

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 64
Bradford Corinth Hudson Kenduskeag Stetson

REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 23, 2021

The members of the Board of Directors of RSU 64 met at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 22, 2021 in response to an agenda dated February 18, 2021. The agenda was distributed to members electronically.

Members Present: Rhonda Williams, Wanda St. Peter, Katherine Waite, Anne Kenneson, David Nichols, James Connolly, Amy Bean, Kim Hikel, Curtis Chadbourne, Terri Jane Casavant, Chad Crooker, Nicole Kelley, Tonya Wozneak, Robert Young

Student Representatives

Present: None

Members Absent: Sherry Horn, Jodi Brasslett, Parvanah Withee, Haley Emery

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Rhonda Sperrey, CHS Principal Brett Hoogterp, CHS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Jared Foster, CMS Principal Sandra Cookson, CCES Principal Dawn Nickerson, CCES Assistant Principal Kerri Wyman, Curriculum Coordinator Danette Kerrigan, Special Education Director Riley Donovan, and members of the public.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rhonda Williams at 7:00 p.m. A roll call and check of attendance found a quorum of 14 members present, and 4 members absent.

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second of Anne Kenneson the Board voted to approve the draft minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting (February 2, 2021), Finance Committee Meeting (February 1, 2021), Regular Monthly Board Meeting (January 25, 2021), Hiring Committee Meeting (January 25, 2021), and Transportation Committee Meeting (January 20, 2021) and to place the minutes on file as part of permanent Board records.

Unanimous

Petitions and Communications

Chair Williams indicated the Board is in receipt of a letter of resignation from Milo Campbell (CCES Ed Tech I), and Alexandra Gingras (CHS Spanish Teacher).

Chair Williams called for Public Forum items.

RSU 64 Teacher's Association Vice President Peter Marsh distributed survey results from teachers regarding the topic of moving CMS and CHS students to full in person learning.

Reports

Superintendent Sperrey updated members on the following administrative topics:

Coronavirus Relief Funds

The District is in the process of planning for the open application of additional coronavirus relief funding. The administrative team has asked for interested teachers and staff to join them in this planning

effort which includes potential revisions to the CRF I & II grants, as well as the ESSER I and II grant monies. Thank you to Board member Curtis Chadbourne who has volunteered to work with the school team in this effort.

The focus of the planning will be on facility upgrades to enhance the air quality in our schools and student learning programs.

Vaccination Administration Update

The District has been contacted by a Bangor area health care entity requesting the use of one of the school parking lots for a mobile vaccination clinic. If the clinic takes place on a weekend, the CCES parking lot will be used. If the clinic takes place on a school day, the empty lot at the former Morison Memorial School will be used. The mobile clinic will focus on patients of the health care entity that have registered for the vaccine; it is not a clinic specifically for RSU 64 staff. However, in the event that there are staff members that meet the current criteria for vaccination (currently aged 70 or older) they will be invited to participate. The District has created a list of staff that have expressed their desire to be contacted should vaccines become available to RSU 64.

Comprehensive Regional Technical High School Concept

Superintendent Kevin Jordan from AOS 94 and the Dexter area will be bringing other interested members of the committee working on this concept to the March 22, 2021 meeting of the Board of Directors. This will provide RSU 64 Board members an opportunity to pose questions that relate to the current planning taking place.

Community Access to Facilities

During the COVID-19 pandemic school facilities have primarily been closed to outside groups. The Corinth Rec Basketball and Cheering groups have requested to use the facilities on a limited basis to begin to offer community programming to kids again. The group leadership has worked to align their guidelines with the guidelines for extra-curricular activities within the school programs to include symptom screening, contact tracing, sanitation, masking, limited numbers, and no parent spectators gathering. Should pandemic conditions remain stable, they will begin to use the facilities in the month of March.

District Enrollment (As of February 1, 2021)

CCES – 443 (+2)

CMS – 271 (+2)

CHS – 304 (-1)

Total = 1018 (+3)

Total students in fully remote learning = 148

Administrator Reports

Administrators updated the Board on various items relative to their school and/or department.

CHS Principal Brett Hoogterp had nothing to add to his previously distributed report.

CHS Assistant Principal & Athletic Director Jared Foster had nothing to add.

CMS Principal Sandra Cookson updated members concerning current enrollment.

CCES Principal Dawn Nickerson shared with members that the 6 student teachers currently working at CCES have decided to extend their practicum at CCES for their remaining semester.

CCES Assistant Principal Kerri Wyman – Nothing was added.

Curriculum Coordinator Danette Kerrigan invited members to engage with the group of educators currently working through the Cultural Competency Institute offered by MSSA and MSBA.

Special Education Director Riley Donovan highlighted the work now taking place to prepare for ESY (Extended School Year) programs for special education students during the month of July. A staff survey about availability for summer school programming for other students who do not qualify for ESY is also underway.

