

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TICONDEROGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Jr. Sr. High School Auditorium

"Sentinels for Excellence"

AGENDA

Members Present:

Mark Russell
 Erik Leerkes
 James Wells, Sr.

Tracey Cross-Baker
 Seanna Porter
 John Bartlett

Eric Rich
 Robert Dedrick, Sr.
 Lynne Lenhart

Others Present:

Call to Order

Emergency Evacuation Instructions

Pledge of Allegiance

Upcoming Events

- 4/22/21 - Special Board Meeting - 8:00 a.m.
- 5/11/21 - Voter Registration - District Office & Hague Community Center - Noon - 4:00 p.m.
- 5/11/21 - Public Hearing on the Budget - 6:00 p.m.
- 5/18/21 - School Budget Vote & Board Member Election - Noon - 8:00 p.m.

Recognition

2021 Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation

Budget Workshop

Budget Discussion - Mrs. Cynthia Ford-Johnston/ Mrs. Laurie Cossey

1. Approve proposed budget for expenditures in the amount of \$_____ for the 2021-22 school year.

MOTION _____ SECONDED _____ Yes ___ No ___ Abstain ___

Public Participation

Consent Agenda

Recommend the Board of Education approve the content agenda items 2 through and including 8;

2. **Agenda as Stands**
 - 2.1. April 20, 2021
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - 3.1. March 16, 2021 (Enc.)
 - 3.2. March 24, 2021 (Enc.)
 - 3.3. March 30, 2021 (Enc.)
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Enc.)
5. **Schedule of Bills** (Enc.)

6. **Extra Classroom Funds Report for March** (Enc.)
7. **CSE, CPSE and 504 Plan Recommendations** (Enc. Part 1, Enc. Part 2)
8. **Personnel**
 - 8.1. **Tenure**
 - 8.1.1. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent Dawn Wojewodzc who holds a Professional Certification in the English Language Arts 7-12 area, is hereby granted tenure in the English Language Arts tenure area effective on September 1, 2021.
 - 8.1.2. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent Kaitlyn Crammond who holds a Professional Certification in the Mathematics 7-12 area, is hereby granted tenure in the Mathematics tenure area effective on September 1, 2021.
 - 8.1.3. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent Nicholas Follett who holds a Professional Certification in the Music area, is hereby granted tenure in the Music tenure area effective on September 1, 2021.
 - 8.1.4. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent Michelle Hood who holds a Professional Certification in the Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) area, is hereby granted tenure in the Elementary tenure area effective on September 1, 2021.
 - 8.1.5. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent Marijane Stanley who holds a Professional Certification in the Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Early Childhood (Birth-Grade 2) and Literacy (Birth-Grade 6) areas, is hereby granted tenure in the Elementary tenure area effective on September 6, 2021.
 - 8.1.6. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent Theanda Burgey who holds a Professional Certification in the Literacy (Birth-Grade 6) area, is hereby granted tenure in the Remedial Reading tenure area effective on September 6, 2021.
 - 8.1.7. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent Dawn Gautreau who holds a Level III Certification, is hereby granted tenure as a Teaching Assistant effective on November 3, 2021.
 - 8.1.8. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent Virginia Morse who holds a Generalist Professional Certification in the Students with Disabilities (Grades 7-12) area, is hereby granted tenure in the Education of Children with Handicapping Conditions--General Special Education tenure area effective on December 19, 2021.
 - 8.2. **Coaches 2020-21** (Compensation for coaches to be determined)
 - 8.2.1. Varsity Football - Robert Porter
 - 8.2.2. Varsity Football Assistant - Heath Geiser
 - 8.2.3. Volunteer Varsity Football Assistant - Todd Carr, Sr.
 - 8.2.4. Modified Football - Eric Mullen
 - 8.2.5. Intramural Varsity Soccer - Tina Russell
 - 8.2.6. Intramural Modified Soccer - Kendra McCoy
 - 8.2.7. Intramural Cross Country - Jay Wells
 - 8.2.8. Intramural Modified Cross Country - Nancy Rich
 - 8.2.9. Varsity Baseball - Daniel Dorsett
 - 8.2.10. Modified Baseball - Jarrod Wright
 - 8.2.11. Varsity Softball - Eric Mullen
 - 8.2.12. Modified Softball - Tina Russell
 - 8.2.13. Golf - Jay Wells
 - 8.2.14. Track Head Coach - Nancy Rich
 - 8.2.15. Track Assistant Coach - Don Kaupellis

