

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 38 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Maranacook Community High School
March 22, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Minutes of Meeting

Present: Chair Terri Watson, Vice Chair Melissa O'Neal, Gary Carr, Shawn Roderick, Betty Morrell, Joan Farrar, Adam Woodford, Trish Jackson, Wendy Brotherlin, Lucas Rumler, Kelly Crotteau, Malcolm Hardy

Members Excused: Jon Caron

Administrators: Superintendent Donna Wolfrom, Principals Jeff Boston, Dwayne Conway, Janet Delmar, and Rick Hogan, Assistant Principal Kristen Levesque, Special Education Director Ryan Meserve, Technology Director Diane MacGregor, Finance Manager Brigette Williams, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Nancy Harriman

1. Call to order: Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM
2. Citizens' comments: None
3. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent: None

4. Action/Discussion/Information Items

a. Approval of Minutes from March 15, 2017

Motion by Carr, second by Brotherlin to approve the Minutes of March 15th as presented. **Motion Carried:** Unanimous

5. Budget Workshop

a. Updates:

There is a 9% increase of health insurance premiums built into the budget at this time, we will not know further information until the first week of April.

Trish Jackson inquired if we made no change over 2016-17 budget how much would the increase be of the expenditure budget. Around 3 % was answered.

FYI 18 Budget Documents in folders. A discussion proceeded with concerns and questions about aspects of the proposed budget.

Overall the budget has a 5.42 % increase over last year. (see green sheet in packet)

Discussion on the Priorities list. The items that have been removed are listed in the top section. The middle section are items that may be cut, if needed, and the bottom are priority items that need to be kept in the budget.

There was discussion over additional Warrant Articles that could be added in anticipation of receiving additional subsidy from the State of Maine:

Article 1: We can retain some of the additional subsidy and give some back to towns

Article 2: We would give the additional subsidy all back to towns

Article 3: We will keep all the additional subsidy and increase expenditures

Discussed that at the April 5th budget workshop all should be prepared to vote on which article the board would like to support.

Discussed what the actual increase of local dollars is, based on the Version 2 budget, and Brigette explained that it is an 8.64% increase of local dollars due to the loss of state funding.

The center items on the items to consider list were discussed at length.

It was discussed that maybe the A-Team could take another look at these areas and make suggested cuts.

Donna Wolfrom wanted to make all aware that in the New Guiding Principles, students will need to meet proficiency in a world language in order to graduate with a diploma. She feels we need a middle school program to make this achievable for all students.

b. Deliberations: Included above.

c. Board Questions:

New maintenance service contract with a \$27,000 increase, what does this cover and is it a reasonable cost for this service?

Is there a process of evaluating the new positions that were hired last year and the outcomes?

80% of Budget is Salary and Benefits, any word on how negotiations are going? Donna

Wolfrom stated we are currently in mediation with the teachers.

Some board members are concerned about citizens with fixed income and the added cost this proposal will have on them.

Proposed budget will be voted on by the school board on April 12th.

Gary Carr will not be at the April 5th meeting and would like it known that he is in favor of Article 2 of the additional Warrant Articles.

Worker Comp was brought up and the thought that we could bid this out – Brigitte Williams will look into this. Brigitte Williams did mention that the rate of workers comp has gone down.

d. Citizens Comments Regarding budget: none

e. Board Discussion:

Here to represent the students, they come first; more people need to become involved.

Feel the board is a balance of both student and citizens' interests.

Shawn Roderick and Melissa O'Neal stated they cannot support a proposal if the last five items in the middle section on the Priorities List are removed.

Participation fees were brought up and questioned if this will be looked at again.

6. Adjournment: MOTION and second to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna H. Wolfrom, Superintendent/Secretary
Kelly Thompson, Recorder