JACKSON SCHOOL BOARD Meeting Minutes January 17, 2017

A meeting of the Jackson School Board was held on Tuesday, January 17th at 6:00 p.m. at the Jackson Grammar School.

Board members present: Keith Bradley, Genn Anzaldi, Jerry Dougherty, Jessica Della Valla. Superintendent Kevin Richard and Jackson School Principal Gayle Dembowski were also present. Dan Mahood was not in attendance.

- 1. Mr. Dougherty called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Approve Minutes (12-19-16)
 Motion: by Ms. Anzaldi, seconded by Mr. Bradley. Ms. Della Valla: on page 2 under preschool discussion, amount should be listed at \$11,670, not \$11,760. Vote on minutes as amended: 4-0-0.
- 3. Citizen Comments: none.
- 4. Presentation of School Programs/FYI ITEMS: none.
- 5. Old Business
 - A. Whitney Facility Usage: Ms. Della Valla: no meeting since last time.
 Ms. Dembowski distributed copies of fee schedule for review for next month.
 - B. Preschool: Ms. Della Valla: spoke with pastor. Their timeline will not match up for 2017/18. The church has a number of things to look into. They'd like to keep pursuing it, but she has a lot of questions she needs to answer first. Ms. Della Valla said she'd get back to her once she heard what the board was going to do. Mr. Dougherty: the church meeting is tomorrow. Christine Crow: has same message from the church that they are not ready to make any sort of decision for 2017/2018. Ms. Della Valla: still interested for future years.

Mr. Bradley: not in favor of it. He still doesn't feel that we are ready for it. After another year of planning and talking to the church, maybe then. **Ms. Anzaldi**: now that we know the info about the church, she still wants to stay involved with them and perhaps look at other feasible options. **Ms. Dembowski**: the committee did look at several other locations. Without a feasible viable location, we have to go back to the drawing board on this. **Mr. Dougherty**: we were hard-pressed to have it for next year even if the church was on board. But this is a good opportunity to hear from the town. It is great to have this response from people tonight.

RJ Maloney: he is against this totally. With all due respect, didn't see innovation in the plan. Would like to see different, innovative ways of funding. Why do we have to take it upon ourselves to do the work here? Retirement for teachers: for the last 15 years in the business sector, employees have had to contribute more and more. 401K's are funded by employees. In reviewing the budget for the preschool, he noted that the salaries overwhelmed the budget at \$97,000. In looking at insurance, retirement, things like that, maybe they can pare it down. Not sure what legal obligations they have. Mr. **Dougherty:** they are required to provide retirement through the state. The state retirement system is in a bind, so they are asking employees to contribute more. **RJ**: retirement funds really is a huge issue in this country. Mr. Dougherty: the teachers have already been asked to contribute more. RJ looking for innovation. Looking for something completely different. Ms. Della Valla: are you looking at innovation in funding, or in how the program is run? RJ: in funding.

Walt Kerins: It seems that in this structure, the cost per student is extremely high. There is an investment you have to make, but the tuition for most preschools in our area is between \$3,000-\$6,000. In Jackson it was estimated to be \$7,000. It seems like it's a premier offering. If you are going to defray expenses, maybe look at alternative funding other than a taxpayer increase. An idea is to try it on a pilot basis, set it up for a 3-year period. Not sure it's sustainable in its current form.

Mr. Dougherty: that was what he struggled with, the question of if we don't get the students, should we continue it? Trying it as a pilot program is a fantastic idea. The way education funding works in this state is what makes the funding part difficult. Jackson doesn't qualify for funding from the state, we're one of the few towns that actually has to pay money to the state. When your fixed costs are your fixed costs, it's hard to change that number. The committee looked into every aspect they could for alternative funding. What the church was offering for a rental rate, was far below market. It was almost no cost. That is why he thinks they should continue the discussion with the church. It would cost a lot more at another building. Ms. Della **Valla:** the committee didn't just look at the standard way to pay for things. We had some very serious discussions about vouchers, scholarships, maybe a private group of individuals to cover some students. None of that was open to us. There are actually 2 bills up in front of the Senate now regarding education funding. One of them is for vouchers. The other is towns giving scholarships. Jackson does value education, and they are trying to balance the costs. If anyone has ideas to bring forward, they're definitely interested in hearing them.

