

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #38 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Maranacook Community High School
March 28, 2018
Minutes of Meeting

Members Present: Chair Betty Morrell, Vice Chair Gary Carr, Wendy Brotherlin, Cathy Jacobs, Jeremy Payne, Kaleb Pushard, Shawn Roderick, David Twitchell, Adam Woodford (arrived 6:43), Alexander Wright

Members Absent: Melissa O'Neal, Lucas Rumler, Thomas Sneed

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 Brigitte Williams, Adult and Community Education Director Steve Vose

1. Call to order: Chair Morrell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Boys' Nordic Ski Team Recognition
The Boys' Nordic Ski Team was recognized for achieving State Class C Champions. Team members include: Luke Bartol, William Colvin, Gabriel Fein, Connor Firth, Dylan Getchell, Nathan Janell, Mark McLaughlin, Carter McPhedran, Tate Mendall, Brady Stockwell, Bryce Trefethen, and Ethan Watts. Coach Steve DeAngelis and Coach Kathy Despres were recognized for their dedication to the students. It was also noted that Luke Bartol was recognized as the KJ Boys Nordic Skier of the Year, Laura Parent was recognized as the KJ Girls' Nordic Skier of the Year, and Katie Ide was recognized as the KJ Alpine Skier of the Year.
3. Citizens' Comments: none
4. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent: none
5. Action/Discussion/Informational Items:
 - a. Approval of Minutes of March 21, 2018
MOTION by Carr, second by Jacobs to approve the minutes of March 21, 2018 as revised.
Motion Carried: 9 in favor, 0 opposed.
 - b. Consideration of School Bus Lease/Purchase Agreement
MOTION by Carr, second by Roderick to award the municipal lease/purchase bid for the school bus to Androscoggin Bank as presented. **Motion Carried:** 9 in favor, 0 opposed
6. Budget Workshop:

Superintendent Wolfrom provided the following updates:

 - There has been some movement on LD 1710, An Act to Restore Maine's School-based Health Centers. It was passed in the Senate as a non-emergency bill. If it passes in the House funding will hopefully be available for FY20.
 - Some reductions have been made to the draft FY19 budget (Version 3) reducing it by an additional .06% or \$10,313. These reductions are primarily due to purchases that have been made out of this school year. Total budget reductions to date are \$388,500.00
 - Received the needs assessment report from Oak Point.
 - Hoping to hear about health insurance increase in the next week
 - Still working on the budget. Believe we can find another \$50,000 in projects to do this year to decrease the budget; request working to bring the budget below the 5% increase.

MOTION by Wright to replace the air compressor in the high school Industrial Arts Center
Chair Morrell suggested that before a motion like this is considered, it would be best if administration can check to make sure the unit needs to be replaced or if it is something that needs repair. **Motion rescinded.**

Superintendent Wolfrom added that normally when the budget is being developed, teachers bring their recommendations to the administration and then it is included in the budget.

Question was asked about the increase of \$100,000 in the proposed reserve budget; where did the \$100,000 come from? Superintendent Wolfrom responded that there were 2 teaching positions at Manchester Elementary that were not filled and one was filled by with an ed tech instead of a teacher; also new teachers hired were hired at a lower rate than those who left.

MOTION by Roderick, second by Payne to remove the request for \$10,600 for sports uniforms from the proposed budget.

Discussion ensued. A. Woodford explained the reasoning behind having this request in the budget. This request is being made to help bridge the gap in the need for fundraising.

Superintendent Wolfrom added that Student Services Direct Al MacGregor made this request after he received a request from the Awesome Bear Society (ABS) for assistance in paying for team uniforms. Mr. MacGregor was hoping to start a rotation to begin replacing uniforms for teams. This does not include Ice Hockey, Football, or Lacrosse.

S.Roderick commented that at the beginning of the budget season the Board touched upon whether the activity fees had any impact on the number of students participating in activities. He would be open to having a lower fee and have that money go toward uniforms.

Motion Carried: 9 in favor, 1 opposed (Twitchell).

Discussion ensued about the additional positions being requested. A question was also asked about enrollment. Superintendent Wolfrom responded that the district's enrollment is up 22 students from last year.

Items the Board asked the administration to consider: social studies teacher – can the requirements for students be met across the standards; high school ed tech – talked last week about cutting to half FTE or perhaps filling the position with a substitute a couple times a month; can some of the equipment requests be phased in over the years, ex. Purchase lockers for the high school over a few years.

Concern was raised regarding going to the voters with a budget 5% higher than last year.

Question was asked about the plow truck. Finance Manager Williams responded that it is to plow the entranceways at the schools. The District contracts out for the driveways and parking lots to be plowed. We have been informed that all egresses have to be open before we can open school. Prior to this year the crews worked to open all main entrances and had 24 hours to get the other doorways opened; this is no longer allowed. We have employees using their personal vehicles to open these doorways because they cannot be done with snow blowers.

Discussion ensued about the equipment reduced from the budget. Concern was raised that during the tours of the facilities in the fall, teacher feedback was that they needed new furniture, this budget doesn't reflect those requests. Finance Manager replied that with the cost savings made this year, many purchases are being made from the FY18 budget. The high school has ordered \$20,000 in new furniture, special education purchased DreamBox and Lexia, the OWL curriculum was purchased for Pre-K, and schools have been placing book orders; AP books are being purchased. Some of the reductions reflect items being purchased this year. Request was made to note those purchases on the sheets provided.

Request was made for the administrators to take into consideration the discussion this evening and come back with recommendations for further reductions.

Question was asked about the Strategic Planning meeting – when will the board see the information? Superintendent Wolfrom responded that there are two people who are working on their Superintendent Internships that have taken this on as their project. Work started this week with writing the Executive Summary and summarizing the information into 4 broad goals. The Plan will be developed in the next year with the new superintendent.

7. Adjournment: **MOTION** and second to adjourn at 7:33 p.m.

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