

Benton School Board

January 4, 2023

Minutes

Attendance: Joseph Boutin, Kristina Harris, Dwight Swauger

Public: None

Administration: Laurie Melanson, Katherine Ducharme, Janet Cole

Chairman Boutin called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Motion to approve minutes from October 26, 2022 moved by Kristina Harris and seconded by Joe Boutin and approved.

No public input.

Signed manifest for Treasurer.

Superintendent: Hand out involving parent's involvement in their children's education. Ready4k texting program in full swing. Hand out and discussion on HB 607 (school voucher legislation) being voted on in January 2023. 80% cost per pupil would come directly out of budget with additional services still being provided and billed by SAU. Would require vote from taxpayers to pass. Woodsville High School moved up 30 points on the School Digger ratings related to SAT testing. Small class size has an impact on scores.

Finance: Draft #2, Current proposed budget is \$22,087 less than draft #1. SAU assessment reduced \$2,099. Special education costs revised and increased \$5,648. Tuition expense adjusted (\$25,636 decrease) with Haverhill voting in 5% increase. Warrant articles were discussed. Budget hearing scheduled for January 23, 2023 at 6:00 pm at Benton town hall in conjunction with Benton budget hearing following.

Special Education: Janet Cole: Benton School District currently has 9 students in special education from kindergarten to 11th grade. Discussion of Child Find upcoming in January.

Next meeting date: January 23, 2023 (Budget Hearing) at 6:00 PM.

Meeting was adjourned 6:32 PM.

Dwight Swauger-Secretary, Benton School Board