

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 38
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Maranacook Community High School
May 6, 2015
Minutes of Meeting

Members present: Chair David Greenham, Vice Chair Melissa O’Neal, Michael Apolito, John Blouin, Gary Carr, Steve Hayes, Pia Holmes, Trish Jackson, Shawn Roderick, Bonnie Simcock, Terri Watson

Member absent: two vacant positions (Mt. Vernon, Wayne)

Student Representatives: Molly Whittington, Molly Searway, Colleen Wright

Administrators: Superintendent Donna Wolfrom, Principals Jeff Boston, Janet Delmar and Cathy Jacobs, Technology Director Diane MacGregor, Special Education Director Ryan Meserve, Adult Education Director Steve Vose, Math Coach Sarah Caban, Finance Manager Brigitte Williams

1. Call to order: Chair Greenham called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. Presentation regarding Council of Supervisors of Mathematics Workshop
Nancy Harriman, Curriculum Director for the District introduced the team of teachers and administrators who presented at the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics Conference – Principal Jeff Boston, Math Coach Sarah Caban, Wayne Elementary Teacher Lynette Stinneford, Readfield Elementary Teachers Abby Shink and Jenn Tweedie. They provided a brief overview of the session they offered to participants at the conference as well as reporting on what they took away from having the opportunity to attend, thanking the Board for the opportunity. They reported that they are working to schedule math nights for parents as well as possibly including parents in upcoming book studies.
3. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes of April 15, 2015
MOTION by Carr, second by Watson to approve the minutes of April 15, 2015 as presented.
Motion Carried: 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (Hayes)
 - b. Acceptance of Nomination of First Probationary Contract Teacher, HS Guidance Counselor
 - c. Appointment of Second Probationary Contract Teachers
 - d. Appointment of Third Probationary Contract Teachers
 - e. Appointment of First Continuing Contract Teachers
MOTION by Carr, second by Watson to accept items 3b – 3e of the Consent Agenda as presented.
Motion Carried: unanimous.
4. Student Representatives Reports:
Middle School Student Representative Molly Whittington reported on the team projects as well as upcoming field trips.
High School Student Representatives Molly Searway and Colleen Wright reported the Kennebec County area high school Top 10 Banquet is this evening in Augusta, and reported on upcoming class trips, the Prom and an assembly next Wednesday regarding a World War II memorial at the High School by the Sacrifice for Freedom class. They also reported that AP exams are this week and next week, and reported on the successes of the sports teams.
5. Citizens’ Comments:
John Harker, Mt. Vernon resident apologized to the board and Superintendent for the tone of some emails that were sent. He also shared a publication he picked up regarding negotiations entitled, “A Better Bargain: Overhauling Teacher Collective Bargaining for the 21st Century”, Frederick Hess, American

Enterprise Institute and Martin West, The Brookings Institute. He thanked the Superintendent and the Board for their hard work.

6. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent:

MOTION by Carr, second by Roderick to move item 7i, Consideration of Out-of Country travel, Spain, 2016 out of order to follow item 7a. **Motion Carried:** unanimous.

7. Action/Discussion/Informational Items:

a. Continuation of tabled discussion regarding request for property easement/right of way, South Rd., Readfield

Matt and Hannah Whitehouse, and John Whitehouse provided additional information to the Board in consideration of their request for an easement/right of way to property they wish to purchase behind Readfield Elementary School. Specifically, there are 3 documents: a letter from Matt Whitehouse further explaining their request and a letter from the property owners Mark and Ginger Ishkanian. Also included is a copy of a letter from Joseph Edwards from 2002 where the CSD sold a small parcel of land. The Whitehouses provided photographs of the property where they are requesting a 250 X 30 ft. right of way to enable them to purchase a 9 acre back lot from the Ishkanians that currently does not have road access. The Ishkanians could not be here tonight due to a previous commitment but granted the Whitehouses permission to speak on their behalf.

Discussion ensued about the best way to grant the request without setting future precedence and assuring that the transaction is consistent with rules and regulations of the Town. Suggestion was made to sell the property in question to the Whitehouses (or the Ishkanians) for fair market value since it has already been determined by Mr. Criss that the property has no future value for the RSU 38. It has been determined that the leach field that the property runs along is at capacity and will not be expandable. Board member John Blouin, who is also a real estate broker, visited the site with the Whitehouses to see if there might be other options for access to the property and believes this is the best alternative.

MOTION by Hayes to sell the requested 30 x 250 ft. strip of land on that boundary for fair market value, to authorize the Superintendent to consult with a real estate broker to get fair market value and negotiate a price, and to authorize the Superintendent to sign any and all documents to perpetuate the sale. Simcock seconded the motion.

Further discussion ensued noting that this is consistent with District policy regarding surplus property. The property in question would not be of value for any member of the public and it is for exclusive use.

Amendment to Motion by Blouin that the documents state that it is to be used for a single family home and the deed restriction would be for a single family home on that property. No Second; amendment failed.

Original Motion Carried: unanimous

i. Consideration for out of country travel, Spain 2016 (taken out of order)

Superintendent Wolfrom reported that the Board has a request for a field trip to Spain in March of 2016. Kelly Frey is the organizer of the trip and a Spanish teacher at the high school. In looking at this request the Board has to consider Policy IJOA, Field Trip, #3 states, "any trip having a duration of a week or more shall schedule it to include the school vacation period, or provide justification for scheduling it for some other time.

