

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #38 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Maranacook Community High School**  
**March 20, 2019, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

Members Present: Chair Gary Carr, Vice Chair Wendy Brotherlin, Patty Gordon, Cathy Jacobs, Betty Morrell, Jeremy Pare, Kaleb Pushard, Shawn Roderick, David Twitchell, Alexander Wright

Member Absent: Crystal Sullivan, Melissa Tobin, Adam Woodford

Administrators: Superintendent James Charette, Principals Janet Delmar, Abbie Hartford, and Kristen Levesque, Assistant Principal Tina Brackley, Director of Curriculum, Assessment & Instruction Nancy Harriman, Technology Director Diane MacGregor, Special Education Director Ryan Meserve, Finance Manager Brigitte Williams

1. Call to order: Chair Carr called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent: none
3. Citizens' Comments (items not on the budget): none
4. Action/Discussion/Informational Items:
  - a. Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2019  
**MOTION** by Brotherlin, second by Wright to approve the minutes of March 13, 2019 as presented. **Motion Carried:** unanimous
  - b. Consideration of Tabled Vote on 2019-2020 School Calendar  
**MOTION** by Brotherlin, second by Wright to consider the tabled vote on the 2019-2020 school calendar. Discussion ensued. Dr. Conway was thanked for the additional information provided on the late start days at the High School. Request was made to provide information on the efficacy of those days.  
**Motion Carried:** unanimous
5. Budget Workshop:

Superintendent Charette reviewed the budget handouts. He reviewed the process of how the reductions were made, stating they were difficult decisions, but the draft budget was reduced by \$719,217.33, or 4.02%. The second draft budget represents a budget increase of \$853,285.21, or 4.76% over the FY19 budget. These reductions were made by considering the recommendations at the last meeting where administrators were charged with looking at current positions, in addition to the new requests, to see what can be cut or moved to a future budget year. The proposal includes not filling a recent teacher resignation at Wayne Elementary School and moving another Wayne position to Manchester Elementary. The budget proposes that Wayne Elementary have combined classes for K-1, 2-3, and 4-5. Wayne currently has a combined class for grades 4-5. There would be an additional Ed Tech III for Wayne Elementary for a total of 2 Ed Techs for classroom support. Several items will be purchased from the FY 19 budget including High School textbooks and industrial arts equipment, classroom furniture for all schools, and the office computers for the elementary

schools and middle school. The Prioritized Budget, Version 2, depicts which items are moved to budget years FY21 and FY22. The items depicted in bold as removed are items that will be purchased from the FY19 budget on the summary of budget changes.

Question was asked about the painting projects included in the budget and whether they are a priority. Finance Manager Williams responded that the district does this amount of painting every year. It includes interior and exterior painting and is needed to keep up with all the needs of the various buildings. Superintendent Charette added that he did speak with the Maintenance Supervisor about this and it is needed.

Request for information regarding the High School Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) Coach position; what is the position?

Shawn Roderick provided an explanation of the JMG program. He reported that the conversation for this position at the High School began last school year, but it was after the budget was done. JMG offered a teacher for the program but there were other things the district couldn't meet at the time. The JMG Coach helps students with a lot of different things, working with low income students, students behind in their studies, and offers different opportunities to visit workforce type programs. JMG is willing to bring that program at little or no cost to the district. At this time JMG is waiting on the state to see if they will be approved for 12 new programs, and if they get the money it is likely Maranacook will be assigned a coach. The number of students served vary. Some Districts have a set amount of students in the program. Others set it up so that students rotate through the program.

Question was asked for more information about the new High School Behavioral Program. Superintendent Charette responded that he spoke further with Ryan Meserve about this program and there is a requirement through the MUSER that limits the age span for students in the program. It is not recommended to place high school students in a 6-8 program.

Discussion ensued regarding the elementary schools class sizes and having equity among the schools. Request was made to provide projections for next year's elementary schools by grade. Superintendent Charette responded he will provide that information.

Question was asked about the Ed Tech II position at RES that is on the reduction list for grade 1, what is this position? Principal Boston responded this position came about mid-year based on the kindergarten enrollment this year, so it is a one year position.

Superintendent Charette added that the decision to combine classes at Wayne was not an easy decision and it was not made lightly, but he believes the teachers can do a good job with it, especially if they are given the flexibility they need in that setting.

Finance Manager Williams reviewed the draft revenue sheet and the draft local dollar calculation sheet.

Superintendent Charette asked if there were additional questions. Items for further review include the combined classes at Wayne Elementary, the .5 FTE custodial position, keyless entry at the high school, investigate putting teacher position back in at Wayne, Ed Tech position at Mt. Vernon Elementary, and to look at other items that are not new that can be reduced.

Finance Manager Williams added that there are still a couple items up in the air: the cost of propane was locked in, which reduced the budget by \$11,400 (reflected in today's numbers); going out to bid for diesel and #2 fuel (should have these figures in next 2 weeks); and the range for health insurance should be received by tomorrow. The budgeted amount

for health insurance is a 10% increase but if the range comes in lower, this amount could be reduced.

Concern was raised by a board member that even with these reductions people will not support the budget. Request was made to look at any items that can be reduced that are not directly related to students and safety.

Question was asked whether if there is research on combined grades at the elementary level.

Discussion whether to hold a meeting next week since it was proposed as a tentative meeting date if needed. It was determined to hold the budget workshop on March 27. Budget deliberations will also be scheduled for April 3, and the Board will vote on a budget to send to Public Hearing on April 10.

6. Adjournment: Chair Carr adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
James Charette, Superintendent/Secretary  
D. Foster, Recorder