8.3. Resolution for Employee Donation of Sick Days

Approve a resolution whereby all District Employees shall be allowed to donate sick days to Aileen Carr for the period through the 2020-21 school year, and Aileen Carr shall not be required to pay back any sick day that may be used during her leave and any District Employee wishing to donate sick days will notify the Business Office of their desire to donate and the number of days they wish to donate, the Business Office shall charge the employee's acquitted sick days accordingly.

MOTION _____ SECONDED _____ Yes ___ No ___ Abstain ___

Items Removed from Consent Agenda

New Business

9. Policies

Policy 5633 - Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathrooms (Review 3/16/21, Adopt 4/20/21) (Enc.)

MOTION _____ SECONDED _____ Yes ___ No ___ Abstain ___

Concluding Reports and Remarks

10. Superintendent's Reports/Remarks

Superintendent's Report - COVID/School Safety Update (Enc.)
Technology Report (Enc.)

11. Board Member Remarks

Committee Reports:
• Negotiations
• Budget

Public Participation

Executive Session (if necessary)

To enter into Executive Session at _____ for discussion on: Employment History of a Particular Person(s), Negotiations, Pending Litigation.

MOTION _____ SECONDED _____ Yes ___ No ___ Abstain ___

Reconvene

Reconvene regular session at _____

MOTION _____ SECONDED _____ Yes ___ No ___ Abstain ___

Adjournment

To adjourn meeting at _____

MOTION _____ SECONDED _____ Yes ___ No ___ Abstain ___

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TICONDEROGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Jr. Sr. High School Auditorium

"Sentinels for Excellence"

MINUTES

Members Present:

Mark Russell
Erik Leerkes
James Wells, Sr.

Tracey Cross-Baker
Seanna Porter
John Bartlett

Eric Rich
Robert Dedrick, Sr.
Lynne Lenhart

Others Present:

Cynthia Ford-Johnston
Erin Hamel
John Donohue
Scott Nephew
Tracy Price
Matt & Laurie Cossey

Rick Merrill
Maria Bagneschi
Marge Hurlburt
Mike Itturino
Nick Follett
Jim Marshall

Donna Wotton
Tim Rowland
Dr. Mark Davey
Kyle Lang
Trisha Wojcik
John Woods

Call to Order by President Mark Russell at 6:00 p.m.

Emergency Evacuation Instructions

Pledge of Allegiance

Upcoming Events

- 3/30/21 - Board of Education Meeting Regarding 2021-22 Budget – 6:00 p.m.
- 4/5/21 – 4/9/21 - No School – Spring Break
- 4/20/21 - Board of Education Meeting, Hearing & Budget Adoption – 6:00 p.m.
- 5/11/21 - Voter Registration - District Office & Hague Community Center - Noon - 4:00 p.m.
- 5/11/21 - Public Hearing on the Budget - 6:00 p.m.
- 5/18/21 - School Budget Vote & Board Member Election - Noon - 8:00 p.m.

1. **Public Participation**

2. **Consent Agenda**

MOTION BY MR. DEDRICK, SECONDED BY MRS. CROSS-BAKER, to approve the consent agenda items 2.1 through and including 2.8;

2.1. **Agenda as Stands**

2.1.1. March 16, 2021

2.2. **Approval of Minutes**

- 2.2.1. February 9, 2021 (Enc.)
- 2.2.2. February 23, 2021 (Enc.)
- 2.2.3. March 11, 2021 (Enc.)

2.3. **Treasurer's Report** (Enc.)

2.4. **Schedule of Bills** (Enc.)

2.5. **Extra Classroom Funds Report for February** (Enc.)

2.6. **CSE, CPSE and 504 Plan Recommendations** (Enc.)

2.7. **Donations/Grants:**

- 2.7.1. \$250 for the Quiz Bowl from Christopher & Janet Mallon
- 2.7.2. \$250 to the Jr. Sr. High School Drama Club from the Ticonderoga Alumni Association (Sentinel Support Fund)
- 2.7.3. \$3,600 for the Portico Repair Fund from John & Joanne Bartlett

2.8. **Personnel** (Enc.)