Kathy Kerins: also not in favor. Thinks of the other 14 preschools that are there, and a lot of them are struggling keeping the doors open, so maybe we should support them instead of opening up another one. Lately, in Jackson, they've been looking at the idea of help with low cost housing. Maybe the whole package with preschool would be more attractive?

Sarah Clemons: how many students are we talking about at present? Like Kathy said, there are 14 other preschools in our area. Keeps hearing they should do it, but she hasn't heard numbers. What is the number of preschool students? There were also concerns she's heard for 3-year olds not getting the same education as others. In her opinion, if she felt her child was preschool age and was not developing in the proper manner, then you would speak to your pediatrician if you had special needs child. We have a place in Conway that just built a brand new facility. Feels like we do have these things already.

Ms. Della Valla: would like to remind everyone that the Board did not initiate this conversation, they were asked by taxpayers to look into this. The number they have, that was based on a snapshot of census data, they were looking at 7-10 potential for the upcoming year. **Ms. Dembowski**: based on census data, it will vary between 7 and 10. **Ms. Della Valla**: regarding serving special ed., we are legally bound for children ages 3 and up with special education needs. There are parents not showing up at doctors' offices or schools, so we're missing that intervention. She has also heard about a family is paying for preschool on a credit card. They are just trying to get by and certainly don't want anyone else to know how much they are struggling. Are those people we want to serve? Or just those that are completely impoverished. That's another question we need to look at and answer.

Diane Maloney: not in favor of this. When her children were growing up, they paid out of our pocket. We made sacrifices. People had second jobs. Early education meant a lot to us, and we made sacrifices and paid for everything.

Micah Bernhardt: Jackson has the opportunity to be innovative with this. She drives 20-30 minutes twice a day to bring her kids to preschool, and it's difficult. We have a chance to be a leader in the area, and we have more resources. It's a huge opportunity for us.

Todd Crane: wonders what exactly the taxpayer consequence is? **Ms. Della Valla**: \$117,600 is total expenditure for the first year. The tax rate, based on a home valued at \$300,000 is \$72. **Mr. Crane**: How many local towns have public preschools? **Ms. Della Valla**: none. **Mr. Crane**: For himself, he and his wife both work, 3 jobs between them, they spend an extra 45-60 minutes to take their kids to school. As parents both working every day it is extremely difficult, he feels they would benefit greatly from something more local. He considers himself to be extremely fiscally responsible, but for \$72, think about the enrichment we're putting on these kids. They're right in the town. For him personally, \$72 for our kids' future for them to be in a safe, controlled situation, it's a small price to pay. Important to at least propel this down the road and continue the research. And try to find a fiscally responsible solution. He is willing to pay his own fair share as far as tuition.

Peter Benson: thanks the board and the committee that works on this. It is now clear that there shouldn't be a warrant article for this this year, but that shouldn't stop the conversation. For many of these projects, the devil is in the details. The innovation piece is great, but innovation can also be expensive. Jackson has always had a high per pupil cost. Largely due to low student numbers and high property valuation. This is the structure they've been dealt by the state. He would encourage the conversation to continue and get some more concrete details. It's great to see all the people here tonight.

Emily Benson: she used to be a teacher at Lilliputian. One of the health improvement priorities is early childhood and parenting support. They have worked closely with Children Unlimited. In 2016, they took part with SAU #9 in the research process. That effort stems from the initial work between Bartlett and Jackson. This is not ending; they are continuing their work. For every dollar invested in education, you get a \$13 return. It is a continually changing landscape. We want to keep you all informed. We will be doing presentations, not for Jackson, but for everybody. If we can lay that foundation for our kids to be successful, it is a hugely worthwhile investment. Full project summary on Raising the MWV will be online soon. Multiple opportunities to get involved. We love to hear everyone's perspectives. They are working with existing local providers as well. She urges them to contact her with any questions.

Jeannie Seeg: Public preschool with set hours or instruction, similar to elementary school may not be as useful as some of the private programs. Parents need the flexibility in hours. Some people may need preschool on Saturday or whatever. It's also her thinking that they paid for preschool. Something she feels they need to keep in mind is that preschool is for 2 years, taxes are forever and they go up forever. You may be paying a little to start, but that is only going to increase. Ms. Della Valla: it's too bad our meetings weren't recorded. Our group was very diverse in our backgrounds and opinions. We all have different ways we want to raise our kids. A question that did come up was 'why should taxpayers have to shoulder the burden for the whole thing?' The ones they looked at throughout the state provided coverage throughout the whole day. So they figured they would do 9-1. She can appreciate there are different needs. That's one of the things we need to keep in mind. **Ms. Seeg**: thinks the diversity of having 14 different preschools in one area is great.

