

TROY SCHOOL  
JAY/WESTFIELD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Jay/Westfield School  
Tuesday, September 19, 2017

**APPROVED MINUTES**

VIII. Other Business

A. District to District Conversation with the Troy School Board (7:30 - 8:00 P.M.): *It is noted that a quorum for the Troy School Board is not required to participate in the district-to-district conversations as Board action is not required.* Sally Rivard welcomed Troy School Board and principal. After introductions, the format for the discussion was decided to be open ended. For clarity, discussion points are listed under broad headings that correspond to NCSU guiding questions and included:

**Current collaborations/sharing:**

- Schools share staff and discuss opportunities and/or need as they arise.
- Share summer programs offerings – opportunity to see students in different setting
- Ongoing collaborations/sharing are considered ‘equity of opportunity’
- Students are invited to participant in Music Fest (invitation is extended across the NCSU)
- Past experience of students from outlying NCSU member school districts was a sense of dissociation from other students participating in extra-curricular activities at North Country Union High School. That has changed as NCSU students are forming friendships by participating in NCSU-wide programs (music [Music Fest], dance, athletics [NCSU-wide baseball and softball teams with 5 member districts on each team]). Concern for those interested and capable students who are unable to attend out of district programs because of financial and/or transportation issues.

**New or additional collaborations/sharing:**

- Possible sharing of TS, Director of Maintenance, as added capability
- Given ongoing building maintenance needs, perhaps joint multi-building RFP for painting (as example)
- Storage is an ongoing need for both schools
- Student needs could be met locally by sharing program resources for gifted students. For example, a JWES 6<sup>th</sup> grade student could attend math class with 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade at TS.
- Expand linking of athletic programs (school or town sponsored teams) beyond baseball. Non-cut teams (e.g., golf, track, cross country) could be targeted. An afterschool golf team could be formed (e.g., First Tee Program at Jay Peak golf course). Specifically, the Jay Peak golf pro has led JWES PE classes focused on golfing. Local running clubs could help build interest locally. Anticipated TS Athletic Director hire could help coordinate transportation to and from practice and games. The end result would help local students with their NCSU peers transition to NCUHS athletic program requirements (HS sports contracts).
- Sharing/combining students by skiing/riding abilities to form small groups for Jay Days (skiing program at Jay Peak). Perhaps setting up a race course (at appropriate ability level) with interschool competitions. Identifying a school champion, passionate about skiing/riding, could provide the best chance for implementation.
- TS is working with the Missisquoi River Watershed Authority on recently gifted land (River Road). Hands on science programs (e.g., water quality testing) or work in establishing walking trails (modeled after the Jay Trail) could also provide collaborative/shared opportunities. Outdoor classroom trail work days (JAY/Troy) work together
- Program to support local gifted teachers – given the talented educators in the NCSU. Focus would be to use local experts to teach/train. If NCSU-wide, the program becomes too cumbersome and so this would initially start small with a local program (neighboring schools).
- Transportation between the schools should not be a barrier as TS has potential for additional capacity to add bus runs if needed.

**Supervisory level collaborations/sharing:**

- Exposing 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade students to Career Center offerings during summer break could be beneficial (e.g., career and life skills, technical education, cooking/baking, basic automotive repairs, etc). Grants for innovation could be targeted to support such a program. Perhaps an instructor/teacher could do a program(s) locally and/or interested neighboring school districts could transport students to the Career Center.
- Interest in identifying ways to connect with NCUHS as many programs intersect (e.g., local students could use NCUHS for outside of school learning). Not sure how (or with whom) these discussions could begin. With the NCUHS in transition (as in member school districts) there is parental angst. A partnership with NCUHS could ease parental concerns with coming changes in education.
- Connecting local students with NCUHS students (e.g., NCUHS students coaching or working with students at Jay Peak).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gaston Bathalon

**Present:**

**Troy School Board:**



Gaston Bathalon, Chair

**Jay/Westfield School Board:**

Sally Rivard, Chair  
Kevin Amyot  
Nicole Dunn  
Jeff Morse  
Janellen Parker-Goodwin  
Kristy Pillsbury

**Administration:**

Chris Young, Principal, Troy School  
Tara Morse, Jay/Westfield School District Treasurer