Kelly Frey reported she has taught at Maranacook for 20 years and this is the tenth trip that she has organized. She plans her trips every 2 years and up to this trip they have gone during February break. She has 13 students considering the trip, 9-10 are seniors and at least half of them are top skiers or basketball players. If they go during February break she will lose half of the students. Also the cost is less if they go in March. She looked at the school calendar and chose to go March 3-11 and the leadership team approved it, but she didn't know about the policy. It was not her intent to go against policy. The students will be out of school for 7 days, and this schedule gets them past all the sports. This trip is fully fundraised and paid for by the families. The only expense to the district is the cost of a substitute for the teacher. Discussion followed.

MOTION by Hayes to approve the out of country trip to Spain for March 2016 as requested, second by Roderick. **Motion Carried:** unanimous

- b. Acceptance of teacher resignation due to retirement effective 9/26/15 – Linda Smith, Mt. Vernon Elementary
MOTION by Carr, second by Hayes to accept the resignation of Linda Smith, due to retirement, effective September 26, 2015 with deep regret. **Motion Carried:** unanimous
- c. Approval of RSU #38 Recertification Handbook
Superintendent Wolfrom reported that by law RSU 38 has to have a Recertification Committee and the Committee has to recommend the staff to the DOE for their continued certification. Each committee has to have a handbook approved by the Board. As agreed during negotiations there is a cap on the amount of dollars available for college courses, so the committee agreed to take the college course requirement out and replaced it with contact hours. Leslie Boyce, Chair of the Recertification Committee is here to answer any questions. Discussion followed.
MOTION by Hayes, second by Roderick to approve the RSU #38 Recertification Handbook as presented. **Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 1 opposed (Carr)
- d. Policy Second Reading: GCB – Substitute; IGA – Curriculum Development and Adoption; IHBGA – Home Schooling – Participation in School Programs; IHBGB – Model Supplemental Statement of Rights for Private School Students With Disabilities
GCB – Substitute: Superintendent Wolfrom reported no additional changes were made following the first reading and the Committee recommends approval as presented.
MOTION by Watson, second by Blouin to accept Policy GCB, Substitute as presented. **Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained (Carr)
IGA – Curriculum Development and Adoption: Superintendent Wolfrom reported no additional changes were made following the first reading and the Committee recommends approval as presented.
MOTION by Watson, second by Simcock to accept Policy IGA as presented. **Motion Carried:** unanimous
IHBGA – Home Schooling – Participation in School Programs: Superintendent Wolfrom reviewed the changes made to the Policy, taking into consideration the comments received during the first reading.
MOTION by Watson, second by Jackson to accept Policy IHBGA as presented. T.Jackson noted that some of the changes are not reflected in the proposed policy as outlined in the Policy Committee minutes. **Vote was tabled until next meeting.**
IHBGB – Model Supplemental Statement of Rights for Private School Students With Disabilities: No changes were made to this policy following the first reading.
MOTION by Carr, second by Roderick to accept Policy IHBGB as presented. **Motion Carried:** unanimous
- e. Policy First Readings: IHD – Adult and Community Education Community Education Council Roles and Responsibilities
Superintendent Wolfrom reported that Adult Education Director Steve Vose and Bonnie Simcock, member of Adult and Community Education Committee met to review and revise this policy and their recommendations were presented to the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee recommends Policy IHD for first reading as presented.
G.Carr commented that items 7-10 should be sub sections a-d under #6. The Policy Committee will consider his comments at the next meeting.
- f. Vote to Authorize Amendments to MSMA Workers’ Comp Trust Documents
- g. Vote to Authorize Amendments to MSMA Group Insurance Trust (GIT) Documents
MOTION by Watson to move that the Vote entitled, “Vote to Authorize Amendments to MSMA Workers’ Compensation Insurance Declaration of Trust and Indemnity Agreement” be adopted in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be filed with the minutes of this meeting. AND Move that the Vote entitled, “Vote to Authorize Amendments to MSMA Group Insurance Declaration of Trust” be adopted in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be filed with the minutes of this meeting. Second by Blouin.
Motion Carried: unanimous
- h. Preparation for Annual Meeting – May 13, 2015
Superintendent Wolfrom reported, as last year, there will be a PowerPoint that gives an explanation of the different warrant articles the citizens will be voting on and a script was

distributed assigning warrant articles for each board member to read before each vote. Request was made to include a chart that depicts the progression of the state's required match and the required mil rate for each of the towns. It was noted that the Facebook posts are a really good idea, but will we be promoting some of the additions in the budget in the PowerPoint? Discussion of how best to provide an explanation as to why the towns are required to raise an additional \$353,000. Also need to promote the Universal PreK and the interventionists explaining the benefits. Recommendation to make the slides more legible for the audience.

- i. Consideration of out-of-country travel, Spain, 2016 – above - moved out of order
- j. Acceptance of teacher resignation effective 08/30/15 – Sean Wasson, MCHS
MOTION by Carr, second by O'Neal to accept the resignation of Sean Wasson.
Motion Carried: unanimous

- 8. Informational Items: (provided in Board packet)
- 9. Executive Session to consider managerial evaluations pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (A) for Jeff Bridges, Paul Criss, and Brigitte Williams
MOTION by Carr, second Blouin to enter Executive Session to consider managerial evaluations pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (A) for Jeff Bridges, Paul Criss, and Brigitte Williams
Motion Carried: unanimous
The Board entered Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. and returned to Public Session at 9:40 p.m.
- 10. Action following Executive Session - none
- 11. Adjournment: **MOTION** and second to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. **Motion Carried:** unanimous

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