

RSU # 12
BOARD OF DIRECTORS (REGULAR) MEETING
Thursday, May 6, 2021 @ 6:30 PM
Chelsea Elementary School

*Due to restrictions on crowd size, the public will not be able to attend in person.
Please see the information below on how to view the meeting remotely.*

All Board members in-person and other attendees must follow these safety protocols. These are the same safety precautions that staff and students follow during the school day.

- *Stay home if you are sick.*
- *Do the [RSU 12 self-check health screening](#) before coming to the Board meeting checking for signs of COVID19.*
- *Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer upon entering the building/room. We will have a table set up for this as you enter.*
- *Wear your mask at all times. **The mask must cover your nose and mouth at all times.** Brief mask breaks are allowed for eating and drinking.*
- *Remember to Social Distance and stay 6 feet apart from one another. We will arrange the tables so everyone is six feet apart.*
- *Do not share materials. Please bring your own pen to the meeting.*
- *The microphone will be sanitized in between uses.*

How to view the Board Meeting Remotely
See Directions Below
Draft Minutes

In accordance with An Act To Implement Provisions Necessary to the Health, Welfare and Safety of the Citizens of Maine in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, as enacted to read: Sec. G-1 1 MRSA §403-A Public proceedings through remote access during declaration of state of emergency due to COVID-19, this meeting will be conducted remotely through online video conferencing. The meeting will be recorded and made available on our website at <http://www.svrsu.org/remote-school-board-meetings>. The meeting will also be streamed live on the [Sheepscot Valley RSU 12 Youtube Channel](#). If you wish to submit public comment, then you may do so by emailing Leslie Burgess at leburgess@svrsu.org.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Flag Salute

Meeting called to order at 6:50.p.m.

Rick Cote led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: Deb Talacko, Doug Crochere, Richard Devries, Monique Crummett, Russell Gates, Rick Cote, Doug Morier, Mary Coventry, Frank Hample

Zoom: Kristina Verney, Michael Lemelin, Will Sugg, Suzanne Balbo, Lynette Conroy, Ryan Carver, Kimberly Hutchinson

Absent: Sandra Devaney (E)

Administrators: Deb Taylor, Delia Dearnley, Michele Grant, Mike Flynn, Allison Myers, Heather Wilson, Mark Deblois, Larry Dancer

2. Focus on Learning:

- a. Maine Department of Education's 2021 Farm to School Cook-off - Mike Flynn introduced Whitefield kitchen manager Vicki Dill to the board and discussed how RSU 12 won the Farm to School Cookoff with Whitefield student Kiara Luce. Great job!!!

- b. Chelsea PBIS Virtual Assembly

Allison Myers, principal of Chelsea School, presented how the school has been doing their assemblies virtually this year with a zoom from the individual classrooms. She discussed the Pride statement, the habits of the mind that are reflected on each month, student of the month, successes at the school, and golden award winners. Parents are able to participate in the assembly as well. Ms. Myers said doing the assembly this way has been very successful. The next PBIS assembly will be May 14th. Mr. Tuttle pointed out that other schools have also been doing their assemblies this way, such as Whitefield School. Overall the staff has enjoyed doing assemblies this way as it reduces the amount of time bringing students to the gym and back.

3. Public Comment: (10 min): *Public Comment at School Board meetings is to be restricted to items on the agenda. Comments regarding individuals or personnel matters are not appropriate for the public session. Please email public comment to Leslie Burgess at leburgess@svrsu.org*

No public comment

4. Adjustments and Consent Agenda (20 min)

Note: Items may be removed from the Consent Agenda on the request of any one member; items not removed may be adopted by general consent without debate. Removed items may be scheduled for consideration immediately after the Consent agenda or placed on the agenda at the discretion of the board.

[Action]

Consent Agenda items:

- a. Approve the Minutes of the previous meeting as distributed
- b. Superintendent's Report - remove
- c. Approve the Committee Minutes as distributed
- d. Accept the Personnel Report - remove
- e. Accept the Policies as distributed:

i. BEB Board Use of Social Media - First Reading - remove

Motion to accept the consent agenda with the exception of b, d and e

Monique Crummett - 1st Mary Coventry - 2nd

Motion passes 16-0-0

Mr. Tuttle acknowledged Teacher Appreciation Week, Nurse Appreciation Day, Building Administrator Day, School Lunch Hero Day and extended his thanks to the staff for all they have done this year. He also talked about the Food Service van that the district was awarded through a grant. RSU 12 was one of three districts in the state to be awarded this grant.

There is a lengthy Personnel Report due to the number of probationary teachers, which the board needs to vote on for them to get to the next step.

Motion to approve the Personnel Report.

Monique Crummett - 1st Frank Hample - 2nd

Motion passes 16-0-0

Mr. Tuttle discussed the BEB Board Use of Social Media. He stressed the importance of the board reading the policy and to be aware of how social media is being use by members. While it is understood that many if not all board members use social media, they should be aware of the impact statements may have. He thanked Mary Coventry for her hard work going through the policies and updating any that are in need. Minor changes will not be brought to the board for approval.

5. Old Business: None

6. New Business (90min):

a. *Summer School Lunch Opt-IN* **[Action]**

SUGGESTED MOTION: To Opt-IN of serving food during the 2021 Summer School Programs.