2.8.1. **Resignations/Retirements**

- 2.8.1.1. Arnold LaFountain – Bus Driver - resignation – 55 yrs. - effective June 30, 2021
- 2.8.1.2. Caryl May - Food Service Helper - resignation - effective February 18, 2021
- 2.8.1.3. Kathy Marshall - Home Economics Teacher - for purpose of retirement - 38 yrs - effective June 30, 2021
- 2.8.1.4. Annette Dedrick - Baker - for purpose of retirement - 15 yrs - effective June 25, 2021
- 2.8.1.5. Laurie Trepanier - Teacher Aide - resignation - effective March 16, 2021

2.8.2. **Leave Request**

- 2.8.2.1. Britney Shaw (Art Teacher) requests a paid leave, to be paid from sick/personal time if available, under Family Medical Leave Act, effective February 8, 2021 with an expected return to work date of March 1, 2021
- 2.8.2.2. Rick Merrill (Assistant Principal) requests a paid leave, to be paid from sick/personal time if available, under Family Medical Leave Act, effective January 19, 2021 with an expected return to work date of February 8, 2021
- 2.8.2.3. Cindy Mitchell (Teaching Assistant/Bus Driver) requests a paid leave, to be paid from sick/personal time if available, under Family Medical Leave Act, effective February 23, 2021 with an expected return to work date of March 3, 2021
- 2.8.2.4. Frances Malaney (Teaching Assistant) requests a paid leave, to be paid from sick/personal time if available, under Family Medical Leave Act, effective March 10, 2021 with an expected return to work date awaiting physical release.

2.8.3. **Election Inspectors: May Budget Vote**

- 2.8.3.1. Jean McKee - Chairperson/Chief Election Inspector (Ti)
- 2.8.3.2. Cheryl O'Connor - Election Inspector (Ti)
- 2.8.3.3. David Rutkowski - Election Inspector (Ti)
- 2.8.3.4. Laurie Cossey - Election Inspector (Ti)
- 2.8.3.5. Anne Michalak - Election Inspector (Ti)
- 2.8.3.6. Lori Fuller - Election Inspector(Ti)
- 2.8.3.7. Jackie Andersen - Election Inspector (Ti)
- 2.8.3.8. Michelle Gautreau - Chief Election Inspector (Hague)
- 2.8.3.9. Michelle Litus - Election Inspector (Hague)
- 2.8.3.10. Rick Carpenter - Machine Tech

2.8.4. **Volunteer Drivers 2020-21** (District Occasional Use Vehicles)

- 2.8.4.1. Michael Uchal
- 2.8.4.2. Sarah Ellsworth

2.8.5. **Advisors 2020-21** (Compensation for advisors to be determined)

- 2.8.5.1. Mike Iturrino - Senior High School Jazz Ensemble Director
- 2.8.5.2. Nick Follett - Junior High School Jazz Ensemble Director

2.8.6. **Coaches 2020-21** (Compensation for coaches to be determined)

- 2.8.6.1. Robert Sutphen - Volunteer Girls & Boys Basketball Coach
- 2.8.6.2. Michael Pockett - JV Boys Basketball Coach
- 2.8.6.3. Michael Pockett - Resign JV Boys Basketball Coach (3/8/21)
- 2.8.6.4. Eric Mullen - JV Boys Basketball Coach (3/8/21)
- 2.8.6.5. Tina Russell - Scoreboard Operator
- 2.8.6.6. Danielle Palandrani - Scoreboard Operator

Motion Carried: 9-0

3. **Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

4. **Old Business** (Indicates items to be discussed)

5. **New Business**

5.1. **Sports Preparedness Plan (Amendment for Spectators)**

MOTION BY MR. RICH, SECONDED BY MR. DEDRICK, to approve amendment to allow two spectators per senior athlete for senior night game

Motion Carried: 9-0

5.2. **Board of Registration**

MOTION BY MR. RICH, SECONDED BY MR. DEDRICK, to appoint the following qualified voters to the 2021 Board of Registration: Laurie Cossey, Anne Michalak, Michele Gautreau & Michele Litus.