Yeda Glasier: moved into town 3 years ago and has young children. There are a lot of wonderful preschools in the Valley. But we need to make this town more and more attractive to younger families. That is really the life of a town is the kids, and those kids growing up and becoming part of the community. We can talk about taxes, but when the school goes away, your property values go down because no one is living here anymore because there is no school. She is in favor of a preschool in Jackson. She currently sends a child to Children Unlimited. She turns clients down every day because of her commute to bring her kids to and from preschool. It's not about just what it means in your household but for the whole community.

Mr. Dougherty: speaking as a Jackson resident: Preschools are going to be offered in this area eventually. That's just the way things are going. If we don't have younger families continue to moving to this area, we are going to lose our tax base. There are financial reasons to do it. But Jeannie is right, the costs are going to go up. **Ms. Seeg**: what happened to the preschool in the church? **Ms. Crow**: they didn't have enough students. **Ms. Benson**: there were actually a number of different factors. At that time, families were driving from a half hour south. A space became available in North Conway. And at the church there was a lot of setting up and breaking down. The vocal parents that made the drive succeeded in getting it moved to North Conway.

Brian Walker: parent of two young kids. There is a group of parents that really value education and they make the choice to be here because of the value of the education we offer here.

We do make choices and sacrifices. But there are a lot of parents that see the value in having a preschool here.

Denise Saches: She is a parent of grown children, knows what it's like to run around to get preschool, but things cost money and all of us have limited funds. The budget for the school is up 10%. There's a fear that these costs are going to spiral out of control.

Gino Funicello: has lived in the Valley for 30 years. Our tax rates have stayed very flat. For almost 14 years: through getting the Whitney Center, updating the school. House values have gone up. The people here are not losing anything. He pays a little more for a better house. We took on foster kids for 20 years. A lot of them were little ones. They suffered tremendously with the parents they were born to. Anything anyone can do to keep children children and growing normally is an important thing to do. We have to look at this from every angle. He thinks that means testing might be an idea to try.

Sasha Tracy: We have invested so much into this community that people come from far around that admire the infrastructure. She has a fear that their population is aging rapidly, and the population in school is not growing. Offering a preschool would certainly be a way to lure families with young children to the area. And yes, you may end up paying for people who could probably figure it out and afford it. But for some families, the difference between \$3000 and \$6000 can make the difference between someone deciding to move here or go to Madison. Think about what our community needs as a whole.

Penny Miller: in support of early childhood intervention, suggests looking at the big picture and being innovative with the funding. If we could bring the preschool into the school, we would lower costs by utilizing staff and resources we already have. We don't have enough space here, but she also is in favor of moving the 6th grade to Bartlett. By the time the kids complete 5th grade, they are ready to get out into a different area. She looks at the costs for a lock system and a contracted nurse and thinks that money can be better spent. We had

nurses at a much lower rate, but contracted with the Bartlett nurse at almost twice the cost.

Jack Tracy: can't help but think there's an intermediate option here. What about moving the 6th graders? **Mr. Dougherty**: We're all interested in pursuing the option of preschool. Will form another committee to continue to investigate. We are also going to explore moving the 6th graders. This will cost us significantly more in our budget. But if they move them and bring a preschool in, they don't know if that cost would be less or more. Just on average, it would add \$250,000 per year to the budget. Budget hearing is February 2nd. He would welcome everyone to come to that as well. The operating budget is up 12% this year. They will be presenting that budget and taking comments at that time. We're trying to mitigate some of those increases. Most of this is tuition rates for Bartlett and the high school. We're going to see spikes and dips from year to year.

Ms. Crow: when are the tuition rates negotiated? **Mr. Dougherty**: that was negotiated with the contract that was done 12 years ago. By the time we negotiate the next contract, the bond will be fully paid. What we pay per student in Bartlett, is less than what we pay in Jackson. He truly thanks everyone for coming out tonight.

- 6. Instructional Issues: none.
- 7. Consider Personnel Actions
 - A. Election of Neil Stokes as Alpine Ski Coordinator Motion: by Ms. Anzaldi, seconded by Mr. Bradley. Ms. Della Valla: can we pass these before they've been working for two or three weeks? It concerns her that they are seeing this a bit after the fact. Ms. Dembowski: in the past his immigration status has prevented him from accepting any payment, but she just realized recently that had changed. 4-0-0.
- 8. Business Affairs
 - A. FYI 2016-17 Budget Status Report.

