

**MAINE REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #50
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
APRIL 11, 2022
MINUTES
SOUTHERN AROOSTOOK COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

6:30 P.M.

This meeting was also available via Zoom.

Board members present: Barbara Burton, Shannon Crandall, Laura Farnsworth, Stephen Porter Greg Ryan and Paula Stevens.

Larry Greenlaw and Carman Lilley were absent.

Others staff present: Elaine Small
Anthony Binotto, selectman from Island Falls was in attendance.

Attending remotely were: April Bates, Heather Swallow, Janet Vose and Natasha Winslow

1. Call the Meeting to Order and Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 p.m and a quorum declared.

New Oakfield Board member, Shannon Crandall was welcomed and introduced to the Board. Shannon replaces Danny Barrows who resigned to take office as a selectman for Oakfield.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 14, 2022 were considered.

Moved to approve by: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Laura Farnsworth

Vote: Unanimous

3. Time Period to Hear from Citizens: None

4. Adjustment(s) to the Agenda: None

5. Reports

Board Chair: n/a

Board Vice Chair: Laura reminded the Board of a vacant seat for the RSU on the Region 2 Board.

Committee Reports –

Building & Grounds – next meeting scheduled for June 2.

Education – next meeting scheduled for May 5

Finance – warrants were signed

Negotiations – meeting on April 13th at 3:30 p.m.

Policy – see items 7 & 8

Region II – regular meetings scheduled for April 12 and May 10 at 6 p.m.

Principals: April's report included a year end schedule of events and updates on trainings, monies awarded for a Summer School Grant, plus information on an upcoming performance by Jason Tardy for K-8 students. (See enclosed)

Special Services Director: Janet's report included updates on trainings, plus Special Education numbers for the month of March. Her report is included.

Business Manager: Natasha reported on the percentages remaining by cost centers for the RSU.

Superintendent: Jon's report includes Region 2, student and staff recognition, Covid updates, end of the year calendar of events and predicted enrollment for Region 2 in the fall of 2022. The report is enclosed.

6. Announcement of Appointments, Resignations and Retirements: None

7. First Reading of Policies:

Job Description for the Affirmative Action Officer

IKF: Graduation Requirements

HBAL: Grievance Procedures for Persons with Disabilities

This policy is being replaced by AC-R

Moved to approve by: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Laura Farnsworth

Vote: Unanimous

8. Second Reading/Revisions/Adoption of Policies:

Final Reading of Policies for updated language/amendments:

AC: Non-Discrimination/Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action

ACAB: Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees

ACAB-R: Employee Discrimination/Harassment and Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedure

BHC: Board Communications with Staff

IHBAC: Child Find

Moved to approve by: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Laura Farnsworth

Vote: Unanimous

9. Other Business – New/Old

a. Presentation to the Board of the Proposed RSU #50 Budget for FY23.

Natasha presented the proposed budget in detail for FY23.

She responded to several questions presented by the Board and by Anthony Binotto.

9. Future Agenda Item(s)
Budget

11. Upcoming Meetings and Events

Special Workshop Meeting & Budget Adoption

by the Board on Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Education Committee	May 5, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.
Policy Committee	May 9, 2022 @ 5:45 p.m.
Finance Comm.	May 9, 2022 @ 6:15 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting	May 9, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.
Region 2 Meeting	May 10, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

District Budget Meeting -Tuesday, May 31, 2022 @ 7 p.m.

Building & Grounds	June 2, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.
Budget Validation Referendum	June 14, 2022 at local polls
Regular Board Meeting & Budget Validation will be Thursday, June 16 th no meeting on June 13th.	