Motion Carried: 9-0

5.3. **Champlain Valley Educational Services (BOCES) Board of Education**

MOTION BY MRS. LEMHART, SECONDED BY MR. WELLS, to approve the nomination of Donna Wotton

Motion Carried: 9-0

5.4. **BOCES Cooperative Purchasing**

MOTION BY MRS. CROSS-BAKER, SECONDED BY MR. DEDRICK, to award the following bids from the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES Cooperative Bids for 2021-22 school year:

<u>COMMODITY</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
Heating Fuel (JSHS)	MX Petroleum	\$1.9180 (fixed)
Heating Fuel (ES)	MX Petroleum	\$2.0880 (fixed)
Gasoline	MX Petroleum	\$0.3471 (differential)
Propane	Griffith	\$1.1330 (fixed)
ULSD	Adirondack Energy	\$2.2462 (fixed)
		\$2.4662 (80/20 blend)

Motion Carried: 9-0

- 5.5. **Memorandum of Understanding Adirondack Community Action Programs (Enc.)**
MOTION BY MR. DEDRICK, SECONDED BY MR. WELLS, to authorize signature on memorandum of understanding

Motion Carried: 9-0

- 5.6. **Adopt the 2021-2022 School Calendar (Enc.)**
MOTION BY MRS. CROSS-BAKER, SECONDED BY MR. DEDRICK, to adopt 2021-2022 school calendar

Motion Carried: 9-0

5.7. **Policies**

MOTION BY MRS. LENHART, SECONDED BY MR. BARTLETT, to review/adopt policy 1900 and Policy 5633

- 5.7.1. **Policy 1900 - Parent Involvement (Review 2/9/21, Adopt 3/16/21) (Enc.)**
5.7.2. **Policy 5633 - Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathrooms (Review 3/16/21, Adopt 4/20/21) (Enc.)**

Motion Carried: 9-0

6. **Concluding Reports and Remarks**

6.1. **Superintendent's Reports/Remarks**

- 6.1.1. COVID/Sports/School Safety Update (Enc.)
6.1.2. Technology Report

6.2. **Board Member Remarks**

- 6.2.1. Committee Reports:
6.2.1.1. Superintendent Search
6.2.1.2. Negotiations
6.2.1.3. Budget

7. **Public Participation**

8. **Executive Session (if necessary)**

MOTION BY MR. DEDRICK, SECONDED BY MR. WELLS, to enter into Executive Session for discussion on:

- 8.1. **Negotiations**
8.2. **The Employment History of a Particular Person(s)**

Motion Carried: 9-0

TIME IN: 6:29 p.m.

TIME OUT: 7:37 p.m.

9. **Adjournment**

MOTION BY MR. RICH, SECONDED BY MR. DEDRICK, to adjourn meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Motion Carried: 9-0

SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TICONDEROGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.
District Conference Room

"Sentinels for Excellence"

MINUTES

Members Present:

Mark Russell
Erik Leerkes
James Wells, Sr.

Tracey Cross-Baker
Seanna Porter
John Bartlett

Robert Dedrick, Sr.
Lynne Lenhart

Members Absent:

Eric Rich
Lynne Lenhart

Others Present:

Cynthia Ford-Johnston

Call to Order by President Mark Russell at 5:00 p.m.

Emergency Evacuation Instructions

Pledge of Allegiance

1. **Appointment of Clerk Pro-Tem**

MOTION BY MR. DEDRICK, SECONDED BY MR. WELLS, to appoint Interim Superintendent Cynthia Ford-Johnston as District Clerk Pro-Tem for the purpose of taking minutes of the meeting

Motion Carried: 7-0

2. **Executive Session**

MOTION BY MR. DEDRICK, SECONDED BY MR. WELLS, to enter into Executive Session at 5:01 p.m. for discussion on:

2.1. **New Superintendent Search**

Motion Carried: 7-0

Mr. Leerkes left the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

3. **Reconvene**

MOTION BY MR. WELLS, SECONDED BY MRS. CROSS-BAKER, to reconvene at 5:50 p.m.

Motion Carried: 6-0

4. **Adjournment**

MOTION BY MR. WELLS, SECONDED BY MR. DEDRICK, to adjourn meeting at 5:51 p.m.

