

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37

April 28, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the School Directors of RSU #37/ MSAD #37 was held at Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School on Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon the following items of business:

Board Members Present: Jeffery Beal, Chris Chartrand, Steve Dunham, Everett Grant, Shelby Greene, Beth Hartford, Grace Kennedy, Ronald Kennedy, Debra Murphy, Tiffany Strout, and Mark Wright

Board Members Absent: None

Other persons present: Ronald Ramsay, Denise Vose, Susan Meserve, Lorna Greene, Maria White, Todd Emerson, Mary Ellen Day, Eric Brooks, Yvonne Hayward, Donna Haire, Dawn Fickett, and other citizens

MINUTES

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

1. **The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Debra Murphy.**
She welcomed Everett Grant back to the board, filling a two-year vacancy caused by the resignation of Gary Magby.
2. **RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 31, 2021**
ACTION: Motion by Ronald Kennedy, second by Chris Chartrand, and voted (unanimously) to approve the minutes of the March 31st meeting as printed.
3. **RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**
INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay reported the following:
 - Today was the first Wednesday back to in-person learning for our elementary schools. Overall, it was a good day with no abnormal absences. The high school is back to four days of in-person instruction with 181 attending. Things are going well.
 - The outside mask mandate was lifted by the state so our students can now be mask-free outside as long as they maintain a 6-foot social distance.
 - We are currently working on summer school plans using some of our COVID funds. End-of-year plans are still in the works. We are still hoping restrictions will be lifted a bit more allowing us to return to more “normal” scheduling of events.
 - A list of COVID expenditures to date was shared with the board.
4. **RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay noted that we are looking good financially and are a bit ahead of last month. This will ensure that we can carry forward the \$500,000 for the new budget, while also putting \$200,00 in an outside article for maintenance and \$100,000 for CTE. Some of the savings realized this year is because of the restrictions on things we can do, as well as being able to use COVID funds to purchase some items.
5. **RE: ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (Including Professional Development, ESEA, and G/T)**
INFORMATION: Denise Vose reported that she has been busy chairing IEP's and reviewing written notices. Special ed staff have had online training for first aid and CPR, diabetes, and epilepsy. We are currently serving 149 students in special ed with 8 more in the referral stage.

Susan Meserve noted that Harrington Elementary has 117 students enrolled, 111 attending in-person and 6 remotes. It has been a busy month. Grade 1 hatched out some chicks. Kindergarten has been practicing rhythms utilizing the outdoor classroom space. Pee-wee basketball had 14 boys and 13 girls working on skills/drills and scrimmaging. The Maine Outdoor School sessions are going well.

Lorna Greene reported an enrollment of 92 at DW Merritt, with 81 in-person and 11 remotes. Classrooms are working on gardening projects. The Bikes for Books program is underway through the Tuscan Lodge. A virtual book fair is being held. Third Quarter awards were given out. Tadpoles are being raised in the outdoor classroom. Pee-wee basketball is wrapping up with 9 boys and 6 girls participating. **Professional Development:** Staff have been working in their Professional Learning Communities finishing up the book study. **ESEA:** Staff are planning for the summer school that was approved through the state for Title I. We have 193 students across the district receiving reading and math supplemental instruction through Title I. **G/T:** Virtual field trips with the Outdoor School have been happening. The spring identification process is almost complete.

Maria White noted that Milbridge has 133 students enrolled with 115 attending in-person and 18 remotes. She and Carol Lisee led the New Hire Training today. Groundwork was completed on the playground during vacation week with new swings and a new basketball hoop installed. The playground was leveled and had new sand put down.

Mary Ellen Day reported 282 students enrolled at Narraguagus. About 180 are attending in-person four days a week, 66 are fully remote, and 33 are doing two days in person and two days remote. Softball and baseball are underway. The Junior and Senior National Honor Society inductions took place on April 13th. Three "groupings" were done to allow some family members to attend. They are currently working on year end plans. The senior class is planning an event for May 22nd. Since they can't have prom, they would like to dress up, have a nice sit-down dinner and be able to do photos. The 6th Annual NJSHS Art Exhibit will be from May 14th to June 5th at the Schooner Gallery in Milbridge.

6. RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. Athletics/Student Activities-none**
- b. Curriculum & Instruction-none**
- c. Negotiations & Grievance-none**
- d. Policy & By-laws-none**
- e. Facilities, Maintenance, Safety & Transportation-none**

7. RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve an adjustment to the agenda to approve a volunteer JV Softball Coach at NHS.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. RE: CONSIDERATION OF 2ND READING OF DJHA SCHOOL NUTRITION PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE AND CODE OF CONDUCT

ACTION: Motion by Christ Chartrand, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve the 2nd reading of DJHA School Nutrition Procurement Procedure and Code of Conduct as presented.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. RE: CONSIDERATION OF 1ST READING OF JL STUDENT WELLNESS POLICY

ACTION: Supt. Ramsay noted that the Wellness Committee has been meeting with Mrs. Day chairing the committee. We are now required to do a review of the policy every three years to see if we are doing what our policy says we will. We are looking at things that we don't do but should and addressing how we can do them. This might include such things as sending information home to parents, making sure we meet Smart Snack guidelines, etc.

Motion by Mark Wright, second by Everett Grant, and voted (unanimously) to approve the first reading of JL Student Wellness Policy.

2. **RE: HIRING 2ND YEAR PROBATIONARY CONTRACT TEACHERS**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Jeffery Beal, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of the following 2nd year probationary contract teachers as recommended by the Superintendent: Sandra Alley, Grade 1 at DW Merritt; Tina Beal, Early Childhood at CWCIT; Michael Benner, Science at NJSHS; Ashley Cirone, Grade 1 at Harrington; Daniel Daigle-Ferden, Welding at CWCIT; John Davis, Automotive at CWCIT; Darci Meijer, Ell at NJSHS; Jason Tyler, Diesel Mechanics at CWCIT; Victoria Wieman, Math at NJSHS; and Nicole Willey, Grades 5/6 at Milbridge.

- 2A. **RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENT—APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER SOFTBALL COACH AT NHS**
ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Beth Hartford, and voted (unanimously) to approve Lurena Perry as a volunteer softball coach at Narraguagus High School.

3. **RE: HIRING TEACHERS MOVING TO CONTINUING CONTRACT STATUS**
ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Beth Hartford, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of the following teachers moving to continuing contract status as recommended by the Superintendent: Tiffany Alley, Special Education-SCR-gr. 7-12; Eric Brooks, Grade 3 at Harrington; Rebecca Fletcher, Special Education RR-gr. 7/8; Claire Hall, Health at Narraguagus; Valerie Kennedy, Kindergarten at DW Merritt; Alexandra Loukas, Grade 1 at Milbridge; Michael Milazzo, Chorus/Music-K-12; Elyse Rudner, Special Education RR-DW Merritt; Jenessa Pritchard, Science at Narraguagus; Wanda Stanley, Special Education RR-Milbridge; Erica Thompson, PreK at DW Merritt; and Harry Thompson, Phys Ed at Narraguagus.

4. **RE: CONSIDERATION OF JR. HIGH SPRING SPORTS**
ACTION: Supt. Ramsay noted that our original plan for Jr. High baseball and softball was to only have our kids play, but we don't have enough kids to have individual school teams to play one another. More schools around us are eager to play as things relax. The St. Croix League is functioning again. If our kids are going to get to play at all, we will need to be in that league as we don't have enough players to make two teams to scrimmage each other. He recommends allowing this to happen. We have 6th graders playing on the teams as well as Cherryfield students.

 Motion by Mark Wright, second by Everett Grant, and voted (unanimously) to allow Jr. High Softball and Baseball to participate in the St. Croix League this year.

