

**FRONTIER REGIONAL/UNION #38 SCHOOL COMMITTEES  
JOINT MEETING  
Monday, March 23, 2020 at 12:00 PM  
Google Hangouts Virtual Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Frontier Regional School Committee:**

Present: Chair Robert Hall, Robert Decker, Keith McFarland, Damien Fosnot, Mary Ramon, Judy Pierce, and Olivia Leone

Absent: Lyn Roberts, Ashley Dion, William Smith and Philip Kantor

**Union #38 School Committee:**

**Conway School Committee**

Present: Elaine Campbell, Michael Merritt, Denise Storm

Absent: Ashley Dion, Philip Kantor

**Deerfield School Committee**

Present: Kenneth Cuddeback, David Sharp, Mary Ramon and Carey Etchells

Absent:

**Sunderland School Committee**

Present: Keith McFarland, Peter Gagarin, Jessica Corwin & Maisie Shaw (arrived at 1:05 PM)

Absent: Gregory Gottschalk

**Whately School Committee**

Present: Katie Edwards, Robert Halla and Maureen Nichols

Others Present: Superintendent Darius Modestow, Director of Business Administration Shelley Poreda and Frontier Regional School Union President Alison Walters

Chair Kenneth Cuddeback opened the Union #38 School Committee at 12:11 PM.

Chair Robert Halla opened the Frontier Regional School Committee at 12:21 PM.

On a motion from Robert Decker III, seconded by Judy Pierce, and pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining unit matters, the committee moved into executive session at 12:25 PM.

**Roll Call:**

Chair Robert Halla	yes	Robert Decker	yes
Keith McFarland	yes	Damien Fosnot	yes
Mary Ramon	yes	Judy Pierce	yes

Olivia Leone            yes

On a motion from Kenneth Cuddeback, seconded by Trevor McDaniel, and pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining unit matters, the committee moved into executive session at 12:26 PM.

Roll Call:

*Elaine Campbell Conway)	yes	*Michael Merritt (Conway)	yes
Denise Storm (Conway)	yes	*Kenneth Cuddeback (Deerfield)	yes
*Trevor McDaniel (Deerfield)	yes	Carey Etchells (Deerfield)	yes
*David Sharp (Deerfield)	yes	Mary Ramon (Deerfield)	yes
Jessica Corwin (Sunderland)	yes	Keith McFarland (Sunderland)	yes
*Peter Gagarin (Sunderland)	yes	*Maureen Nichols (Whately)	yes
*Robert Halla (Whately)	yes		
* equals voting member			

The joint committee invited Shelley Poreda, Director of Business Administration, into the executive session.

The committees returned to Open Session at 12:50 PM.

On a motion from Robert Decker III, seconded by Olivia Leone, the Frontier Regional School Committee voted to approve the MOA as presented, but as a separate agreement to not be combined with the Union #38 MOA and would now be the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Frontier Regional District School Committee and the Frontier Regional Teachers Association and Assistants Association (Units A &C) and to allow the Chair of the Frontier Regional School Committee to sign said MOA.

Roll Call:

Robert Halla	yes	Robert Decker	yes
Keith McFarland	yes	Damien Fosnot	yes
Mary Ramon	yes	Judy Pierce	yes
Olivia Leone	yes		

On a motion from Kenneth Cuddeback, seconded by Bob Halla, the Union #38 School Committee voted to approve the MOA as presented, but as a separate agreement to not be combined with the Frontier Regional School District, and to separate the Union #38 MOA into four MOAs (Conway, Deerfield, Sunderland and Whately School Districts) and to allow the Chairs of each committee to sign said MOAs.