Motion Carried: 6-0

Erin Hamel, District Clerk

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TICONDEROGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Jr. Sr. High School Auditorium

"Sentinels for Excellence"

MINUTES

Members Present:

Mark Russell
Erik Leerkes
James Wells, Sr.

Tracey Cross-Baker
Seanna Porter
John Bartlett

Robert Dedrick, Sr.
Lynne Lenhart
Eric Rich

Others Present:

Cynthia Ford-Johnston
Erin Hamel
Laurie & Matt Cossey
John Donohue

Tracy Price
Scott Nephew
Rick Merrill
Tim Rowland

Mike Iturrino
Marge Huriburt

Call to Order by President Mark Russell at 6:01 p.m.

Emergency Evacuation Instructions

Pledge of Allegiance

Budget Workshop

Budget Discussion - Mrs. Ford-Johnston/Laurie Cossey

Public Participation

Consent Agenda

MOTION BY MR. LEERKES, SECONDED BY MRS. CROSS-BAKER, recommend the Board of Education approve the content agenda items 1 through and including 3;

1. Agenda as Stands
 - 1.1. March 30, 2021
2. Donations/Grants:
 - 2.1. \$500 to the Elementary School from Stewart's Holiday Match
 - 2.2. One pallet of topsoil to the Elementary Garden
 - 2.3. \$2,800 for the Portico Repair Fund from John & Joanne Bartlett
3. Personnel (Enc.)
 - 3.1. Leave Request
 - 3.1.1. Jody Sutphen (Social Studies Teacher) requests a paid leave, to be paid from sick/personal time (if available), under the Family Medical Leave Act for the period of March 8, 2021 through April 2, 2021, awaiting a physician's release.

Motion Carried: 9-0

Items Removed from Consent Agenda

New Business

4. MOTION BY MR. WELLS, SECONDED BY MRS. LENHART, to approve Employment Agreement by and between Ticonderoga Central School District and Cynthia Ford-Johnston (Enc.)
Motion Carried: 9-0
5. MOTION BY MR. WELLS, SECONDED BY MR. LEERKES, to adopt District Communicable Disease and Pandemic Plan (Enc.)
Motion Carried: 9-0
6. MOTION BY MRS. LENHART, SECONDED BY MRS. CROSS-BAKER, to approve District Standing Order for Administration of Naloxone (Enc.)
Motion Carried: 9-0

Public Participation

Executive Session (if necessary)

MOTION BY MR. RICH, SECONDED BY MR. DEDRICK, to enter into Executive Session at 6:25 p.m. for discussion on negotiations.

Motion Carried: 9-0

Reconvene

MOTION BY MR. DEDRICK, SECONDED BY MR. WELLS, to reconvene Regular Session at 6:57 p.m.

Motion Carried: 9-0

Adjournment

MOTION BY MR. WELLS, SECONDED BY MR. LEERKES, to adjourn meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Motion Carried: 9-0

GENDER NEUTRAL SINGLE-OCCUPANCY BATHROOMS

The District is committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive educational and work environment. The District will ensure that all single-occupancy bathroom facilities are designated as gender neutral for use by no more than one occupant at a time or for family or assisted use.

"Single-occupancy bathroom" means a bathroom intended for use by no more than one occupant at a time or for family or assisted use and which has a door for entry into and egress from the bathroom that may be locked by the occupant to ensure privacy and security.

All gender-neutral bathroom facilities will be clearly designated by the posting of signage either on or near the entry door of each facility.

Education Law § 409-m
Public Buildings Law § 145

Adoption Date:

April 16, 2021

To: TCSD Board of Education
From: Cynthia Ford-Johnston

Re: April 2021 Superintendent's Report

COVID:

Three Foot Rule: New changes in regulations regarding distancing have been issued by SED and NYS DOH. Classrooms may adjust to afford 3ft. for spacing of desks. The space required in the cafeteria and on busses remains 6ft.

Challenges to moving to fully in person five days per week for all students remain:

Transportation - the social distancing on busses has not changed. To add riders will not be possible without potentially needing to add runs which would essentially alter arrival and departure times. Altering these times would require reworking the master schedule and potentially employee workdays.