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous decision at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jonathan Porter, Superintendent
Regional School Unit #50

Elementary Report
Apr 11, 2022

1. End-of-Year field trips have been planned and scheduled.

Wednesday June 1st	Tuesday June 7th	Wednesday June 8th	Thursday June 9th	Friday June 10th	Monday June 13th
-5th Grade goes to the Escape Rooms in Bangor and Sweet Frog	-Field Day 3-5 Morning K-2 Afternoon	-Trampoline Park K-3 -4th Grade to the movies seeing a Secret Garden	-Beach Day or rain date for Field Day		-Current Last Day of School Half Day

2. We received \$500 for participating in Winter Kids.
3. Upcoming Trainings - All paid for with Tier III money.
 - a. Shelby Cummings and Taylor Bishop are taking the Responsive Classroom Advanced Course over the summer.
 - b. Shelby Cummings, Diane White, Maggie McNally and Crystal Gallop will be taking Elevate (a self-paced, online course over the summer that targets PreK-2 teaching strategies for a total of 30 credit hours)
 - c. 2 to 3 K-2 teachers will be attending the Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Institute in Belfast on May 19th. Teachers will let me know by April 15th.
4. The Tier III application has been approved and Natasha can now start billing.
5. The Summer School Application was submitted and approved. We will receive a grant for \$42,132 for our Summer Academy. I will run from June 21st to July 15th. We have advertised for the following:

1 Teacher, High School

8 Teachers, Prek – 8

5 Ed Techs, Prek – 8

2 Bus Drivers

1 Cafeteria Worker

6. See the attached for information about a K-8 assembly on April 15th.



JASON TARDY PERFORMANCE

AT RSU #50

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2022

1:00 PM

STUDENTS K - 8

**HIGH ENERGY JUGGLING WITH AN
ANTI-BULLYING MESSAGE**

**"STAND UP! STAND OUT!"
PERFORMANCE**

School Board Notes

4/11/2022

SPIRE training was a huge success! Staff at all experience levels felt it was really beneficial and learned a good amount of information. All the kits have been distributed to the teaching staff and are being utilized.

I attended the Drummond and Woodsum Workshop on the 24th, it was very informative and they updated us on the potential legislature changes. Nothing new to report as nothing has been officially passed.

I have set up a webinar with Special Education teachers for the updates on the software we use for IEP goal writing called Goalbook. We will be doing that as a group on April 13th from 2:30-3:30.

Dr. Candice Bray is doing a Dyslexia workshop virtually for all of our Elementary staff on the next early release day. Dr. Bray currently consults with our elementary special education teachers on our dyslexic students. She does wonderful work and we have seen great results with her consultation.

I am attending a SLD (Specific Learning Disorder) form virtually from the DOE on May 13th.

March Special Ed numbers

IEP's - 76

504's - 13

Total # of Students who receive services - 89 (25%)

Total # of meetings in March - 15

**RSU 50 Superintendent Report RSU 50 Board Meeting
April 11, 2022**

1. Region Two Report

- a. The next Region Two Board meeting is April 12, 2022 at 6:00pm.
- b. See attached projected enrolment numbers for Region Two 2022-23

2. Student & Staff Recognition

Southern Aroostook 2nd Trimester Honor Roll

Grade 12:

Highest Honors (3.75-4.0): Hunter Burpee & Maggie Harthorne

High Honors (3.4-3.75): Adain Bubar, Chris Caswell, Aedan Gadsby, Esther Greene, Laura Lyons & Emily Skinner

Honors (3.0-3.39): Gracie Brewer, Willow Brooks, Brianne Daggett, Lindsay Derosier, Samantha Desrosier, Jordyn Legassey, Gunner Siltz, Emily Stewart & Ethan Webb

Grade 11:

Highest Honors (3.75-4.0): Jennah Brooks, Alyssa Crandall, John Langer, Alexia Maclaren, Callie Russell, & Drake Weston

High Honors (3.4-3.75): Shayna McMannus, Camden Porter & Madison Russell

Honors (3.0-3.39): Peyton Lawlor, Andrew Lewis, Robbie Robinson, Graham Siltz, & Jayniece Wenzloff

Grade 10:

Highest Honors (3.75-4.0): Cami Shields

High Honors (3.4-3.75): Dylan Burpee, Tristen Hardy, Brooke Ivey, Bailey Vose

Honors (3.0-3.39): Jordyn Bishop, Amaya Boutilier, Candace Day, Emmalee Landry, Kobe MacArthur, Bridger Noyes, Autumn Robinson, & Madison Shields

Grade 9:

Highest Honors (3.75-4.0): Sarah London & Rylee Webb

High Honors (3.4-3.75): Libby Anderson, Ethan Collier, Olivia Engebretson, Rylee Kuliga, Addyson Schmidt, & Bethany Schmidt

