

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 64
Bradford Corinth Hudson Kenduskeag Stetson

REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 29, 2021

The members of the Board of Directors of RSU 64 met at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 28, 2021 in response to an agenda dated June 24, 2021. The agenda was distributed to members electronically.

Members Present: Rhonda Williams, James Connolly, Wanda St. Peter, Katherine Waite, David Nichols, Sherry Horn, Parvanah Withee, Curtis Chadbourne, Haley Emery, Julie Byers

Student Representatives
Present: None

Members Absent: Anne Kenneson, Tonya Wozneak, Jodi Brasslett, Terri Jane Casavant, Nicole Kelley, Robert Young, Amy Bean, Chad Crooker

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

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rhonda Williams at 7:15 p.m. A roll call and check of attendance found a quorum of 10 members present, and 8 members absent.

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second of Katherine Waite the Board voted to amend the minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of May 24, 2021 to reflect Amy Bean in dissent of the motion to continue to explore potential involvement in the Comprehensive Regional Technical High School concept by joining discussions with the informal planning group.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second of Katherine Waite the Board voted to approve the draft minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting (June 22, 2021), amended Regular Monthly Board Meeting minutes (May 24, 2021), and draft Hiring Committee Meeting minutes (May 24, 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 Terri-Lynn Fowler (Varsity Field Hockey Coach), Caryle Janicki (CCES Ed Tech III), and Jennifer MacArthur (CMS Grade 7 ELA Teacher).

Chair Williams called for Public Forum items.

RSU 64 Teachers' Association President Sherry Blanchard thanked the Board and the Administrative Team for the end of the school year celebration and the support received during the 2020-2021 school year.

Reports

Superintendent Sperrey updated members on the following administrative topics:

Closing 2020-2021 School Year

The final student day took place on June 8 and the final staff day concluded the 2020-2021 school year on June 9. In an effort to celebrate a most unprecedented school year, staff engaged in professional development in the morning in their school level, grade level, and content area teams and were treated to Mrs. Speed's famous cinnamon rolls for a morning snack. Lunch was provided to all staff outside under the tent at CCES with a DJ providing music, the District distributing thank you note recognitions from the Board, door prizes, and a special inspirational speaker. Eric Herlan reminded us of the "good ole days" while pointing out how teachers, administrators, and staff navigated the past school year will have contributed to how our children tell their "good ole days" stories to future generations to come.

Coronavirus Relief Funds

The District ESSER II application has been approved. The ESSER III (American Recovery Act) application has not yet been released to districts.

Coronavirus Response - Summer Planning

As cases of COVID-19 continue to decline across Maine, the District is planning to reduce mitigation strategies within school programs. Summer athletic activities will still require masking of students and spectators however, there is no limit to the number of students or fans able to participate. Summer School will begin on July 6 and will take place three mornings a week for four weeks. The majority of the elementary and middle school programs will take place outside. Masks are only required in indoor spaces in all summer programs.

It is fully expected physical distancing and masking will not be required in schools or on buses for the 2021-2022 school year. It is unclear what quarantine measures will be in place if a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 becomes evident within the school population once school resumes. The District expects to receive additional information closer to the start of the next school year.

PEPG Steering Committee Update

The PEPG (Performance Evaluation Professional Growth) Steering Committee has been meeting to revise the evaluation model currently in place so as to align it with the most recent language in statute. The statute no longer requires teachers to use the Student Learning Objective (SLO) process to provide evidence of effectiveness. School unit evaluation models have the option of using the SLO process but are also able to design alternate pathways of evidence of impact on student learning.

On June 11, the Governor signed into law a bill providing a waiver to school districts for the requirement to use the state mandated PEPG evaluation process for teachers and principals, with the exception of 2nd year probationary teachers, during the 2021-2022 school year. The Committee has met to discuss this option and how it may or may not align with the scope of their current work. The Committee will be updating the Board and seeking approval of any potential changes prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year. The PEPG Steering Committee is made up of teachers and administrators.

Budget Update

The FY22 Budget was approved by the voters at the District Budget Meeting and subsequently validated at referendum. Next year, voters will have the opportunity to simplify the budget approval process by eliminating the second step validation referendum process that is both costly and cumbersome to the municipalities, should they choose to do so.

District Enrollment (As of June 1, 2021)

CCES – 451 (0)

CMS – 272 (0)

CHS – 301 (-1)
Total = 1024 (-1)

Administrator Reports

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

CHS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Jared Foster updated members on summer sport programs.

Superintendent Sperrey shared with members the positive feedback received about the outdoor graduation ceremony for the Central High School Class of 2021.

New Business

Discussion and Consideration of K-8 Math Program

Curriculum Coordinator Danette Kerrigan and Grade 5 Teacher Casee Hart presented information on the work a team of teachers and administrators completed during the 2020-2021 school year in consideration of a new math program K-8.

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Katherine Waite, members approved the team's recommendation of purchasing and implementing Reveal Math.

Unanimous

Approval of Policy Revision

Upon the motion of James Connolly and second by Curtis Chadbourne, members approved the recommendation of the Policy Committee to revise Policy ADC-R – Tobacco Use and Possession Administrative Procedure to include the sentence: "Tobacco free campus signs will be posted throughout the school campuses." in the Notices section.

