

Colebrook School Board Meeting Minutes

Date	08/04/2026
Time	6:00 pm –School Board Meeting
Location	Colebrook Academy & Elementary School library
Chairperson	Tim Stevens

Attendance

Attendance Legend: **P** - Present **E** - Excused **A**- Absent **R** - Remotely

School Board Members				Principal		SAU Members	
E	Tim Stevens	P	Cayenne Amey	P	Kim Wheelock	P	Dana Hilliard
P	Robert Murphy	P	Julie Brunault		CTE Director	P	Bridget Cross
P	Rhonda Lyons	P	Rick Bagley	E	Elizabeth Griffin	P	Chris Paquette
E	Mary Jolles						

Public in Attendance: Jason Rella, Christine Sullivan, Steve & Colleen Clogston, Andrew Krouse, Linda Kuhn

Minutes

Item	Subject	Action
1.	Roll Call: The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Robert Murphy at 6:01 pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance	
2.	Agenda Adjustments: RSA 91-A:3, II (i) New Bus Stops	
3.	Hearing of the Public: Vice Chairman Murphy opened hearing of the public at 6:02 pm Steve Clogston introduced himself and his wife Colleen to the Board. He stated that they are residents of Lemington and they have a 14-year-old son who is homeschooled. He has expressed interest in playing sports for CAES this year. Colleen stated that they have a document that they created which includes House Bills for New Hampshire, school board policies, bylaws from NHIAA and bylaws from VPA which is the governing body of athletics in the State of Vermont, all which they believe support their son's request. Julie stated that she would like a chance to review the information that the Clogston's provided before making any type of decision. It was suggested that this item be moved to the next CAES School Board meeting which is on August 18th. <u>R. Lyons/R. Bagley:</u> Motion to move this item to the August 18th meeting agenda under nonpublic. The Clogston's left the meeting at 6:09 pm Jason Rella stated that he was attending the meeting to answer any questions the	VOTE: Motion Carries

	board may have regarding soft washing the building. Dana asked if he could stay until this item comes up on the agenda. Christine Sullivan asked if the quotes that are on the agenda could be shared with the public. Dana explained that they could be reviewed once the board has had a chance to see and review them. They will approve them this evening and then they will become available to the public. Dana stated that he would be happy to reach out to the district's attorney and ask the question. <u>C. Amey/R. Bagley:</u> Motion to end 15-minute public session at 6:13 pm.	VOTE: Motion Carries
4.	Reading of the Minutes – <u>C. Amey/R. Bagley:</u> Motion to approve the minutes of June 23, 2026, with corrections.	VOTE: Motion Carries
5.	Special Reports - None	
6.	Kim Wheelock – Principal Some changes to the handbook include MTSS, updated calendars, updated bell schedule, program of studies for the new state requirements, updated flow of communication and updates to bullying and cyberbullying. <u>R. Lyons/C. Amey:</u> Motion to approve the CAES Student Handbook, Faculty Handbook and the Program of Studies. Kim stated that since she sent out her principal report (July 17th) that now CAES has had 5 more students enrolled.	VOTE: Motion Carries
7.	Elizabeth Griffin – CTE Director Dana stated that he could not be more pleased with the work that Elizabeth has done since she officially took over in July. She has really moved the program forward.	
8.	Dana Hilliard – Superintendent August Superintendent Report - It has been a very productive summer. Everyone is excited to be back to start off the school year. Dana brought up the two laws that the governor has recently signed into law, HB1300 and HB564. HB1300 will be on the general ballot in 2026 and 2028, which would impose a tax cap locally, and would impose a tax cap at the SAU level. There is a range of a cut from the \$1.6 million which runs the SAU operations from anywhere from \$200,000 to \$568,000 that would be cut from the SAU budget if this were to pass. If a cut of \$568,000 was needed to the SAU 7 budget there will be major implications. HB564 separates the one Warrant article into two Warrant articles. One for the local budget and then a Warrant article for the SAU budget. The last town to hold their town meeting will be the ones that get to count all of the ballots from all five towns. So, all ballots will be sealed up and given to Columbia at their town meeting to have them count them and announce how the Warrant article on SAU 7 turned out. Under HB564 if the majority vote for the SAU budget does not get approved then we default to last year's budget. This would mean no increases on any line items including benefits, salaries, etc.	