Honors (3.0-3.39): Ciera Dignan, Jacob Ellingwood, Mackenzie Lilley, Amber McMannus, Ryder Russell, Aliana Stevens, Vinny Stevens, & Austin Tarr

Grade 8:

Highest Honors (3.75-4.0): Ashlyn York

High Honors (3.4-3.75): Dillan Bishop, Lana Booker, Daniel Kuindersma, Connor Lane, Hannah McGary, & Ally Shields

Honors (3.0-3.39): Bryce Bates, Richard Chambers, Joshua Ellingwood, Ariana Given, Kason Lawlor, Barrett Mathers, Mikael McDougal, Annie Stevens, Joel Strother & Kyliena Wenzloff

Grade 7:

Highest Honors (3.75-4.0): Ruth Greene

High Honors (3.4-3.75): Emma Cooper, Jazmyn Ellingwood, & Connor Lilley

Honors (3.0-3.39): Jonah Booker, Kevin Clark, Joshua Crandall, Jenna Darling, Haylee Given, William Hersey & Brooke Shields

Grade 6

High Honors (3.4-3.75): Lyndsie Beaulieu, Caroline Elhoff, & Haley McGary

Honors (3.0-3.39): Grace Anderson, Mason Hatch, Kendal Lawlor, Jakoby Porter, Aolie Watt, & Jayden White

All-Aroostook Music Festival

Congratulations to the following students have been selected to participate in the All-Aroostook Band Festival in Presque Isle on Saturday April 30th:

High School-Jordyn Bishop, Alyssa Crandall, Tristen Hardy, Maggie Harthorne, Rylee Kuliga, Callie Russell, & Bailey Vose

Middle School-Lana Booker, Ruth Greene, & Annie Harthorne

Congratulations to the following Juniors on their selection to Dirigo Boys & Girls State

Dirigo Girls State: Jennah Brooks & Callie Russell

Dirigo Boys State: Camden Porter & John Langer

3. Covid-19 Update

Covid-19 numbers for RSU 50

The current numbers for RSU 50 remain relatively low. We have had three weeks in a row of pooled testing with no positive pools being detected. The students and staff continue to be respectful of parents/staff/student choice with mask wearing. A low number of substitute's continues to be a problem for staff impacted by Covid-19 and other absences. We are making it work, but all staff have been asked to help with student coverage. We are very fortunate to have an excellent group of professionals to work with our students.

Pooled Testing:

The epidemiology of the BA.2. variant of COVID-19 reduces the effectiveness of pooled testing as a method for early detection of COVID-19 in schools and, thus, as a means to reduce transmission within schools. This is because of the BA.2 variant's significantly greater contagiousness compared to the Omicron strain from January 2022. The greater contagiousness means that the likelihood of detecting, identifying, and isolating an individual with COVID-19 from pooled testing *before* that individual has spread the virus to others is significantly reduced. Instead, frequent at-home testing is more protective than pooled testing. To ensure this is a viable option, Maine DOE/CDC strongly encourage SAUs to order at-home test kits. As announced earlier this week, they will be provided free of charge for SAUs to distribute to staff and students.

Moving forward, Maine CDC will make a statewide decision on when pooled testing will be phased out, rather than expecting each SAU to do so independently. The Maine CDC will craft and release a message that clarifies why this is epidemiologically the best decision, and they have asked for unified support from our education organizations, which has been confirmed. We anticipate this announcement being released this week.

Standard Operating Procedure(SOP):

The SOP is running its course, and barring any unforeseen issues, will be retired at the end of the school year. School nurses will receive technical assistance as they transition to the standard response protocols for infectious diseases.

Maine DHHS allotment of at-home Covid-19 tests

Maine DHHS, with the support of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, will provide schools with a one-time allotment of at-home COVID-19 rapid antigen test kits to distribute to students and staff. These tests include the Siemens [CLINITEST Rapid COVID-19 Antigen Self-Test](#), [Abbott BinaxNOW Self-tests](#), or [OraSure IntelISwab rapid tests](#). While school administrative units (SAUs) and schools will not have a choice in the brand of test they will receive, enough will be distributed to supply each individual student and staff person with 5 or 6 individually wrapped at-home rapid antigen tests. The purpose of this new testing option is to provide staff and

families with at-home COVID-19 tests for individuals who are close contacts, or have symptoms, to prevent those individuals from unknowingly spreading this highly contagious disease while at school. These tests may be distributed by schools this spring, summer, or fall.

