

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #38 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Maranacook Community High School Student Center**  
**November 16, 2016**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

Present: Chair Terri Watson, Vice Chair Melissa O’Neal, Wendy Brotherlin, Jon Caron, Gary Carr, Kelly Crotteau, Joan Farrar, Malcolm Hardy, Trish Jackson, Betty Morrell, Shawn Roderick, Lucas Rumler, (1 vacancy, Readfield)

Administrators: Superintendent Donna Wolfrom, Principals Jeff Boston, Dwayne Conway, Janet Delmar, and Rick Hogan, Finance Manager Brigette Williams, Adult and Community Education Director Steve Vose, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Nancy Harriman

1. Call to order: Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.  
Chair Watson announced that Jim Marr resigned from the board effective November 15. The Readfield Select Board will be filling the position for the remainder of this school year.
2. Presentation: Adult and Community Education CDL Program  
Adult and Community Education Director Steve Vose reported on the CDL Program as well as a brief overview of other adult education offerings. The CDL program offers basic as well as additional endorsement instruction for Commercial Driving License (Class B). The program has a 98% success rate for students completing the program and going on to complete the state mandated written and driving tests. Mr. Vose is working with local business to provide a Career Night to assist program graduates in finding employment. The next Career Night is December 1, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Representatives from RSU 38, Augusta Fuel, Maine DOT, and NRF Distributors will be on hand to talk with students and assist them in the application process.
3. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of Minutes of November 2, 2016
  - b. Acceptance of Donations
  - c. Acceptance of Resignation – Brett Trefethen, K-8 Integration Specialist  
**MOTION** by Carr, second by Morrell to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.  
**Motion Carried:** unanimous  
Mr. Trefethen was thanked for his many years of service to the district.
4. Citizens’ Comments: none
5. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent:  
Chair Watson added item 6b, discussion regarding inviting members of the Legislative Delegation of our 4 towns to meet with the Board before the legislative session gets started.
6. Action/Discussion/Informational Items:
  - a. Consideration of recommendation regarding make-up day for High School and Middle School  
Superintendent Wolfrom referred Board members to the memorandum in the Board packet. The Maranacook High School and Middle School were closed on October 14<sup>th</sup> due to a water issue.

According to State Statute, we are required to make up the day since this caused the majority of our students to miss a school day. Superintendent Wolfrom met with Jill Watson, Maranacook Area Staff Association President, asking her to meet with the Association members and make a recommendation on how they would like to make up the day.

Based on their feedback Superintendent Wolfrom is recommending the Maranacook High School and Middle School make up the day on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> by having a half-day session for students and staff. This day is currently marked on the calendar as an In-Service Comp day for staff. The elementary schools will still be closed.

**MOTION** by Roderick, second by Morrell to support the Superintendent's recommendation to change the calendar and have a half-day of school at the Maranacook Community High School and Middle School on Friday, April 14, 2017.

Discussion ensued. Concern was raised that since the students and staff lost a full day, they should make up a full day.

**MOTION by Carr to amend the motion to make April 14 a full day of school for staff and students.** The amendment was seconded by Caron. Discussion continued.

**Motion on amendment failed:** 5 in favor, 7 opposed (Caron, Crotteau, Farrar, Morrell, O'Neal, Roderick, Watson)

**Vote on original Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 2 opposed (Carr, Hardy)

b. Discussion regarding inviting RSU #38 Legislative Delegation to meet with the Board

Chair Watson asked the Board for their opinions regarding inviting members of the RSU #38 Legislative Delegate to talk about what they do and what the School Board does, probably before the legislative session begins. The Board discussed what had been done in the past. Opinions shared included reaching out to newly elected officials, sending a letter to the newly elected official from the Board, waiting until the list of bills come out to have an actual conversation rather than a hypothetical conversation, and consider inviting a representative from the Education Department, MEA, and/or the Governor, to sit side by side to have an open discussion.

7. Workshop Session: Discussion regarding participation fees/late bus.

Chair Watson reported that last year the board discussed the possibility of appointing a committee to discuss this subject after the community members voted at Annual Meeting to add \$45,000 to the budget for the purpose of eliminating the activity fees.

Superintendent Wolfrom reviewed the history of the participation fees as well as the elimination of the late bus in 2009-2010.

Student Services Director Al MacGregor reported that based on participation numbers the fees did not detract from participation. The decrease in participation for the middle school beginning in 2012-13 was due to Middle School League issues where the 7<sup>th</sup> grade teams were eliminated. There is talk at the Middle School League level about reinstating 7<sup>th</sup> grade soccer in the fall. When the fees were in place, there were scholarships provided from the Maranacook Education Foundation (MEF). Leadership of the MEF felt it should be covered in the school budget.

Finance Manager Williams reported on the history of the late bus runs. There were 3 separate runs that left Maranacook around 5:00; they did not provide door to door drop off. The cost to reinstitute the late bus runs would be approximately \$20,000.

Other information reported by Mrs. Williams: last year participation fees collected totaled \$45,000; the total athletic/co-curricular budget is \$419,065; the State provides \$58,067, through the funding formula, toward extra-curricular offerings.

Discussion items included whether it would be appropriate for the committee to look at gate fees; the philosophical question of whether families should be charged for their students to participate

in activities; whether a survey to students and parents be conducted to gauge the level of interest for a late bus.

Chair Watson asked for 3 or 4 volunteers from the Board to serve on a Committee to study the following: what is the cost to the district if it does not assess an activity fee; what would be the cost to reinstate the late bus service; and what things could be cut from the budget? Trish Jackson, Lucas Rumler, Jon Caron, Kelly Crotteau and Wendy Brotherlin volunteered to serve on the Committee along with Al MacGregor. Suggestion was made to open up the committee to include members from the community (possibly one from each town), a student from the middle school and high school, and a couple of coaches.

8. Executive Session to discuss Central Office administrative support negotiations pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D)

**MOTION** by Carr, second Hardy to enter Executive Session to discuss Central Office administrative support negotiations pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D). **Motion Carried:** unanimous.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:30 and returned to Public Session at 8:30 p.m.

9. Action following Executive Session (if any): no action was taken.
10. Adjournment: **MOTION** and second to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna H. Wolfrom, Superintendent/Secretary  
D. Foster, Recorder