.07 and Ed 614.15.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

D. Initial Proposal – Ed 1100 New Hampshire Rules for the Education of Children with Disabilities –Diane Fenton and Santina Thibedeau met with the Board. A vote is needed by the Board to enter into the rulemaking process to readopt with amendments the proposal for Ed 1100 New Hampshire Rules for the Education of Children with Disabilities. The rules will be expiring in June 2016 and as a result the Bureau is seeking to enter into rulemaking to readopt the rules with amendments. If the Board adopts the initial proposal, the Department will enter the rulemaking process by filing it with the JLCAR, along with a request for a fiscal impact statement. The Board will hold a public hearing at its May meeting. This information will be published in the Rulemaking Register next month.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education enter into the rulemaking process for Ed 1100 New Hampshire Rules for the Education of Children with Disabilities with a public hearing being held at its May 26 meeting at 11:30 a.m. and on June 16 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the Department of Education.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

D. Various Items and Related Bills – Paul Leather said that staff are covering the bills in the legislature and everything has gone very smoothly. Bill Duncan said that Board members will not have to campaign for their state board seat. Commissioner Barry said that she had spoken with staff from DHHS and several questions had been removed from the middle schools survey.

E. Discussion on Legislation and Process

AGENDA ITEM VII. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND NEW DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Commissioner Barry reported on the following items.

1. Two more dates for SAT makeups - positive feedback on SAT from citizens and schools
2. STEM Coordinator interviews have been completed and the Department is ready to make recommendations to the Governor
3. Nicole Heimark, Rep. Mary Heath and Helen Honorow will be attending a higher education meeting in Washington for NTEP

Deputy Commissioner Leather said that PACE continues to have new districts apply – 5 applied last month. ESSA may expand into social studies.

AGENDA ITEM VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business at this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM IX. CONSENT AGENDA**A. Minutes of February 11, 2016**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, to approve the Minutes of February 11, 2016, as amended.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

B. Granite State Arts Academy – A vote is needed by the Board to approve the Granite State Arts Academy beginning the process of moving their school into a new and bigger location for the 2016-17 year. Currently the Granite State Arts Academy is at 16 Route 111, Building 4 in Derry. The new building is located in Salem. This move is necessary due to an increased enrollment, which has doubled in their second year. The location they are considering will not impact the student body as it is only 8 miles from the current one. The new building will easily accommodate this growth. The space is a much better learning environment based on the building's size and lay out. Commissioner Barry said that Amy Clark will visit the new site.

MOTION: Gary Groleau made the motion, seconded by Gregory Odell, that the State Board of Education approve the Granite State Arts Academy beginning the process of moving their school into a new and bigger location for the 2016-17 year.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

AGENDA ITEM X. NONPUBLIC SESSION

The Board did not go into nonpublic session at this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, to adjourn the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.



Secretary