

NEK Choice School District
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 6, 2021
6:00 PM – Guildhall Town Hall

Members Present: Miles Etter, Patty Brown, Melanie Jacques-Staats, Sonia Peters, Lyn Schmucker, Sharon Ellingwood-White, Betsy Fontaine, Carla Curtis, Tim Thompson (arrived after votes)
Administration/Public Present: Karen Conroy, Jacob Wood

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.

II. On a motion made by Sonia Peters seconded by Melanie Jacques-Staats, the Board approved the meeting minutes of May 19, 2022; vote 7-0.

III. Board Chair Business

1. The Board discussed their current partnership with the Canaan School District and future plans to investigate other supervisory union options to support NEK Choice District needs.
2. Provided an update on the hiring of a new Superintendent with Sonia Peters leading the hiring committee as the chair with hopes to present a candidate to the Board by the first week of July.
3. General discussion was held related to the Board Stipend for the upcoming school year. With decreases in meeting participation and the option to attend remotely with less travel, a possible reduction may be proposed for the next budget session reducing the stipend to \$500 per year.
4. Distributed the current NEK Expenditure Report Dated May 17, 2022 for review.

IV. Appointments and Resignations

1. On a motion made by Sonia Peters seconded by Melanie Jacques-Staats, the Board approved the resignation of Brunswick Board Member Darcey Smart; vote 7-0.
2. On a motion made by Sonia Peters seconded by Melanie Jacques-Staats, the Board approved the appointment of Sharon Ellingwood-White to the ENSU Board, vote 7-0.

V. Other Business

1. Discussions with the Board on tuition invoices for a student who never provided proof of residency to attend Lyndon Institute. The landlord recently confirmed that the student was living with her parent who leased the property in Kirby. It was discussed to approach Lyndon Institute to split the tuition costs of the two years between the district and Lyndon Institute. It was noted that the District has been very fortunate to have very few situations where the residency and tuition vouchers have not been approved in the past five years.
2. Discussed voucher request to attend approved schools in Canada. Currently, allowable under regulations and examples can be confirmed with NCSU in the community of Coventry.
3. Discussed the importance of a Universal Income Declaration Form before it is required by the state. Research with the school attorney needs to be further investigated to see if legally we can require the reporting of income as part of the tuition vouching system.
4. **The Board reviewed recent bills and signed warrants for the total payment of:
NEK Total \$250,670.42**

VII. Adjournment

1. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Chappell