B. Review Draft #2 of 2017-18 Proposed Budget:

Kevin: the changes to the budget are the locks, on 2nd page under contracted services for maintenance and plant, there is a net increase of \$11,595. Another piece added is the afterschool programming that came out to about \$5,500. Added into budget, reflected under salaries.

Mr. Dougherty: regarding the locks. If there is anything that voters are against in the budget, someone can make a motion for an amendment to the budget. The locks are something the Board felt made good safety sense. It wasn't a lot of money to spend to secure the building. **Ms. Anzaldi**: And it was on a recommendation of Homeland Security. **Mr. Dougherty:** He likes the proposal of the afterschool programming. What is being represented here is true enrichment, not just daycare.

Ms. Dembowski: looked at their entire year and felt that on Mondays and Wednesdays there wasn't really anything else offered after school. They would run 6-8 week sessions that parents could sign up for and pay toward. We would pay the teachers a set stipend to run the 6-8 week program. **Mr**.

Bradley: from his point of view, the money we would be asking parents to pay would be as more of a space saver or something to show commitment. **Ms. Della Valla**: how much would the fee be? **Ms. Dembowski**: they haven't gotten that far. **Ms. Della Valla**: asked about sliding scale. **Kevin**: you could do a registration fee, or some enrichments might be more expensive than others, so there may be a materials fee.

Liesel Crane: thinks that it is great and thinks this would allow you to have different teachers with a different expertise and flexibility to have different people offer different enrichments for different interests. **Ms. Della Valla**: where would the money to start the program and purchase supplies come from? **Ms. Dembowski**: PTO, donations, borrowing from other schools. **Ms. Della Valla**: who is handling the administration of this? **Ms. Dembowski**: different staff members handle different responsibilities and she coordinates it from the top.

Mr. Benson: he would just like to address what he feels is a lot of misinformation about taxes. Adjusting for inflation, taxes here are lower now than they were 20 years ago. Jackson has

always been in the running for lowest taxes in the state of NH. For the first time, next year the school portion will be higher than the municipal portion. We're one of three towns in the state in which this is happening. Our tax rate has been very stable for a very long time. This town has done a great job of controlling costs.

Ms. Glasier: Hearing about the enrichment has been great; it's exciting to see such innovative ideas in the after-school schedule. This is another opportunity for kids to work in a multiage capacity. Excited about the Monday/Wednesday schedule. If there is a community member that is an expert in something, would they be able to run a class? And receive the stipend?
Ms. Dembowski: the stipend part is up to the board, but yes, as long as they take and pass the background check. Amiee
Murphy: she has asked the robotics teacher from the high school about maybe coming here to do something like that.

Ms. Glasier: This is the only town she's lived in that doesn't offer after-school opportunities. **Mr. Bradley**: were the other towns or schools this small? **Ms. Glasier**: No. But clearly, there is a need here for some folks.

Mr. Dougherty: recognizes the need, but this community would have a hard time supporting that. If it is actually educational, they are more likely to support it. He would support paying the stipend to qualified community members. **Mr. Richard**: Gayle would submit the person to you, but you would still authorize it. It would be much like a coach. The first year, you are going to find out what works and what doesn't. **Mr. Dougherty**: this is a good example right here of having someone already doing the work and it might be after the fact that we technically approve the position. We only meet once a month. **Mr. Richard**: I can't hire anyone. Only the board does that. **Mr. Dougherty**: but they can do the background check and bring someone in to the building.

Ms. Della Valla: her concern is more that the dynamic changes when we have to make a choice 2 weeks later that goes against

the grain. It puts us on the defensive. Once it's already started the momentum is off and running. She has no issue with the choices made, just the process. Would raise the issue of some sort of framework or accountability. She loves the idea that someone that is passionate about something and wants to share it with kids. Whatever the programs are, she asks that they consider who should be there. Sometimes the parents put the kid in the group for time coverage, but the kid has no interest. **Ms. Dembowski**: that is difficult. Sometimes the kid has no choice.

C. Review Draft #2 of Proposed Warrant Articles:
 Mr. Richard: you have to vote to bring these to the hearing tonight.

Article 1: Budget. \$2,568,116. **Motion**: by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Anzaldi. **4-0-0**

Article 2: Buses. \$10,000.

