

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37
August 25, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the School Directors of RSU #37/MSAD #37 was held at Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon the following items of business:

Board Members present: Jeffery Beal, Everett Grant, Shelby Greene, Beth Hartford, Grace Kennedy, Ronald Kennedy, Debra Murphy, David Perham, Tiffany Strout, and Mark Wright

Board Members absent: Chris Chartrand and Stephen Dunham

Other persons present: Ronald Ramsay, Denise Vose, Susan Meserve, Lorna Greene, Maria White, Mary Ellen Day, Todd Emerson, Lori Mathews, Dave Mathews, Ron Green, Moriah Nichols, Leann Beal, Anna Emerson, Candy Tucker, Amanda Kowalski, 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 asked if any citizens had questions or comments on school and education matters. Stanley Farmer, a grandparent from Milbridge, asked if Critical Race Theory was going to be taught in the district schools this year and if he was allowed to review the district's curriculum. Supt. Ramsay noted that CRT is not part of our curriculum, and the Board has never addressed or voted on teaching it in the schools. The administrative team has not addressed the issue either. Our curriculum is in notebook format and can certainly be viewed.

Leann Beal, a parent from Milbridge, had a couple of follow up questions to the discussion last week. She wondered if the drop-off/pick-up procedures for students would go back to the way it was before COVID or if it will remain the way it was last year. She also asked who would make the decision to mandate masks if conditions changed since the motion last week included the discretion to mandate masks if conditions changed? Supt. Ramsay noted that parents will not be kept out of the schools like they were last year, but some of the procedures instituted last year may remain while the Delta variant is around. Numbers have been going down over the last couple of weeks and he hopes they continue that way. There is still a lot of angst in the community by some because of the variant. If conditions change, it will be his decision to change the mask policy per the board's vote last week. It would be based on things such as an outbreak in the schools, more cases locally, etc. He will not make that decision lightly and would most likely consult with others such as the board chair and administrators before deciding.

2. **RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 28, 2021**
ACTION: Motion by Grace Kennedy, second by Everett Grant, and voted (650-yes, 149-abstentions) to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2021, meeting as printed. (Hartford and Wright abstained as they were absent from that meeting.)
3. **RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**
INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay noted that staff return to school on Monday with workshops both Monday and Tuesday. Plans were changed a bit to reduce the number of staff congregating. The workshop Monday will be at each individual school; the one on Tuesday will be at Harrington, but any staff not comfortable with coming in person due to the number of staff together will have the opportunity to Zoom into the workshop from their individual schools.~~Summer is over and he's sure everyone is experiencing a number of emotions—excitement, nervousness, confusion, frustration—but we are still eager to welcome students back and settle into a routine.~~We are still interviewing and trying to get vacancies filled.~~He's had several calls from parents with a push from some to offer remote. Since we are understaffed as is, it is not feasible to do that this year. Exceptions may be made for students with IEP's or 504 plans that have health issues that could make it risky for them to attend, but these will be considered on a case-by-case basis.~~Resignations are still coming in, which is making it difficult. Due to a driver shortage, we may

have to say no to some activities this year.

4. **RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay noted that we are almost finished with closing out Fiscal Year 2021 and should have statements next month for June, July, and August.

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

INFORMATION: Denise Vose noted that she has been busy interviewing with other administrators. The special education staff has really stepped up to help with plans even though we are short-staffed. A new software program, Learning Alley, will be piloted at the high school to help students with reading deficiencies.

Susan Meserve reported 22 new students have enrolled, including 10 Pre-K. The old Harrington sign has been moved to the front lawn of the school and the janitors have built a brick planter with flowers. It looks very nice as does the rest of the building. Staff members are ready to go!

Lorna Greene noted that 24 students have registered, including several that homeschooled last year. The building looks great. Staff have been in getting rooms ready. Special Education Ed Techs have been putting together lessons and activities to help. **Professional Development**—The staff workshop on Tuesday will include a presentation by a motivational speaker. She also shared the district's Professional Development Calendar for the year. **ESEA**—The grant application was submitted, and now we are working on some minor revisions required by the state. **G/T**—The G/T team meets on 9/13.