	HB1300 is devastating as it will have effects on operations. HB564 will have the same type of effect but on people and longevity. SAU 7 was awarded the Tillotson Grant of \$23,000 in order to study our system. The system that runs from Columbia to Pittsburg with 5 towns and 3 schools will be studied from top to bottom. The facilities, the budget, staffing, busing and every component of this school district will be studied and in 15 weeks they will present 4 proposals. One of the options will be to do nothing. The difference between this study and other studies is we have not appointed people or elected people to sit at the table with their own preconceived notions. All of us, including SAU staff, has backed off and we are only here for support if the consultants need access to certain things. They will do the deep dive and provide us with the other 3 options. The admin team will be off site tomorrow to take the goal setting document and turn it into a strategic plan for the Colebrook School District. We do have a title change for the assistant principal which will now be called the Student Support Coordinator, and we will discuss this more in nonpublic.	
9.	Bridget Cross – Business Manager C. Amey/R. Bagley: Motion to approve the Encore Fire Protection Test and Inspection Agreement for \$1,300 Jason Rella from Yetti Yardman is here tonight to give insight on what soft washing is. Soft washing is killing the algae and growth on the building without using high pressure which can damage and have water intrusion C. Amey/:Motion to accept the bid from Yetti Yard Man for soft washing the SAU building and Colebrook Academy and Elementary school. Rick suggested that this discussion be brought into nonpublic session. Dana asked if the consensus was to move this discussion into nonpublic and the board agreed to do that. Bridget explained that we reached out to several different vendors for the sealing and striping of the parking lot. There was not a lot of response. C. Amey/R. Lyons: Motion to approve the seal coating and striping quote from Cameron Seal Coating for \$15,600.00 C. Amey/R. Bagley: Motion to approve the quote for the calendar magnets from Colebrook Copy Center for \$375.00 Lease Agreement – legal counsel drafted the lease for Colebrook School District. All the work that was required by the different agencies has been completed. There is one last item to do, which is building the walls out for the ADA accessible bathroom which Carl will work on next week. There has been a staff change on the state side for facility approvals. They are in the process of hiring someone so we will be taking pictures of everything and sending those pictures to the state so hopefully they can give us written approval so that we are all set to start on the first day of school. They can then visit the facility at a later time. So far everything has been minimal cost-wise that has had to be done. Rhonda asked	VOTE: Motion Carries VOTE: Motion Carries VOTE: Motion Carries

	how much the handicap bathroom will cost to have installed. Bridget explained that we took the toilet from the old tech building and repurposed it and we took the safety bars and are having them installed as well. We are reusing items to help keep the cost down. Carl will be building it so that will help save money as well since we won't need to hire a contractor. We are still working out the logistics of transportation for students to the new tech building. <u>J. Brunault/C. Amey:</u> Motion to approve the lease agreement for the CTE site Certificate of Vote – Robert has recused himself from this vote. <u>C. Amey/J. Brunault:</u> Motion to approve Dana (Superintendent) to sign all agreements for the SEED Grant and all other federal grants for the 2026/2027 school year.	VOTE: Motion Carries VOTE: Motion Carries
10.	Unfinished Business: None	
11.	New Business: <u>C. Amey/J. Brunault:</u> Motion to rescind Policy JFBC and Procedure JFBC-R Education Freedom Accounts Policy DFA Investments has been reviewed by the Colebrook School Board	VOTE: Motion Carries
12.	Information:	
13.	Hearing of the Public: Vice Chairman Murphy opened the hearing of the public at 7:08 pm <u>R. Bagley/C. Amey:</u> Motion to end 15-minute public session at 7:08 pm.	VOTE: Motion Carries
14.	Non-Public Session – <u>C. Amey/J. Brunault:</u> Motion to go into nonpublic sessions RSA-91-A: 3, II (c) at 7:10 pm Dana Hilliard, Kim Wheelock, Bridget Cross and Chris Paquette were invited into nonpublic session <u>C. Amey/R. Bagley:</u> Motion to come out of nonpublic session at 7:47 pm <u>J. Brunault/R. Lyons:</u> Motion to approve Wicked Clean Windows bid to soft wash the SAU Office for \$600.00. <u>J. Brunault/C. Amey:</u> Motion to approve Yetti Yard Man bid to soft wash the Colebrook Academy and Elementary School building for \$8,785.00 <u>C. Amey/J. Brunault:</u> Motion to go into RSA -91 -A:3, II (i) at 7:49 pm Dana Hilliard, Kim Wheelock, Bridget Cross and Chris Paquette were invited into nonpublic session <u>C. Amey/J. Brunault:</u> Motion to come out of nonpublic session at 7:52 pm	VOTE: Unanimous Roll Call Vote VOTE: Unanimous Roll Call Vote VOTE: Motion Carries VOTE: Motion Carries VOTE: Unanimous Roll Call Vote VOTE:

	<u>C. Amey/J. Brunault:</u> Motion to approve bus stops discussed in nonpublic session	Unanimous Roll Call Vote VOTE: Motion Carries
15.	Meetings: SAU Joint School Board Meeting Thursday, August 13, 2026 @ 6:00 pm CAES Library Colebrook School Board Meeting Tuesday, August 18, 2026 @ 6:00 pm CAES Library	
16.	Adjournment: <u>C. Amey/R. Bagley:</u> Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm.	VOTE: Motion Carries

Respectfully Submitted,
Billie Paquette

Board Adopted: August 18, 2026