

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 38
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Maranacook Community High School
March 25, 2015, 6:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

1. Call to order:
2. Consent Agenda: (5 min.)
 - a. Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2015*
3. Citizens' Comments: (5 min.)
4. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent: (5 min.)
5. Action/Discussion/Informational Items: (10 min.)
 - a. Appointment of High School Dean of Students (.5 FTE) – Kristen Levesque*
 - b. Consideration of 2015-2016 School Calendar*
6. Budget Workshop (60 min.)
 - a. Updates
 - b. Deliberations, follow-up and decision making
 - c. Board questions
 - d. Citizens comments regarding budget
 - e. Board discussion
7. Adjournment:

* Attachments

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 38
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Maranacook Community High School
March 18, 2015
Minutes of Meeting

Members present: Chair David Greenham, Michael Apolito, John Blouin, Gary Carr, Steve Hayes, Trish Jackson, Shawn Roderick, Bonnie Simcock, Terri Watson

Members absent: Vice Chair Melissa O’Neal (excused), Russ Evans, Pia Holmes (excused), one vacant position (Wayne)

Administrators: Superintendent Donna Wolfrom, Principals Jeff Boston, Dwayne Conway, Janet Delmar and Cathy Jacobs, Technology Director Diane MacGregor, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Nancy Harriman, Adult and Community Education Director Steve Vose, Special Education Director Ryan Meserve, Finance Manager Brigitte Williams

1. Call to order: Chair Greenham called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.
2. Recognition: High School Boys’ Nordic Ski Team and HS Boys’ Alpine/Nordic Combined Team
 Superintendent Wolfrom introduced Nordic Coach Steve DeAngelis, Alpine Coach Ronn Gifford, and Assistant Coaches Donn Harriman and Kathy Despres. In addition to the teams earning State Championships, three of the four Maranacook Ski Teams earned Sportsmanship Awards. Team members were presented with certificates from the Board.
3. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approval of Minutes of March 4, 2015
MOTION by Carr, second by Blouin to approve the minutes of March 4, 2015 as presented.
Motion Carried: 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions (Apolito, Hayes)
4. Citizens’ Comments: none
5. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent:
 Gary Carr informed the Board about the Town of Wayne Comprehensive Plan. There is a statement in the plan that reports there is a lower parcel of land at Wayne Elementary School that has “quite an infestation”. G.Carr inquired about the type of infestation the Plan was referring to and was told it was a plant. Superintendent Wolfrom asked Facilities Manager Paul Criss to investigate and he reported that there is no evidence of invasive plants at the school.
 G.Carr requested time to discuss mentoring. Chair Greenham added this as item 6d of the agenda.
6. Action/Discussion/Informational Items:
 - a. Acceptance of Resignation due to Retirement – David McLean, MCHS
MOTION by Carr to accept the resignation of David McLean with appreciation for his many years of service to the District, seconded by Watson. **Motion Carried:** unanimous
 - b. NWEA Report
 Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Nancy Harriman reported on the mid-year NWEA scores (handout). The test is administered via computer and the questions get more difficult or easier based on the students’ responses. The test assesses growth best when students take it throughout the year.
 - c. Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements Extension
 Superintendent Wolfrom reported on the history behind the proficiency based graduation requirements. There are eight content areas that students need to prove their proficiency in before graduating. This was originally scheduled to take place with the graduating class of 2018. Realizing

school districts would need more time to implement the requirements, the Department of Education offered 6 extension options. Our Administrative Team selected option 4. After submitting the application for option 4 Superintendent Wolfrom heard back from the Department suggesting that we apply for option 3, which states our students will be ready to demonstrate all the standards after the spring of 2020 which is the class of 2021. The Option 4 application has been submitted and accepted and now the Administrative team will work to lay out the timeline more explicitly.

d. Mentoring

Gary Carr reported that the Town of Wayne Comprehensive Plan also has a section that speaks to testing results of the elementary school students. He suggested compiling a list of community members willing to mentor students and provide the list to all teachers. Superintendent Wolfrom added that the district has a very active volunteer program in all our schools. After completing the Volunteer Application, members of the community can sign up at the schools to go in and work with students. The district no longer has a volunteer coordinator on staff.

7. Budget Workshop:

a. Updates

Superintendent Wolfrom asked Special Education Director Ryan Meserve to report on the recommendation for the Wayne Regional Autism Program (WRAP).

Ryan Meserve proposed eliminating the WRAP program given the projected enrollment for next year. The Program has had great success over the years, but with projections we are left with one tuition student. One CDS student will be transitioned back to the sending school as well as 2 other students. We have one student left which is one of our students who is ready to transition to the program we have at Readfield Elementary.

