

RSU #38 Board of Directors
Maranacook Community Middle School & via Zoom
May 4, 2022
Minutes of Meeting

Members Present: Chair Cathy Jacobs, Vice Chair David Twitchell, Kim Bowie, Patty Gordon, David Guillemette, Rebecca Lambert, Betty Morrell, Shawn Roderick, Dane Wing
Members Absent: Keltie Beaudoin, Tyler Dunn, Jade Parker, Melissa Tobin
Student Members: Eric Nelson, Esm'e Jamison (arrived 7:30)
Student Representatives: Carter Bennett, Joseph Couture, Abigail Allen, Cassidy McCormack
Administration Present: Superintendent Jay Charette, Principals Jeff Boston, Tina Brackley, Janet Delmar, Abbie Hartford, and Kristen Levesque, Interim Principal Michael Harris, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Karen Smith, Special Education Director Ryan Meserve, Technology Director Diane MacGregor, Finance Director Mandy Fitzgerald

1. Call to Order: Chair Jacobs called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

This business meeting is being held both in person and virtually, through zoom in compliance with RSU #38 policy BED Remote Participation in School Board Meetings. The meeting is being recorded and will be posted on the maranacook.org YouTube channel.

The "microphones" of the viewing audience will be muted except during the identified portions of public comments. If you would like to speak during any public comment section of the agenda, please use the chat feature to signal to Mrs. MacGregor and she will communicate with the Board Chair. In-person speakers please sign up on the clipboard. All individuals that wish to speak, whether in person or virtual, please identify yourself with first and last name and the town you live in. Please note that individuals that do not live in our member communities may or may not be granted permission to speak at the discretion of the Chair. Speakers are asked to limit individual comments to 2 minutes and if someone speaks ahead of you that has a similar view please reference the comment. All votes will be taken by Roll Call.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

Chair Jacobs reported that Esm'e Jamison and Eric Nelson, two students from Maranacook Community High School, will be serving as full-fledged board members.

3. Student Representatives Reports:

MS Representatives – Carter Bennett and Joseph Couture reported on Team projects and school wide activities.

HS Representatives – Abigail Allen and Cassidy McCormack reported on school wide activities.

4. Presentation: ReVision Energy

Superintendent Charette introduced Tina Meserve of ReVision Energy. Ms. Meserve presented earlier in the year to the Facilities Committee. Ms. Meserve explained how the program works and how the credits would show on the district's CMP bills. Typical savings have been 12-20%, but new Legislation is in place that limits the size of the projects, so the savings will be less. It takes about a year to build a project, so it could be a year before the district will see a benefit. There is a guaranteed placement clause. ReVision Energy has signed on about 25 school districts in the state and most of them are represented by Drummond Woodsum, so the process has been streamlined.

Superintendent Charette added the next steps would be to give the Board time to process the information provided. The Facilities Committee will discuss this again at their May meeting and will discuss making a recommendation to the full Board. If the Board decides to move forward, they would vote to have the Superintendent talk with Drummond Woodsum. No decisions would be made without the Board voting to move forward in each stage.

5. Citizens' Comments:

Kim Bowie, School Board member and Manchester resident addressed the board as a parent. Ms. Bowie reported that she has gone through the proper channels, speaking with both the principal and superintendent about this issue. She also understands the need to maintain the budget and the expectations for class size. She spoke about the particulars around high school core classes, on behalf of a very small group of students who have chosen since the 8th grade to do the necessary process of wanting to take certain AP classes, specifically for English and math. Their coursework allows them by year 4 to take an AP course or college course. AP Calculus is listed as a course of choice, however, next year it will not be offered because there are only a few interested in taking it. It is important for some students to have AP science or math listed on their transcript to enter certain colleges. It is a core class and it is important for those few students. Instead they have been offered the choice of intro to Calculus, or to take AP Calculus through a local college which would be asynchronous. The class size of 10 should not be for these core classes.