Unanimous

Discussion and Consideration of Sanding and Plowing for 2021-2022

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Sherry Horn, members approved a one-year extension to the current Sanding and Plowing Contract for the 2021-2022 season. The contract for services will be going out to bid in late winter in preparation of the 2022-2023 season.

Unanimous

Budget

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Katherine Waite, members voted to verify the results of the Annual District Budget Meeting held on June 3, 2021 as recorded, presented, and distributed as minutes of that meeting, to validate the results of the District Budget Validation Referendum held on June 8, 2021, and to have Board members sign the Tax Warrants prepared by the Superintendent. The Board also directed the Superintendent to issue the Warrants assessing the member municipalities of the District their proportionate share of the total assessments as approved by voters on June 3, 2021 and validated on June 8, 2021.

Unanimous

Chair Williams reminded members of the expense involved in the referendum process and that voters will have the opportunity to vote to simplify the process in June 2022.

Discussion and Consideration of Annual Authorization for the Superintendent to File all Applications and to act as the Board's Legal Representative in Order to Secure State and Federal Grants for 2021-2022

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Sherry Horn, members voted to authorize the Superintendent to file all application and to act as the Board's legal representative in order to secure State and Federal grants for 2021-2022.

Unanimous

Discussion and Consideration of Governance Committee Member Re-Appointments

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Katherine Waite, members voted to approve Governance Committee member re-appointments:

1. Lee Margaret Jack, Grades PreK-2, 2021-2023
2. Beth Cook, Grades 6-8, 2021-2023
3. Scott Bickerstaff, Grades 9-12, 2021-2023

Unanimous

Discussion and Consideration of Appointments for 2021-2022

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Katherine Waite, members voted to appoint:

1. School Physician – Dr. Brian Lundquist
2. School Dentist – Dr. Daniel Steinke

Unanimous

Discussion and Consideration to Authorize the Hiring Committee to Act on Behalf of the Board during the Months of July and August

Upon the motion of Katherine Waite and second by Sherry Horn, members voted to authorize the Hiring Committee to act on behalf of the Board during the months of July and August.

Unanimous

Annual Election/Appointment of Standing Committees

The Superintendent called for nominations for position of Chair for 2021-2022. The nomination of Rhonda Williams was offered by Wanda St. Peter and seconded by Curtis Chadbourne. Seeing no further nominations, the Superintendent called for a vote.

Yea – 9

Nay – 0

Abstention – 1 (Williams – subject of vote)

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Curtis Chadbourne, member James Connolly was approved at Vice-Chair for 2021-2022.

Yea – 9

Nay – 0

Abstention – 1 (Connolly – subject of vote)

Members approved the following Standing Committee membership for 2021-2022:

Building Committee – Robert Young, Terri Jane Casavant, Tonya Wozneak, Jodi Brasslett, Julie Byers

Finance Committee – Nicole Kelley, Anne Kenneson, David Nichols, Sherry Horn, Curtis Chadbourne

Hiring Committee – Robert Young, Wanda St. Peter, Rhonda Williams, Pravanah Withee, Julie Byers

Negotiations Committee – Nicole Kelley, James Connolly, Amy Bean, Katherine Waite, Jodi Brasslett

Policy Committee – Haley Emery, James Connolly, Amy Bean, Sherry Horn, Parvanah Withee

Transportation – Haley Emery, Chad Crooker, Tonya Wozneak, Katherine Waite, Curtis Chadbourne

Personnel Nominations

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Katherine Waite, members approved the recommendation of the Hiring Committee of Superintendent Sperrey's recommendation of Professional Staff appointments for 2021-2022:

CCES Special Education Teacher – Laurie Hatch
CMS Grade 7 ELA Teacher – Thomas Cote
CMS Grade 7 Science Teacher – Alan Raymond
CMS Grade 8 Science Teacher (one-year position) – Stephen Urli
CMS .5 FTE Art Teacher/Ed Tech III – Hannah Farrar
CMS/CHS Computer/Technology Teacher – Laura Ward
CHS Spanish Teacher – Julia Fasano

Unanimous

Member David Nichols asked for additional information regarding the Lead and Copper Education Letter that was sent to families via the notification system. Superintendent Sperrey clarified the District has a State approved plan for lead corrosion control on file. Superintendent Sperrey further clarified the testing that was conducted that initiated the control plan was specific to the sink in the CHS teachers lounge and in the CHS library work room. No drinking fountains have been found to contain elevated levels. The District has replaced all fixtures in both the Central Middle School and Central High School as an approved step in the lead corrosion control plan. Levels will continue to be monitored and future notifications will be posted publicly and sent via email.

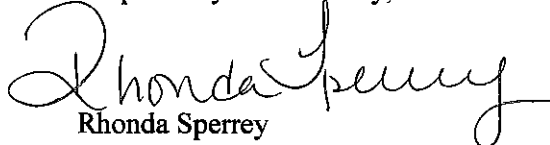
Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Sherry Horn, and having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Unanimous

Members reconvened momentarily and upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Katherine Waite, voted to change the meeting date of the July Regular Monthly Meeting to the third Monday in July, rather than the fourth. The Regular Monthly Meeting in July will take place on July 19 at 7:00 p.m. at CCES.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by,


Rhonda Sperrey
Secretary