Superintendent Wolfrom added the Fourth Draft General Fund Summary Budget represents the shift of approximately \$60,000 and a reduction of \$7,500 in payments to Maine Care billing as a result of closing the WRAP program. This reduces the percentage increase in the proposed budget to 4.6%. The reductions from WRAP are included in the summary of budget reductions.

Other updates include:

The Revenue sheet (green) reflects a revised ED279, decreasing the adult education subsidy by \$1,806. There is also a revised local dollar calculation sheet reflecting this change.

EPS ratios – important to note that the teacher:student ratios include all classroom teachers as well as specialists (art, physical education, music teachers, etc.). Also it does not take into account the district have 4 separate elementary schools.

Requests were made to add a “proposed 2015-16” column as well as an explanation as to why our teacher:student ratios are higher than recommended on the EPS ratio sheets.

Other information provided include a chart outlining the staffing increases in the budget, the current elementary schools enrollment, and Pre-K talking points.

Unknowns include the health/dental insurance, and whether the Charter School tuition has been taken out of the ED279 projection. Also, we may be able to reduce a teacher at Mt. Vernon Elementary for the kindergarten class. This is not a new position in the budget; it is a shift from a teaching position at Manchester Elementary that will no longer be needed.

b. Deliberations, follow-up and decision making

c. Board questions

S.Hayes noted the importance of letting people know that the communities will be expected to contribute \$352,797 in the required local dollar in order to receive the state subsidy amount which is down \$51,785. These amounts are set for us and do not include any of the new requests in the budget.

Question was asked about the BCBA’s responsibilities especially with the elimination of the WRAP program. R.Meserve responded that the BCBA is funded through special education and that person works with the middle and high school readiness skills program staff and students as well as the K-5 Readiness Skills Program at Readfield Elementary. The BCBA provides planning and assistance in developing individualized behavior programs. Having a BCBA on staff to rely on allows us to not have to outsource these services or send the students to programs outside the district.

Discussion ensued about the Promethean Boards and whether there are other options that would provide more students with similar benefits of what the Promethean Boards offer. Have we targeted what classrooms they would go into? Superintendent Wolfrom responded that the Promethean Boards serve a different purpose in that they are used for whole group instruction. The Boards would go in the classrooms where the teachers are interested in putting the additional work into utilizing the boards. Another option noted was to consider a lease purchase agreement. Since Readfield already has 2, do they need another one? The Board is part of a student's individualized learning plan so if another Board is not purchased for RES one of the current grades with a Board will have to move.

Discussion regarding increased staffing. Superintendent Wolfrom reported that the increase of a teacher in Mt. Vernon is actually a shift from a reduction at Manchester Elementary. The increases are for the increase for math and literacy intervention teachers, middle school behavior teacher; as well as increased time for elementary guidance, elementary nurse, and educational technician for the PreK program. The other big chunk is providing for transportation for the Universal Pre-K program. Discussion ensued about the need for bussing and whether it actually brings more students in for the program.

Chairman Greenham recapped that the board is hearing that all of these are an investment; so the question to deal with is whether the District can afford all of these important investments and whether the communities will support a budget increase of 4.6%.

Superintendent Wolfrom was asked to work with the Administrative Team to develop a priority list. Superintendent Wolfrom added it would be helpful to have an idea of where the Board wants to end up.

d. Citizens comments

Allen Curtis, Readfield resident and Select Board member spoke of his support of the Pre-K program, stating he believed it is probably the best investment the school board can do. Regarding the interventionists' positions he asked that the board take them out of the budget for this year and to do a study on what is going on in the schools, why they are needed, see if we can fix it and then come back next year if the board feels they are still needed.

Bob Marvinney, Readfield resident spoke about his support for the schools and education, noting a lot of people will look at a simple matrix when voting – decreased students, increased staff. He felt some of the justification sheets for the interventionist positions were very well justified while others were not. He has seen a lot of retirements, and doesn't know what level the board will look for realigning staff to address some of these other needs. A discussion among the board would be very beneficial to possibly address some of the things that are being proposed.

e. Board Discussion

Requests/Suggestions:

- Priority list from the Administrative Team.
- Suggest looking at the interventionists and behavior specialist positions that make up the 4.8 FTE to see if the request can be prioritized based on the potential number of students impacted directly.
- Would rather do with what we have for Pre-K and focus on other areas where a bigger impact can be made.
- Should decide what is necessary and not say what percentage the budget needs to be.
- Priority list of all the additions.
- There might be other areas to make cuts in the budget if these requests are considered more important.

