

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37

May 26, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the School Directors of RSU #37/ MSAD #37 was held at Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School on Wednesday, May 26, 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, Grace Kennedy, Ronald Kennedy, Debra Murphy, David Perham, Tiffany Strout, and Mark Wright

Board Members Absent: Beth Hartford

Other persons present: Ronald Ramsay, Denise Vose, Susan Meserve, Lorna Greene, Maria White, Todd Emerson, Mary Ellen Day, Ron Green, Eric Brooks, Kandi Robertson, Mariah Nichols, Leann Beal, 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 David Perham, of Columbia Falls, to the board.

Kandi Robertson asked about pool testing. Mr. Ramsay noted he would be discussing this in his report.

- 2. RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2021**

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Chris Chartrand, and voted to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2021 meeting with one correction. The amount in A-4 that will be included in our new budget as an outside article for maintenance should be \$200,000 and not \$20,000.

- 3. RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**

INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay reported the following:

- There is a long list of proposed bills still to be considered in the legislature. Many of these could impact our schools if enacted. You can view these on the maine.gov website.
- Mask restrictions are being lifted around us; however, there have been no changes to the requirement that our staff and students must wear them while in school. The outdoor mask requirement was recently lifted. The latest news from Augusta is that schools won't have to adhere to the social distancing requirements in September if they agree to pool testing. The requirement for this is that schools must test 30% of their student population, using nasal swabs. Tests are sent away together by grade, and then if there is a positive test result, that grade is tested individually. The state is indicating at this time that restrictions will not go away in the fall. They have signed a contract with an out of state company to do the pool testing. indicated he is not going to be quick to sign on to this, hoping that things might change before September.

Everett Grant wondered if there was a deadline to commit. Mr. Ramsay noted that there is not. He indicated he is not going to be quick to sign on to this, hoping that things might change before September. A lot can change between now and then. Even if 30% voluntary sign up, someone still must oversee it. There were questions on how the number of students vaccinated for COVID might affect it. Mr. Ramsay noted that we had over 50 students vaccinated last week at a clinic at the high school, but he doesn't know if vaccinated students will affect pool testing. Since the vaccine is only for those 12 and up right now, it would not affect the elementary schools. Mr. Ramsay noted that he will be bringing the issue to the board at some point for a vote once more information is available. Regardless of whether we do it or not, parents will have the option to opt out. He noted that he will share any new information once he receives it.

- Eric Brooks, Adult Education Director, shared information on our Adult Ed Program.

4. RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay noted that we are in very good shape financially with 16% of the fiscal year remaining after April and 32% of our budget remaining. This is the best financial shape we've ever been in for April, and mostly due to COVID and not being able to do many of the things we typically do, while also being able to access the funding from ESSER and CRF.

5. RE: ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (Including Professional Development, ESEA, and G/T)

INFORMATION: Denise Vose reported that we are serving 147 students in special education as well as 16 who have 504 plans in place. There have been many referrals this year that have been processed.

Susan Meserve noted that Harrington Elementary has 117 students enrolled, 110 attending in-person and 7 remotes. It has been a busy month. Staff received many gifts for Teacher Appreciation Week. Students have been busy with Outdoor School, Step-up Day, Field Day, and end-of-year field trips.

Lorna Greene reported that DW Merritt has 92 students, 80 attending and 12 remotes. For Staff Appreciation, lots of home-made goodies, door prizes, and other fun things took place. Spirit Week was a success last week. NWEA testing is underway. The Spring Showcase was done virtually and posted on the website. Summer School plans are underway. Staff met during the early-release afternoon of 5/11 in their buildings to finish the book study.~~The Leadership Team met on May 12th to select goals for next year which include working on writing skills, math, and social/emotional strategies.~~Title I is serving 195 students across the district in math and reading. Summer School plans are being finalized.~~The G/T spring identification has been completed. We will have 31 students in the G/T academic program and 23 in art for the fall.

Maria White noted that Milbridge has 129 students enrolled with 115 attending in-person and 14 remotes. Students who are remote did come to the building to do NWEA testing, which worked well. Field Day is coming up, as well as a BBQ for the 6th grade students as they move up to the junior high next year.

