

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 57**  
**Office of the Superintendent**  
**Waterboro, Maine 04087**

**PR-Technology Committee Meeting**

September 19, 2016

**6:00 PM**

**EAST BUILDING – TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**Committee Members:**

David Allen  
Dean LePage

Bryan Carpenter

Jodi Laine  
Judith Vasalle

**Others Present:**

Brian Desilets  
Kevin Perkins

Barbara Gauvin  
Angela Scully

Angela Madigan  
Lori Lodge

**AGENDA:**

- A. Call to Order 6:00 pm
- B. Elect Chair for Committee  
Dean LePage nominated: Bryan Carpenter; Second by Jodi Laine  
Vote was 4-0 to accept Mr. Carpenter as Chairperson.
- C. Declaration of Quorum – A quorum is in place.
- D. Adjustments to the Agenda (None)
- E. Approval of Minutes from May 2, 2016
- F. Old Business
  - 1. Name Plan  
Mr. Carpenter reviewed the plan for renaming schools. This included why the plan is being built. The benefits include creating names that allow for a district focus in lieu of individual towns/schools. This plan also plays into having to make shifts in student populations when overcrowding is an issue.  
  
David Allen responded by stating that he is not 100% for the name change. We need to do more research and think about the effects of the decision.  
  
Mr. Malone also suggests that there will be questions and asked the original motivation. The team needs to be able to clearly state why this change is being considered.

Mr. LePage referenced a note from a previous meeting where it was mentioned that students feel an identity crisis once they enter middle school. Are there incidents that suggest that there is an identity issue in middle school? He stated that he is also not 100% behind this change.

Mr. Carpenter stated that this is more about transportation and district unity than PR.

Mrs. Laine brought up that having school names that are not tied to a town will help when a situation occurs where enrollment is higher in one school and lower in another.

Mr. Malone reviewed what communities went through historically when SAD's were first created. He warned that if we do not survey communities thoroughly, then we will have some very upset parents. Mr. LePage again brought up about reaching out to communities because this decision is a very emotional one. He also recognized that we have a long way to go before making any decision.

Mr. Malone warns that the perception of this decision will be that we are trying to delocalize schools and relate this to decisions from the past that have brought out the public. We must have a good handle on why this change is taking place before we make a move.

Next steps will include defining the plan and deciding which groups to approach.

G. New Business

1. Public Relations

***Parent Empower Training***

Lori Lodge presented the updated Empower parent portal. The goal is to educate parents on the changes in the page. This will be in place at the end of the first trimester.

The goal of the changes was to offer simplicity. The homepage offers the names of the children in the family, a progress designation (in progress, behind pace (teacher determined), and ahead of pace (teacher determined), reporting period, comments, the targets, and a link to the student home pages. It also allows for parents to prepare for the parent meeting:

- Ask a small group of parents to review the page to give their thoughts so that we could focus on desired features during the parent training.
- Add videos to the District Facebook page
- Have sessions in each school (PTC Meetings?)
- Include how to interpret scores.

### **Column in the Reporter**

Lindsay Clancy spoke with The Reporter but she is not on the Committee any longer. The Committee felt that we are getting news and pictures in the Reporter about the district. Jodi will reach out to Lindsay. The owner has stated that we can email any story that we would like to place in the paper and if they have room, it will be printed. The deadline is Tuesday.

## 2. **Technology**

### Update on Technology Summer Work

- Aesop – RSU 57 is moving to an online automated sub calling system. This is being phased in this Fall. Teachers began the year using the same protocol as has been used in the past.
- MMS Phones – MMS phones were updated to a Voice Over Internet Protocol phone system.
- VersaTrans/IC Connection – Connected VersaTrans with Infinite Campus so that schools and transportation can work together to enter bus information.
- Copier/Printer Contracts – The copiers in the district are being upgraded to include a sign in system to reduce waste. The district has also entered into a maintenance contract with Canon.
- Chromebooks – Addition of Chromebook carts were added for all schools.
- SIS/LMS Review Comm. A district committee made up of administrators, teachers, secretaries, and guidance counselors will be reviewing student information systems (such as Infinite Campus) and learning management systems (such as Empower) to choose the best program or programs to fit with our vision.

## H. **Other**

Next Meeting Date: Oct. 17, Nov 21, Dec. 19, Jan. No meeting, Feb. 27, March 20, April No meeting, May 15, June No Meeting

## G. **Adjournment 7:45 pm**