Roll Call:

*Elaine Campbell Conway)	yes	*Michael Merritt (Conway)	yes
Denise Storm (Conway)	yes	*Kenneth Cuddeback (Deerfield)	yes
*Trevor McDaniel (Deerfield)	yes	Carey Etchells (Deerfield)	yes
*David Sharp (Deerfield)	yes	Mary Ramon (Deerfield)	yes
Jessica Corwin (Sunderland)	yes	Keith McFarland (Sunderland)	yes
*Peter Gagarin (Sunderland)	yes	*Maureen Nichols (Whately)	yes

\*Robert Halla (Whately)                      yes  
\* equals voting member

On a motion from Bob Decker, seconded by Bob Halla, the Frontier Regional School Committee approved the Agreement between the Frontier Regional and Union #38 School Districts and All Non-Union Personnel Regarding COVID-19 Work Requirements and Conditions from March 16, 2020 through April 3, 2020.

Roll Call:

Robert Halla	yes	Robert Decker	yes
Keith McFarland	yes	Damien Fosnot	yes
Mary Ramon	yes	Judy Pierce	yes
Olivia Leone	yes		

On a motion from Ken Cuddeback, seconded by Trevor McDaniel, the Union #38 School Committees approved the Agreement between the Frontier Regional and Union #38 School Districts and All Non-Union Personnel Regarding COVID-19 Work Requirements and Conditions from March 16, 2020 through April 3, 2020.

Roll Call:

*Elaine Campbell Conway)	yes	*Michael Merritt (Conway)	yes
Denise Storm (Conway)	yes	*Kenneth Cuddeback (Deerfield)	yes
*Trevor McDaniel (Deerfield)	yes	Carey Etchells (Deerfield)	yes
*David Sharp (Deerfield)	yes	Mary Ramon (Deerfield)	yes
Jessica Corwin (Sunderland)	yes	Keith McFarland (Sunderland)	yes
*Peter Gagarin (Sunderland)	yes	*Maureen Nichols (Whately)	yes
*Robert Halla (Whately)	yes		
* equals voting member			

Superintendent Modestow stated he would put together a meeting for early next week. In that meeting he will give the committees an update of his conference with the Commissioner of Education. He will also have information on revenue accounts that are being used to pay staff. He also spoke about the contract with Grybko Transportation and said that he has asked the State for guidance on this and is waiting for a response from the State Dept. of Revenue. He believes that the State will be recommending that all negotiations should be held at the local level and he asked for volunteers from the School Committee to help out with drafting a new contract. Bob Halla, FRS Chair and Whately school committee member, volunteered.

Superintendent also stated that he heard from DESE and that we should expect to be closed longer than April 3rd.

Superintendent stated that the committee members should feel free to reach out via telephone or email. Bob Decker asked for a bulleted outline - summary. Superintendent stated he would provide that and informed the committee members that the towns are concerned about next year's budget and there may have to be more budget talks.

Elaine Campbell motioned to adjourn, seconded by Bob Halla. The Union #38 School Committee adjourned at 1:08 PM.

Roll Call:

*Elaine Campbell Conway	yes	*Michael Merritt (Conway)	yes
Denise Storm (Conway)	yes	*Kenneth Cuddeback (Deerfield)	yes
*Trevor McDaniel (Deerfield)	yes	Carey Etchells (Deerfield)	yes
*David Sharp (Deerfield)	yes	Mary Ramon (Deerfield)	yes
Jessica Corwin (Sunderland)	yes	Keith McFarland (Sunderland)	yes
*Peter Gagarin (Sunderland)	yes	*Maureen Nichols (Whately)	yes
*Robert Halla (Whately)	yes	Maisie Shaw (Sunderland)	yes

\* equals voting member

Bob Decker motioned to adjourn, seconded by Bob Halla. The Frontier Regional School Committee adjourned at 1:09 PM.


Roll Call:

Robert Halla	yes	Robert Decker	yes
Keith McFarland	yes	Damien Fosnot	yes
Mary Ramon	yes	Judy Pierce	yes
Olivia Leone	yes		

Documents:

1. COVID-19 Work Requirements (non-union)
2. MOA Coronavirus UEP

Transcribed from Meeting Recording of 3/23/20

  
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Donna Hathaway  
School Committee Recording Secretary

Access video recording of meeting [HERE](#)