6. Adjustments/Additions: none

7. Reports/Committees:

a. Reports

Ms. Brackley shared a Celebration for Wayne Elementary School.
No questions were asked about the written reports.

b. Committee reports

Communications – Ms. Gordon reported that the Committee had a really good beginning step in addressing the Board's communication problems. This meeting focused mostly about staff and talked about the district policy and what is acceptable, what are seen as barriers, and possible steps to take to improve. Teachers felt they would like to see board members in the schools, and there was a lot of misinformation about what board members have done in the past evaluating staff. Next steps will be to review the policy and develop focus group for parents and then specific groups of staff.

Chair Jacobs added that there was a common theme; they feel we need to all work together to make the community feel more welcome in our schools. Students will also be included in the conversations.

Curriculum – Chair Jacobs reported on the most recent Curriculum Committee.

Policy – Ms. Gordon reported that the Committee is looking for input from staff on the Board/Staff Communication Policy. Policy KBB, Public's Right to Know is having a first reading tonight. Please forward any questions and comments to the Policy Committee before the next meeting on May 10th.

8. Action/Informational Items:

a. Approval of Minutes of April 13, 2022 Meeting

MOTION by Twitchell, second by Morrell to approve the Minutes of April 13, 2022 as presented. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

b. Appointment of First Probationary Contract Teacher, Gifted & Talented, 50%, beginning 9/1/22, Caroline Karnes

MOTION by Morrell, second by Lambert to approve the appointment of first probationary contract teacher, Gifted & Talented, 50%, beginning 9/1/22, Caroline Karnes.

Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

c. Appointment of Second Probationary Contract Teachers

MOTION by Guillemette, second by Lambert to approve the appointment of second probationary contract teachers as listed. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

d. Appointment of First Continuing Contract Teachers

MOTION by Morrell, second by Gordon to approve the appointment of first continuing contract teachers as listed. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

- e. Acceptance of teacher resignation effective 6/20/22, RES, Marissa Tarrío

MOTION by Morrell, second by Lambert to accept the resignation of RES teacher Marissa Tarrío effective 6/20/22. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

- f. Acceptance of teacher resignation effective 6/30/22, MCMS, Margot Gyorgy

MOTION by Guillemette, second by Morrell to accept the resignation of Middle School teacher Margot Gyorgy Tarrío effective 6/30/22. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

- g. Consideration of nomination of High School Principal, Michele LaForge

MOTION by Morrell, second by Twitchell to approve the nomination of High School Principal Michele LaForge as recommended by the Superintendent. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

- h. Consideration of overnight trip, Grade 8, Stave Island (Little Dear Isle), 6/12-13/22

MOTION by Morrell, second by Lambert to approve the Grade 8 overnight trip as presented. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

- i. Consideration of out-of-state trip, MCHS, Advisee Day, Boston, MA, 6/8/22

MOTION by Morrell, second by Lambert to approve the out-of-state trip for MCHS on 6/8/22 as presented. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

- j. Consideration of overnight trip, MCHS All States Music Festival, Orono, ME 5/19-21/22

MOTION by Lambert, second by Twitchell to approve the overnight trip for MCHS to attend the All States Music Festival as presented. Roll Call Vote - **Motion Carried:** unanimous

The Board expressed their appreciation to Mr. Dan Gilbert for his commitment to the students.

- k. May 18, 2022 Annual Meeting process

Superintendent Charette provided an overview of the process for the RSU 38 Annual Meeting on May 18, 2022. He reminded everyone that by law this meeting cannot be attended via zoom.

- l. Update on Health and Safety Procedures and Protocols

Superintendent Charette reviewed his written report, noting that he is suggesting the Board keep the procedures as they stand for the remainder of the school year, and that he will remove this item from the June agenda.

9. Adjournment: **MOTION** and second to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James Charette, Superintendent of Schools
D. Foster, Recorder