Mary Ellen Day reported that Teacher Appreciation Week was celebrated. The Student Art Exhibit at the Schooner Gallery runs through June 5th. NWEA testing is underway. Custodians are working on the summer cleaning schedule. Grade 6 students visited last week for Step-up Day. They will be the Class of 2027! Cherryfield 8th graders visited today. They have held ZOOM meetings in the evening with Spanish-speaking families to make sure they know what is happening. The Senior Gala was held last Friday. Seniors dressed up, had plated meals catered to them, a hypnosis comedy show, and caricatures drawn. It went well and students had a great time. Seniors are doing finals this week and will spend next week getting ready for graduation. A Survivor-style field day will be held tomorrow.

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 Chris Chartrand, and voted (unanimously) to table this article as there are no adjustments needed to the agenda tonight.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. RE: CONSIDERATION OF 2ND READING OF JL—STUDENT WELLNESS POLICY

ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Chris Chartrand, and voted (807-yes, 97-abstentions) to approve the 2nd reading of JL-Student Wellness Policy as written. (J. Beal abstained.)

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. RE: HIRING CNA INSTRUCTOR

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Everett Grant, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of Stacey Balicki as the CNA Instructor beginning September 2021 as recommended by the Superintendent.

2. RE: HIRING FALL/WINTER COACHES FOR NARRAGUAGUS HIGH SCHOOL

ACTION: Motion by Chris Chartrand, second by Everett Grant, and voted (unanimously) to hire the following fall/winter coaches for Narraguagus High School as recommended by the Superintendent:

- Holly Fraser, Varsity Volleyball
- Hilary Oliver, JV Volleyball
- Tyler Tenney, Boys' Soccer
- Devonte Stevens, Girls' Soccer
- Carolyn Howell, Golf
- Tricia Brown, Cross Country
- Heather Thompson, Varsity Girls' Basketball
- Holly Fraser, JV Girls' Basketball
- Vincent MacLean, Jr., Varsity Boys' Basketball
- Ryan Fletcher, JV Varsity Boys' Basketball
- Dayna Barker, Cheering

3. RE: ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS

- a. Heating Oil—Fraser Energy Solutions at \$0.07 over rack
- b. Diesel Fuel—RH Foster Energy LLC at \$0.075 over rack
- c. Hot Lunch Delivery—Belinda Reynolds at \$23,000 for the year
- d. Bread for Hot Lunch Program—LePage Bakeries with various prices
- e. Milk for Hot Lunch Program—Oakhurst Dairy with various prices

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Everett Grant, and voted (unanimously) to accept the bids as noted above for services/products for the 2021-2022 school year as recommended by the Superintendent.

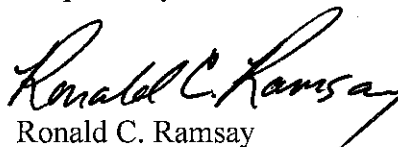
4. RE: ACCEPTANCE OF BID FOR ROOF REPLACEMENT AT NARRAGUAGUS

ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Chris Chartrand, and voted (unanimously) to accept the bid of \$85,500 from Newcomb Construction for the roof replacement at Narraguagus as recommended by Supt. Ramsay.

5. RE: ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Motion by Tiffany Strout, and voted (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald C. Ramsay
Secretary to the Board

MEETING SUMMARY, May 26, 2021

A. Introductory Business:

2. APPROVED minutes of the 4/28/21 regular meeting;
7. TABLED agenda adjustments;

B. Old Business:

1. APPROVED 2nd reading of JL Student Wellness Policy;

C. New Business:

1. HIRED Stacey Balicki as CNA instructor;
2. HIRED fall/winter coaches for NHS: Holly Fraser, Varsity Volleyball; Hilary Oliver, JV Volleyball; Tyler Tenney, Boys' Soccer; Devonte Stevens, Girls' Soccer; Carolyn Howell, Golf; Tricia Brown, Cross Country; Heather Thompson, Varsity Girls' Basketball; Holly Fraser, JV Girls' Basketball; Vincent MacLean, Jr., Varsity Boys' Basketball; Ryan Fletcher, JV Varsity Boys' Basketball; Dayna Barker, Cheering
3. ACCEPTED bids: Heating Oil—Fraser Energy Solutions at \$0.07 over rack; Diesel Fuel—RH Foster Energy LLC at \$0.075 over rack; Hot Lunch Delivery—Belinda Reynolds at \$23,000 for the year; Bread for Hot Lunch Program—LePage Bakeries with various prices; Milk for Hot Lunch Program—Oakhurst Dairy with various prices;
4. ACCEPTED bid from Newcomb Construction for replacement of roof at NHS for \$85,500.