Mr. Tuttle explained that this is the summer food program.

Monique Crummett - 1st Rick Cote - 2nd

Motion passes 16-0-0

b. Opportunity for Public Comment on use of Federal ESEA Funding

The RSU is letting the public know that they can make comments on the use of this funding by contacting the Central Office.

c. Vote to Call a RSU Budget Referendum **[Action]**

Motion: *I move that the Vote entitled, "Vote to Call a RSU Budget Referendum, Approve the Referendum Warrants, and Authorize Distribution of Budget Information," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting.*

VOTE TO CALL A RSU BUDGET REFERENDUM, APPROVE THE REFERENDUM WARRANTS, AND AUTHORIZE DISTRIBUTION OF BUDGET INFORMATION

Whereas, pursuant to Governor's Executive Orders #8 and #8A FY20/21, the RSU budget meeting is suspended and replaced by an opportunity for public written comment on the proposed budget submitted to referendum, and whereas the School Board has approved a proposed budget and other questions for submission to the voters of the RSU; now therefore be it VOTED:

That the Warrants and Notices of Election for the RSU Budget Referendum presented to this meeting be approved, and that a RSU Budget Referendum be called for June 8, 2021 for the purpose of submitting the fiscal year 2021-2022 school budget and other fiscal matters to the voters of the RSU for approval, as set forth in the Warrants and Notices of Election;

That the Superintendent is directed to take steps to provide budget information in a manner sufficient to reach voters of the District with an opportunity for written public comment; and

That the Warrants and Notices of Election shall each be signed by a majority of the School Board, and that such signatures may be made electronically, by execution of counterparts, or in person at the convenience of the members of the School Board.

A true copy as adopted by a majority of the School Board, attest:
Howard Tuttle, Secretary

Rusell Gates - 1st Monique Crummett - 2nd

Motion passes 16-0-0

d. Pre-K Contract with Edgecomb Eddy and Boothbay Schools

Motion: Move to authorize the Superintendent to extend the contract with Edgecomb Eddy and Boothbay Schools for five more years.

Mr. Tuttle explained that we have a current contract with Edgecomb Eddy to provide Pre K to students in Alna and Westport Island and they would like to extend it. We may add a clarification to the contract that if a student attends Edgecomb Eddy and needs access to the special ed program, which is located in Boothbay that would be allowed to happen. We only send pre-k students to Edgecomb Eddy, Alna and Westport Island then have school choice for K-12. The arrangement has been very successful. There is a contract with Boothbay that Alna and Westport Island students will be allowed to attend Boothbay High School.

Richard Devries - 1st Monique Crummett - 2nd

Motion passes 16-0-0

e. **Plan for the Reopening Schools Fall 2020 change**

Suggest Motion: To accept the changes to "Plan B" as presented by the Superintendent.

Mr. Tuttle suggested a name change to the plan moving into next year. There are suggested changes due to the meetings that Mr. Tuttle has had with the Commissioner as well as newest correspondences that students need to be in school. Two weeks ago, Kennebec County was designated as yellow, but Mr. Tuttle, with previous authorization from the board, looked at the data available to make the decision not to switch the district to the hybrid learning model. The state has never said that if a county turns yellow that schools have to go adopt the hybrid model, it is just information to make a decision. To clarify what the district should do in this situation, changes have been made to Plan B of the Reopening Plan.

Rick Cote said the state releases their determination of county statuses every two weeks.

Doug Morier said that the changes look like it takes the hybrid model away from the plan. He suggested changing wording to reflect the priority of keeping students in school. He thought we should keep both the new language and the existing language.

Motion to accept the changes

Monique Crummett - 1st Frank Hample - 2nd

Michael Lemelin thanked Howie for keeping the schools open.

Monique Crummett commented that the language was causing confusion as people thought that if the county turned yellow then the schools automatically had to go hybrid. Mr. Tuttle explained that the idea of removing the language is due to the confusion from some staff and parents. He suggested the changes to Plan B based on this to help clarify.

Doug Morier made an amendment to “unstrike” the language from the policy and trust that the superintendent would make the necessary changes.

There was no second.

Richard Devries suggested that the word “should” changed to “might/may” could help clarify.

Mary Conventry said that the plan should communicate that the hybrid model is still present in the decision making process.

Rick Cote asked if Mr. Tuttle wanted to bring the re-wording to the next meeting and vote on it then. Mr. Tuttle said he would prefer to have the decision made tonight since the state will have a new update tomorrow and he could still bring re-wording to the next meeting.

Monique Crummett suggested adding that the superintendent will consider additional instructional models as needed for the district.

Ryan Carver said the confusion came from thinking the county designations meant a direct result on the Reopening Plan.

Doug Morier said there should be something that says there is preference to stay open five days a week with the option of a hybrid model if the situation calls for it.

Russell Gates commented that we should just continue with the motion as originally presented on the agenda and make amendments at the next meeting.

Motion passes

15-1-1 (Lynette Conroy abstained)

Motion to enter into Executive Session

Richard Devries - 1st Monique Crummett - 2nd

Motion passes 16-0-0

Five minute break at 7:55 pm

7. Executive Session: *Enter Executive Session Pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (D) Negotiations*
8. Adjourn