

## AGENDA

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #70 BOARD  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2008  
7:00 P.M., HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

### PUBLIC WELCOME

*This meeting will be convened in a public session. Other topics arising after the posting of this notice may be discussed and acted upon.*

1. Call to order – 7:00 p.m., Hanover High School Library
2. Approval of Minutes of the special meeting of September 15, 2008.
3. Communication and Reports
  - a. Chair's Report
  - b. Superintendent's Report
4. Business Requiring Discussion
  - a. Creation of SAU 70 Committee to address Special Education concerns
  - b. Proposed 2008-09 SAU Budget
5. Nonpublic session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 for discussion of personnel matters
6. Business requiring action
  - a. Approve proposed 2008-09 SAU Budget to take to SAU Budget Hearing in accordance with RSA 194c:10
  - b. Authorize SAU administrators to sign manifests
7. Adjournment

NEXT SAU 70 MEETING: Monday, December 15, 2008

*Minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection within five days after the meeting (RSA 91-A:2). Such minutes may be reviewed in the office of the Superintendent of Schools, 41 Lebanon Street, Suite 2, Hanover, NH .*

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SAU #70 BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2008  
7:00 PM, HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

Minutes

Present: Board members Addante, Asmus, Callaghan, Carpenter, Chamberlin, Finlayson, French, Spaeth, Vitt, and Woods; Administrators: Gersen, Roberts; 1 public; Recorded by R. Lohr

1. Call to Order

Board Chair, John Chamberlin called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

**Steve Woods moved and Becky French seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting of June 24, 2007 as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.**

3. Communication and Reports

Chair Report

Chairman John Chamberlin asked the Board about revising the Policy CGI regarding evaluation of the administrators. He felt that an updated policy could be applied at the SAU level and a uniform method could be used across the school district for all of the top administrators in 2009-10. The Board discussed setting up an Ad Hoc Committee versus delegating the policy development to the administrators. It was decided to create a committee and members that will serve on this committee include Linda Addante, Kari Asmus, Carey Callaghan, and Erika Finlayson.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Gersen announced that over the summer the district received copies of the recently enacted New Hampshire Special Education Regulations. These regulations, which provide guidelines for the administration of special education services, are similar to Vermont's regulations that were enacted in 2006. The regulations require that schools modify classroom instruction and use research based assessments in making determinations about the need for special education decisions. He noted that these regulations could have staffing implications.

Another matter announced by the Superintendent was the pending revisions to the Staff Development Master Plan, which would require new language to address the Alternative Track Advancement process. He hoped to have a revision of the SDC manual in time for the November SAU Board meeting. He reported that teachers familiar with the alternative track advancement concept expressed enthusiasm.

#### 4. Business Requiring Action

The Board discussed the Pledge of Allegiance lawsuit. Dave Bradley, who was in attendance, reported that he met with an Ad Hoc Committee to consider action on the lawsuit and the school district is required to file a response by September 18. The Board continued to support the notion of trying to minimize the cost and controversy related to this lawsuit by allowing the state and federal governments to deal with it. Dave Bradley hoped that a motion to dismiss he drafted on behalf of the board would accomplish this objective.

**Becky French moved and Linda Addante seconded the motion to ask attorney Dave Bradley to enter a motion to dismiss on behalf of SAU 70 in the DOE vs. SAU 70 et al lawsuit as presented at the SAU Board meeting on September 15. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### 5. Adjournment

**Steve Woods moved and Erika Finlayson seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:02 PM. The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.



## School Administrative Unit 70

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41 Lebanon Street Suite 2  
Hanover, New Hampshire  
03755-2147

Wayne F. Gersen, *Superintendent*  
John P. Aubin, *Assistant Superintendent for Business*  
Joanne M. Roberts, *Assistant Superintendent for Student Services*

Hanover  
High School

Frances C.  
Richmond  
Middle School

Bernice A. Ray  
School

Marion W. Cross  
School

To: SAU 70 Board  
Fr: Wayne Gersen  
Dt: November 12, 2008  
Re: **Transportation Report**

As SAU 70 Board members realize, in 2006-07 John Aubin withheld payments for First Student because of major problems we encountered at the outset of that year regarding the provision of transportation to students, problems that were rectified last school year. He set these funds aside with the intention of using them to help acquire routing software to help address parent concerns about transportation issues and ensure efficiency in the use of buses. This summer, following discussion at the Hanover Board in June, John Aubin and I determined that before we acquired bus routing software we needed to update and clarify our transportation policies and get a clearer picture of the parent and board concerns relative to transportation. Consequently, we commissioned Transportation Advisory Services (TAS) to conduct a review of our current transportation system and offer us recommendations on how best to proceed with the acquisition and implementation of routing software.

Attached please find the final report from TAS, which is being presented to the SAU Board because the SAU budget incorporates additional funding for the upgrade and expansion of a position in the SAU office so that we can implement the transportation software recommended in the report. The balance of the reserved funds will cover the cost of the software itself.

At tonight's meeting I will report to the board that:

- ❖ The report has been delivered and will be posted on the district web page
- ❖ Each board will be reviewing its applicable transportation policies later this school year before we implement the routing software
- ❖ The SAU budget includes the funds needed to provide the time and training needed to implement the routing software

As noted above, individual boards will be discussing the other recommendations of this report in detail at board meetings later this school year.



**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 70**

**STUDENT TRANSPORTATION  
PROGRAM REVIEW**

**FINAL REPORT**

Prepared by:  
Mark A. Walsh, CMC  
**Transportation Advisory Services**  
3181 Valley Drive  
Walworth, NY 14568  
(800) 233-3251

**November 2008**

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# INTRODUCTION

Transportation Advisory Services (TAS) was engaged to perform a review of the student transportation program of the School Administrative Unit #70 (hereinafter referred to as “District”). SAU 70 comprises the Dresden Interstate, Hanover, NH and Norwich, VT Districts. Unless otherwise noted, the observations and recommendations contained in this report refer to the SAU 70 and the three component districts. The purpose of this Study is to provide a third-party perspective on the provision of transportation services in the District with particular focus on service level issues.

The District’s liaison for the project was Mr. John Aubin, SAU 70 Assistant Superintendent. Mark A. Walsh, CMC, served as the Project Leader for TAS.

## STUDY PROFILE

The SAU 70 system provides educational services to 1,847 students located in four school buildings. Transportation services are provided pursuant to contracts with First Student, Inc. which expire in June, 2009 but which contain options to extend for two years.

The Districts operate four public school buildings with the following bell schedules:

Bernice A. Ray School (K-5)	8:00 - 2:45
Marion Cross School (K-5)	8:15 - 3:10
Frances C. Richmond School (6-8)	8:00 - 3:00
Hanover High School (9-12)	8:00 - 2:55

On Wednesday each building operates on an alternative dismissal schedule as follows:

Bernice A. Ray School	1:55 dismissal
Marion Cross School	2:10
Frances C. Richmond School	2:00
Hanover High School	1:55

Transportation has been a topic of discussion in the districts. Earlier in 2008 the Ray School PTO’s Transportation Committee conducted an internet based parent survey and presented their findings and recommendations to the Hanover School Board. Information on this survey, and links to various reports and resources, can be found on the PTO website at <http://www.rayschool.org/pto/busing.htm>.