Motion: by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Anzaldi. 4-0-0.

 Article 3: Whitney Maintenance Trust Fund. \$3,000.
 Motion: by Ms. Anzaldi, seconded by Mr. Bradley. 4-0-0 Noted that the money comes from Whitney trust fund, not taxes.

Article 4. Three-year tuition contract with Bartlett. **Motion**: by Ms. Anzaldi, seconded by Mr. Bradley. **4-0-0**.

Ms. Anzaldi: We're not asking for money for special ed. fund, or capital reserve fund for the building, or tuition trust fund? **Mr. Dougherty**: Pam cautioned against not funding the special education fund; we are risking deficit expenditures. Things can happen. We're not anticipating expenditures, but special ed. costs have gone up. We may encounter cists that exceed what we have.

D. Set Tuition Rate for Employees for 2017-18:
 Mr. Richard: just to update. There's no change. 25% of what we set for a tuition rate for the general public. First student is at

no cost, \$2,500 for each additional student. **Ms. Glasier**: our teachers and employees do an incredible job and we're looking to continue to grow our school. If there is any way to decrease tuition for employees, she would welcome that. **Mr. Dougherty**: there are factors that weigh into that. That really isn't something we end up recouping. Would like to have the conversation again. We can actually change this policy, and it is something he would ask the personnel committee to look into. **4-0-0.**

- 9. Administrators' Reports
 - A. Superintendent
 - 1. Correspondence from Shawn Bergeron: Mr. Richard: Shawn gave feedback on tackling long-term issues. His recommendation: the flooring is not a safety issue at this time. Advice is not to do anything yet, but keep an eye on it. Regarding siding on outside of building: they did submit the class action claim against the manufacturer. Shawn recommends staying the course in finding out. Regarding the wall, not a structural issue at this time, they will keep an eye on it. Ms. Della Valla: so his conclusion that we are still owed for improperly installed flooring? **Mr. Richard:** it's more a question of, do you want to spend \$5,000 in legal fees chasing down a \$2,000 flooring issue? Just throwing those numbers out there. You folks have spent money in legal fees chasing some of this. It doesn't make sense to continue down that road in increased maintenance cost. Mr. Dougherty: thinks it still makes sense to pursue the class action claim, but on the flooring, at some point we really just need to cut our losses. We got a good value when we initially built the building. There are some problems that we can fix. John is inspecting the issue with the wall daily. Planning on putting a small piece of trim up there. There is also an issue with a bracing in roof, nothing to do with anything in the wall, will continue to look at that as well. Ms. Della Valla: notes that Shawn gave kudos to John in his letter.
 - B. Principal

- 1. Teacher Stipend Options: **Ms. Dembowski**: this was in answer to Ms. Della Valla's request about the stipends available to faculty. Curriculum development, program enrichment, program coordinators. Extended school year program. Enrichment counselor residence fee. Art person fills that role.
- 10. Citizen Comments: **Ms. Dembowski**: national school lunch program audit. Several small corrections that we need to make. They did have to raise their adult lunch price in order to meet the letter of the law, bringing it to \$3.75. Also received notification from Mr. Voci asking us to consider the Ferry Beach trip, to go in the spring next year instead of the fall. This gives him the opportunity to do a joint trip with his 5th and 6th grades and our 6th graders. We told him that wasn't a problem.

Scott Grant: regarding moving forward with preschool in Bartlett, at this juncture there isn't a plan to move forward. Tuition rate would be \$250,000 using the formula for 7th and 8th grade, but it wouldn't hurt to discuss 6th grade tuition. Wouldn't necessarily be the same rate as 7th and 8th grade. **Ms. Della Valla**: asked about the Bartlett preschool meeting. Scott: we had a discussion about preschool, but the article never came forward. **Penny Miller**: asked about the sugar shack discussed at the October meeting about sugar shack, **Mr. Dougherty**: the sugar shack isn't requiring funds from taxpayers. If the school needs to spend money on that it would come through as revenue and then an expenditure. No additional cost at this time. **Ms.**

Dembowski: it is an outdoor pavilion. We've had donations of logs and wood, looking for grant money and fundraisers. **Ms. Miller**: finds that impossible. You can't put up a building and say there is no cost. **Mr. Bradley**: we've authorized no funds toward it. There are still several steps. We approved them taking their next step. **Ms. Miller**: it's one thing to get it built, but it's another to maintain it. She feels like the board should take a long term view. **Mr. Bradley**: It's kind of like a swingset. It's an outdoor pavilion. **Ms. Miller**: but in 10 years when the roof gives out, you're going to go to come to the taxpayers for money.