Cafeteria - The elementary building has had some classes eat in their classrooms. This would no longer be possible if the classrooms were adjusted to 3ft. At the Jr. Sr. High the configuration of the cafeteria would need to remain but student desks have been moved from classrooms to accommodate the distance requirements. Other arrangements would be needed.

Masks would be required at all times. Now students are allowed to remove their masks while being seated at their desks.

Remote learners - We still have just under 100 students receiving fully remote instruction. Some of these students do not have internet access sufficient to be able to stream their classes (Jr. Sr. HS) nor is that an option for our younger students. Many remote students are needing paper-based instruction. Therefore time to have teachers work directly or dedicated to meet the needs of those students is currently being provided on Mondays. That need is not changing.

The recommendation for adjusting the space required in Music classes has changed to 6 ft. This is a change we could make that would only have a positive impact on the schedule and student's lives. If in agreement, this change could be publicized and an amendment made to our current plan.

Reconvening of the planning team and the seeking of public input for a new/revised plan is a requirement. This process would require a considerable amount of time.

What has been happening to meet the needs of our students:

At the Jr. Sr. High there are students now who attend four or even five days of instruction each week based upon their academic needs. Students are coming to school on Mondays and teachers are providing direct instruction to help those who are struggling.

Although we continue to try to work through the possibilities of returning to full in-person instruction five days a week for all students, the effort and obstacles may not be possible to overcome given that approximately 45 days of classes remain in the school year.

Graduation: New guidance for graduation and other events and gatherings have been issued as well. If the event(s) are conducted outdoors and less than 200 people are in attendance, there is no requirement for monitoring vaccination nor prior to event COVID testing. More than 200 people in attendance and those requirements are in place. At this time we are exploring options, Mr. Donohue is working with the seniors and their advisors to determine the model to use for graduation.

Prom: A hot topic for both the Juniors and Senior classes. Mr. Donohue and I have been meeting with the advisors and they in turn are meeting with the students to explore the possibilities. Under serious consideration, at this time, is for the Seniors to have a Senior Banquet to be held at the new Country Club and for the Juniors to have a more traditional prom in the fall of 2021 with an outdoor event being considered (along with hopes of greater flexibility by that time).

Federal Funding Available: There are two allocations currently being made available for TCSD. The CRRSA and ARPA funds both require a plan for spending over multiple years. They each have somewhat different criteria and guidelines for spending. Both are for non-recurring spending, must address learning loss and COVID related cost recovery. The administrative team has just now begun to look at the options and seek the input from faculty as to how best develop a plan for the utilization of these once in a lifetime funds so as to insure the most benefit for our students and families. The amounts are staggering: CRRSA has been presented to be \$674,705. and the ARPA is at \$1,459,109.

4/15/2021

Technology Update



During the last week of March, we had our project kick-off meeting with ConvergeOne. On April 2nd, our installer came to do a walkthrough and we began collecting preliminary phone data. I will also be collecting and forwarding much more information to him over the next few weeks. He also took some of our equipment back to his office to begin building our system.

However, not all of our equipment has been shipped. He is still waiting for two critical pieces and the lead time on this equipment could be as much as an additional six to eight weeks.

In addition, our sales representative, Brent, made another trip to our buildings this week to verify that we had enough switch space to accommodate the “latest and greatest” Wireless Access Points (WAPs) that Aruba wants to give us.

At this time Brent believes that we’ll be able to get the latest version of WAPs within our approved budget and that our current network will only need a few minor switch upgrades (at the cost of maybe \$200-\$400) in order to support these WAPs.

For a number of reasons, we’re looking to move the actual installation date back to early July.

First, Brent is much more comfortable with having the new wireless portion of the network up and running and then “laying the phone system on top of a completed and operational network.”

Second, any install while school is still in session causes several headaches. Each classroom phone needs to be mounted on the wall and the old phone removed (different mounts of course). This was always our responsibility, but due to current vacancies in our maintenance department, man power for this is a major issue. Also, changing phone systems requires training for every user, both office staff and teachers. Waiting until summer allows us to train office staff together and then schedule teacher training into our opening days of school.

And lastly, it may be out of our hands anyway...if the required equipment doesn’t arrive within the next couple of weeks, the system simply won’t be built in time for an earlier intall.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.