5. **RE: HIRING TEACHERS FOR 2021-2022**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of the following teacher for 2021-2022 as recommended by the Superintendent: Vernon Campbell, Jr./Sr. High School Social Studies; Meghan Charest, Jr. High ELA; Kristina Cloutier, Jr. High Social Studies; Donna Haire, Elementary Special Education at Milbridge; Jennifer Kearns, Visual/Performing Arts at Narraguagus; and Rylea Steeves, Elementary Phys Ed.

6. **RE: HIRING ED TECHS FOR 2021-2022**
ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Beth Hartford, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of the following ed techs for 2021-2022 as recommended by the Superintendent: Kaitlynn Crowley, Special Education Ed Tech III at Milbridge; Lucas McLain, Special Education Ed Tech III at NJSHS; Johannes Meijer, ELL Ed Tech III at NJSHS; Amy Parker, Special Education Ed Tech III at NJSHS; and Aimee Wagner, Special Education Ed Tech I at DW Merritt.

7. **RE: ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBER TO FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE**
ACTION: Motion by Ronald Kennedy, second by Everett Grant, and voted (851-yes, 90-abstentions) to elect Chris Chartrand to the Finance Subcommittee.

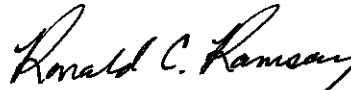
8. **RE: APPROVAL OF PROPOSED 2021-2022 DISTRICT BUDGET AND APPROVAL OF THE VOTE TO CALL A DISTRICT BUDGET REFERENDUM, CALL A PUBLIC HEARING, APPROVE THE REFERENDUM WARRANTS, AND APPROVE THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

ACTION: Motion by Chris Chartrand, second by Mark Wright, and voted that whereas, pursuant to Governor's Executive Orders #8 and #8A FY20/21, the District budget meeting is suspended and replaced by a remote public hearing and 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 District; now therefore be it voted that the Warrants and Notices of Election for the District Budget Referendum presented to this meeting be approved, and that a District 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 District for approval, as set forth in the Warrants and Notices of Election; that the Notice of Public Hearing presented to this meeting be approved, and that a remote public hearing be called for May 26, 2021 for consideration of and comment on the fiscal year 2021-2022 school budget and other fiscal matters to be submitted to the District voters at the June 8, 2021 District Budget Referendum; and that the Warrants and Notices of Election and the Notice of Public Hearing 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.

9. **RE: ADJOURNMENT**

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald C. Ramsay
Secretary to the Board

MEETING SUMMARY, April 28, 2021

A. Introductory Business:

2. APPROVED minutes of the 3/31/21 regular meeting;
7. APPROVED agenda adjustments for approval of a volunteer softball coach at NHS;

B. Old Business:

1. APPROVED 2nd reading of DJHA School Nutrition Procurement Procedure and Code of Conduct;

C. New Business:

1. APPROVED 1st reading of revised JL Student Wellness Policy;
2. HIRED 2nd year probationary contract teachers: S. Alley, T. Beal, M. Benner, A. Cirone, D. Daigle-Ferden, J. Davis, D. Meijer, J. Tyler, V. Wieman, and N. Willey
- 2a. APPROVED Lurena Perry as volunteer JV softball coach at NHS;
3. HIRED teachers moving to continuing contracts: T. Alley, E. Brooks, R. Fletcher, C. Hall, V. Kennedy, A. Loukas, M. Milazzo, E. Rudner, J. Pritchard, W. Stanley, E. Thompson, and H. Thompson;
4. APPROVED allowing Jr. High baseball and softball to participate in the St. Croix League;
5. HIRED new teachers for 2021-2022: V. Campbell, M. Charest, K. Cloutier, D. Haire, J. Kearns, and R. Steeves;
6. HIRED new ed techs for 2021-2022: K. Crowley, L. McLain, J. Meijer, A. Parker, and A. Wagner;
7. ELECTED Chris Chartrand to board's Finance Subcommittee;
8. APPROVED the vote to call a District Budget Referendum, call a Public Hearing, approve the Referendum warrants, and approve the Notice of Public Hearing