Ms. Miller: Regarding the doubling in price to contract out for a nurse. Are we now committed to subcontracting with the Bartlett nurse? **Mr. Dougherty**: we don't have other options. **Ms. Miller**: so we didn't

look at other options? **Ms. Della Valla**: we had several discussions and she was very concerned regarding taking care of kids that need a nurse on site. We've looked at other options and put ads in the papers. We haven't found another option. Mr. Bradley: we actually have better coverage with our current structure. Mr. Grant: we actually got a lot of flack for putting the nurse up here for 10 hours. But to try and find a nurse up here for 10 hours a week is very difficult. Ms. Dembowski: this has really worked well. Mr. Dougherty: school board is a community effort. It is good to get comments like this to keep us on our toes. We have been looking all along, however, it is just our best option at this point. Ms. Miller: it's nice to see the pursuit, and that we're not just in the rut. **Ms. Dembowski**: at this point now, the nurse has done such a great job in fostering relationships with staff. It feels like she's a part of our building. Mr. Grant: she has done so much to educate the teachers on different medical conditions they might encounter. **Mr. Dougherty:** this board if we can do it ourselves in the future, we will.

Ms. Miller: after school enrichment sounds fantastic. It's kind of the first step in getting towards the preschool. However, she would love to see the \$12,000 for the key cards to be put toward the kids. Doesn't understand the safety concerns behind the push for the key cards. She doesn't have much trust in the federal government telling us why we need a \$12,000 system when our windows are still glass, our playgrounds are not fenced in. She feels it is an overreaction, doesn't understand the rationale. **Mr. Dougherty**: from a security standpoint it isn't necessary. None of us think it has to be done to keep them safe, but it is an added benefit. It assists in the logistics on who is entering and leaving the building. It's not necessarily the bad person coming in, but it also makes it easier for the community center more accessible to the community. Someday it is the lock system we're going to have. Those costs are going to continue. Mr. Grant: it's a key card system. It keeps track of who comes in and out of the building. It's about accountability. Ms. Miller: understands that in a larger school. Still does not see the need. When are we going to put up a fence? **Ms. Della Valla**: part of this came out of the Whitney Center committee. Committee members are finding they are having a harder time being available to people that need to use the center. We want to have a good relationship with the center and the town. It may

have tremendous impact. **Ms. Miller**: she would rather see that impact going to the kids. **Mr. Dougherty**: he is open to the idea of more money for enrichment. He wouldn't look at it from the standpoint of if we can do this, we can't do this other thing. We feel this is a good investment for the school and the community because it helps to open up the building to the community. We're trying to be practical, but we feel that it is a good investment to make in this building.

Ms. Anzaldi: as a parent, she is asking the School Board for funds to help offset costs for after-school enrichment. Because they need it.
Mr. Dougherty: suggested that it gets run by the curriculum committee. Mr. Richard: wants to be careful talking about individual students. This may be appropriate for nonpublic session.
Recommends to make a proposal to Gayle as a parent, and then we can handle it that way and if it needs to be discussed at board level in nonpublic, they can do that. Decisions can then be made in public session.
Ms. Della Valla: is this time sensitive? Ms. Dembowski: the need has been discussed. Mr. Richard: recommended nonpublic session to further continue this conversation.

- 11. Board Member Issues -- Board Discussion/Committee Reports
 - A. Set Date for Next Meeting (Thursday, February 2, 2017 Board Meeting and Budget Hearing): Mr. Dougherty: school board meeting to be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Whitney Center, with the budget hearing to begin at 6 p.m. Decided not to schedule an additional meeting for February.

Ms. Della Valla: what is our next step with the preschool? Asked for direction in how to proceed with the church. **Ms. Anzaldi**: would like to flesh it out with the church. **Mr. Dougherty**: the annual meeting for the church is tomorrow. Check with Peter and Emily what comes out there, and then start again from where we are at. We're all still interested in the church being the facility, but now we just need to see what they have to say.

13. Board entered nonpublic session, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II, at 8:06 p.m. to discuss a student matter.

14. Adjourn – The Board returned to public session and adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer L. King Recording Secretary