8. Adjournment: **MOTION** and second to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna H. Wolfrom, Superintendent/Secretary
Recorded by: D. Foster

Maranacook Area School District
Regional School Unit No. 38

A Caring School Community Dedicated to Excellence

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5a.

TO: RSU #38 Board of Directors
FROM: Donna H. Wolfrom, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Nomination of Half-Time High School Dean of Students – 2015-2016
DATE: March 20, 2015

I nominate Kristen Levesque as the part time Dean of Students at Maranacook Community High School. Kristen was interviewed by a team consisting of a student, a parent, administrators, and several teachers. Kristen holds a conditional certificate as Assistant School Administrator and this summer will complete the courses necessary to be certified as a School Administrator. She is completing those courses through the University of New England.

Kristen received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Delhousie University, her Masters Degree in School Counseling and Clinical Mental Health from the University of Southern Maine, and a Certificate of Advanced Study (CAS) in Substance Abuse and Adolescent Counseling from the University of Southern Maine. Kristen has worked in the district as a teacher and counselor since 2010 and also works at Crisis and Counseling as a crisis team leader.

Kristen's dedication to the Maranacook community, her passion about making Maranacook Community High School the best high school in the state, her commitment to providing an excellent education, and her love of the students makes her a strong candidate for this position. The interview team unanimously supported Kristen as the new part time Dean of Students.

Kristen will also be a part time Social Studies teacher at Maranacook. She holds state of Maine certification in that content area in grades 7-12. Kristen is a dedicated and competent educator and we are fortunate to have such a qualified candidate for this position.

I recommend that you appoint Kristen Levesque to the position of Part-time Dean of Students at the high school.

RSU #38 2015 – 2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR DRAFT #1

5b.

2015

2016

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	W	W	29
30	F1					

JANUARY						
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10	11	12	13	14	*	16
17	H	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	LS	28	29	30
31						

SEPTEMBER						
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13	14	15	LS	17	18	19
20	21	22	LS	24	*	26
27	28	29	LS			

FEBRUARY						
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14	H	V	V	V	V	20
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28	29					

OCTOBER						
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18	19	20	LS	22	23	24
25	26	27	LS	29	30	31

MARCH						
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27	28	29	LS	31		

NOVEMBER						
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APRIL						
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17	H	V	V	V	V	23
24	25	26	LS	28	29	30

DECEMBER						
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27	V	V	V	V		

MAY						
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15	16	17	LS	19	20	21
22	23	24	LS	26	27	28
29	H	31				

High School Late Start Days (classes begin at 9:00 a.m.)		
Sept. 16	Dec. 16	Mar. 30
Sept. 22	Jan. 6	April 27
Sept. 30	Jan. 27	May 4
Oct. 21	Feb. 10	May 18
Oct. 28	Feb. 24	May 25
Nov. 4	Mar. 2	June 8
Nov. 18	Mar. 9	
Dec. 9	Mar. 23	

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	LS	9	10	11
G	13	14	15	L	Δ	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

H - SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- July 4 - Independence Day
- September 7 - Labor Day
- October 12 - Columbus Day
- November 11 - Veterans' Day Observed
- November 26 - Thanksgiving Day
- December 25 - Christmas Day
- January 1 - New Year's Day
- January 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 15 - Presidents' Day
- April 18 - Patriots' Day
- May 30 - Memorial Day Observed

- W Staff In-Service (no school students)
- F1 First student day, Grades Pre-K - 6, 9, 12
- F2 First student day, Grades 7, 8, 10, 11
- G Graduation
- WI In-Service Comp Day (no school students)
- * Designated Early Release Day (see below)
- LS Gr. 9-12 Late Start Day (classes begin at 9:00)
- V Vacation
- L Last Student Day (if 5 emergency days used)
- Δ Flex Day

- Aug. 27, 28 Professional Days
- Aug. 31 1st Student Day, grades Pre-K - 6, 9, 12
- Sept. 1 1st Student Day, grades 7, 8, 10, 11
- Oct. 9 Professional Day
- Nov. 25 In-service Comp Day (no school)
- Nov. 26-27 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 23-Jan. 1 Winter Break
- Feb. 15-19 February Break
- March 18 Professional Day
- April 15 In-service Comp Day (no school)
- April 18-22 Spring Break
- June 12 Graduation
- June 16 Last student day (if 5 emer. days used)
- June 17 Last staff day (if 5 emer. days are used)

182 teacher days; 175 student days
Calendar includes 5 emergency days

Designated Early Release Days (student dismissal at 11:30 a.m.; content to be determined by Professional Development Committee and A-Team; final approval by RSU Board)

- September 25 February 3
- December 3 April 6
- January 15 May 10

Approved by RSU 38 Board _____