New Business

Discussion and Consideration of Moving from a Hybrid/Blended Learning Model to Full Time In Person Learning at CMS and CHS

After significant discussion on the topic, and upon the motion of Chad Crooker and second by David Nichols, members voted to approve the administrative recommendation to plan for a return to fully in person learning at CMS and CHS beginning April 5 (4th Quarter) on the condition transportation guidelines can be met after a survey of parents and caregivers and that a fully remote learning option for students remain in place through the end of the year.

Yea – 11
Nay – 3
Abstention - 0

Approval of Policy Revisions

Upon the motion of James Connolly and second by Kim Hikel, members approved revisions to policies:

1. ACAA-R – Student Discrimination/Harassment and Title IX Sexual Harassment Compliant Procedures
2. ACAB-R – Employee Discrimination/Harassment and Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
3. GDAA – Fiscal Management and Office Positions
4. GDAB – Building and Grounds Management Positions

Unanimous

Adoption of New Policy

Upon the motion of James Connolly and second by Amy Bean, members adopted Policy GBP – Earned Paid Leave.

Unanimous

Approval of Proposed 2021-2022 School Calendar

After a presentation on how the School Calendar is created in balance with the need to prepare a regional calendar for career and technical education students, and upon the motion of James Connolly and second by Amy Bean, members approved the proposed 2021-2022 School Calendar as presented.

Unanimous

Transportation Committee Update

Upon the motion of Curtis Chadbourne and second by Katherine Waite, members rejected both bids presented and directed the Superintendent of Schools to rebid cost of transportation of students,

requesting bids be submitted both with the inclusion of the contractors purchasing the fuel and the District purchasing the fuel.

Yea – 13
Nay – 0
Abstention – 1

Pellet Bid Award for Central Community Elementary School

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Anne Kenneson, members awarded the pellet bid to Maine Wood Pellet Co. LLC in the amount of \$194 per ton (delivered) for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Unanimous

Discussion and Consideration of Ratification of the RSU 64 Support Staff Personnel Association Negotiations Agreement

Upon the motion of James Connolly and second by Nicole Kelley, members voted to ratify the Agreement as presented.

Unanimous

Possible Executive Session under 1 MRSA §405(6)(D) for the purpose of updating the Board on Administrative Contract Negotiations

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Anne Kenneson, members voted to enter Executive Session under 1 MRSA 405(6)(D) for the purpose of updating the Board on Administrative Contract Negotiations.

Time In: 8:49 p.m.

Upon the motion of James Connolly and second by David Nichols, members voted to return to Public Session.

Unanimous

Time Returned: 9:10 p.m.

Upon the motion of James Connolly and second by Amy Bean, members approved the recommendation of the Negotiations Committee of extension of administrative contracts by one year and the salaries and benefits of administrators and support staff falling under policy, as presented.

Unanimous

Budget Update

Superintendent Sperrey provided the following Budget Update:

- **Discussion FY21 Budget – Status Update**
The budget currently in place is adequately addressing the financial needs of the District. In general, budget expenditures are on track with each Function at 50-60% of expenditures midyear.
- **Preliminary Discussion FY22 Budget**
The recent distribution of the ED 279 reports to public school districts has provided revenue expectations for the District for FY22. It is expected RSU 64 will receive \$7,805,306.73 in subsidy and \$1,891,411.35 in debt service for a total allocation of \$9,696,718.23 for FY22. This is \$103,092.56 more in subsidy than what the budget was built upon last year. The debt service

will decrease by \$26,665. The local portion of debt service will be reduced by approximately \$304 to \$21,577.00.

The Finance Committee is discussing several items for budgetary consideration:

Increases in contractual costs for transportation, professional, and support staff.
Increase to health insurance premiums – not yet known.
Ongoing training and maintenance service agreements for facilities.
Pending retirements.

Future Finance Committee Meeting Dates:

Finance Committee – March 1, 6:00 p.m.

Personnel Nominations

Upon the motion of Kim Hikel and second by Wanda St. Peter, members approved the recommendation of the Hiring Committee of Superintendent Sperrey's recommendation of Professional Staff Appointment for 2020-2021:

CHS Spanish Teacher – Denise Johnson

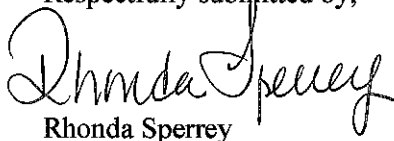
Unanimous

Chair Rhonda Williams acknowledged Kim Hikel's extensive years of service to the RSU 64 Board of Directors. Mrs. Hikel has served on the RSU 64 Board of Directors for 19 years.

Upon the motion of James Connolly and second by Amy Bean, and having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by,


Rhonda Sperrey
Secretary