All Maine PreK to 12 students and staff are eligible to receive at-home rapid antigen test kits through their schools. SAUs and private schools may order up to one kit for each student and staff member. Each kit consists of either one box of five tests or three boxes of two individually wrapped tests. This program is voluntary and SAUs and private schools may wish to assess interest in participation prior to ordering. Any tests not distributed upon receipt should be stored in a secure location and kept at room temperature (40 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit). Tests will have a shelf life of 8 to 12 months. Tests may be distributed to students and staff at the school's or SAU's discretion. **RSU 50 has ordered tests for all students and staff, 450 kits. They should be delivered to our school by June 2022.**

4. End of Year Calendar

April 13	SAT's for Third year high school students
April 14	SACS Leadership Team Meeting, 2:30pm Drama Production by ASP, "Bad Auditions by Bad Actors" 6:00pm
April 18-22	April Vacation
April 26	Make-up for SAT's
April 28	SACS Leadership Team Meeting, 2:30pm
April 28	Special Budget Workshop Budget Adoption Meeting, 6:30pm
April 30	All-Aroostook Music Festival in Presque Isle
May 5	National Honor Society Induction, 6:00pm
May 9-11	Senior Capstone Presentations
May 9	RSU 50 Board meeting, 6:30pm
May 11	Early Release Day
May 12	SACS Leadership Team Meeting, 2:30pm
May 14	So. Aroostook High School Junior Prom
May 24	LabVenture Field Trip to Portland for Grade 6 & 7
May 26	Virtual MLTI Conference, Grades 7 & 8
May 31	District Budget Meeting, 7:00pm
June 4	Senior Class Trip
June 9	Class of 2022 Baccalaureate, 5:30pm Class of 2022 Class Night, 6:15pm
June 10	8th Grade Completion & Awards, 9:00am Class of 2022 Graduation, 6:00pm
June 13	Last day of school for students
June 14	Budget Validation Referendum
June 16	RSU 50 Board Meeting & Budget Validation, 6:30pm

High School Baseball & Softball Playoff Schedule:

June 4	Regional Play-in
June 7	Prelim Round
June 9	Quarterfinals
June 11	Semifinals
June 14	Regional Finals
June 18	State Finals

PROJECTED REGION TWO 2022-23 ENROLLMENT

PROGRAM	HOULTON	HODGDON	DANFORTH	SACS	KATAHDIN	TOTALS	MAXIMUM #
Auto Collision Repair	10 (+3 Summit A.)	4	1	3	3	24	
Automotive Technology	8 (+1 Summit A.) (+1 GHCA)	10 (+1 GHCA)	2	7	2	32	30
Culinary Arts	8 (+1 Summit A.)	3 (+1 Summit A.)	1	3 (+1 home school)	2 (+2 home school)	22	28
Early Childhood	8 (+2 Summit A.)	4	4	5 (+1 Summit A.)	1	25	28
EMT	1	3	1	0 (+1 Summit A.)	0	6	13
Forest Mgmt - SACS	0	0	0	7	5	12	24
Health Science / Medical Terminology	2 (+1 Summit A.)	1 (+1 w/adults white day)	0 (+2 w/adults white day)	1	2	10	20
Intro to Medical Professions	4	2	0	0	2	8 (+3 Phlebotomy only)	13
Law Enforcement	9	2	3	4	2	20	32
Outdoor Leadership	0	2	0	0	0	2	13
Plumbing & Heating	0	0	0	1	1	2	13
Residential Electrical	6	6 (+1 home school)	1	2 (+1 Summit A.)	2 (+1 home school)	20	24
Welding	6 (+1 Summit A.) (+1 home school)	8	5	5 (+1 GHCA)	6	33	28
TOTALS	73	49	20	43	31	216	290

(32 9th grade/68 10th grade/55 11th grade/61 12th grade)

216 students = 15% freshmen, 31% sophomores, 26% juniors, 28% seniors.

3/29/2022