Maria White reported 8 students registered today. Several more are coming in tomorrow. Staff are working to get things ready now that the Migrant Summer Program has vacated the building.

Mary Ellen Day noted that they have 325 students currently enrolled with 212 in the high school and 113 in junior high. A parent meeting was held last week for fall sports. We have 48 juniors and seniors signed up for CTE programming, which is 53% of those two classes. The school is coming together even though they've been short-handed a custodian all summer. A new nurse's station is being set up. Painting has been done. New stage curtains were installed.

(D. Perham arrived at 7:32 p.m.)

6. **RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

a. **Athletics/Student Activities**—Mark Wright, Chair of the committee, reported that they met last week to discuss Jr. High athletics. A committee has been formed to look at this with the first meeting tomorrow night. The group will discuss/review survey questions to send out to parents and students in the Jr. High, to get an idea of their thoughts.

b. **Curriculum & Instruction**—No meetings

c. **Negotiations & Grievance**—No meetings

d. **Policy & By-laws**—No meetings

e. **Facilities, Maintenance, Safety & Transportation**—No meetings

INFORMATION:

7. **RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to table this article as there are no adjustments required tonight.

B. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **RE: CONSIDERATION OF 2nd READING OF NEW POLICY IHAI-APPLIED LEARNING PROJECTS AND IHAI-E-GENERAL LIVE LEARNING PROJECT REQUEST FORM**

ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve the 2nd reading of IHAI and IHAI-E as presented. This now becomes district policy.

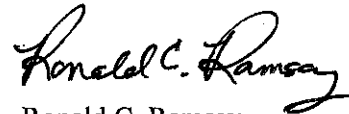
2. **RE: CONSIDERATION OF 2nd READING OF NEW POLICY IMGA-SERVICE ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve the 2nd reading of IMGA as presented. This now becomes district policy.
3. **RE: CONSIDERATION OF 2nd READING OF REVISED POLICY JLCB-IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Bethany Hartford, and voted (493-yes, 269-no, 97-abstentions) to approve the 2nd reading of JLCB as presented. (Beal, Greene, Perham, and Wright voted no; G. Kennedy abstained)

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. **RE: HIRING HEALTH TEACHER (9-12)**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of Hannah Bennett as a long-term sub for 9-12 health as recommended by the Superintendent.
2. **RE: HIRING JR. HIGH SCIENCE TEACHER**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of Marla Bagley as the junior high science teacher as recommended by the Superintendent. Supt. Ramsay noted that his intent is to transfer her to the health position if we find a science teacher as this is her area of certification.
3. **RE: HIRING LONG-TERM SUB MATH TEACHER (9-12)**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Bethany Hartford, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of Lowell Beal as a long-term sub math teacher for grades 9-12 as recommended by the Superintendent.
4. **RE: HIRING LONG-TERM SUB MATH JR. HIGH MATH TEACHER**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of Denise Curtis as a long-term sub junior high math teacher as recommended by the Superintendent.
5. **RE: HIRING LONG-TERM SUB SPECIAL ED TEACHER AT DWM**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of Kristine Beal as a long-term substitute special education teacher at DW Merritt as recommended by the Superintendent.
6. **RE: HIRING LONG-TERM SUB SPECIAL ED TEACHER AT NHS**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of Holly Hanning as a long-term sub special education teacher at NHS as recommended by the Superintendent.
7. **RE: HIRING LONG-TERM SUB SPECIAL ED TEACHER AT DWM**
ACTION: Motion Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to table articles 7 & * as they are duplicates of Article 5.
8. **RE: HIRING LONG-TERM SUB SPECIAL ED TEACHER AT DWM**
ACTION: (tabled)
9. **RE: HIRING SPECIAL EDUCATION ED TECHS**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to table this article as we have no candidate to bring forward tonight.
10. **RE: HIRING KIDSPACE VAN DRIVER**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to approve Joan Moore as the Kidspace van driver as recommended by the Superintendent.

11. **RE: HIRING SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS**
ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to ratify the hiring of Myah Jellison and Hilary Oliver as substitute teachers as recommended by the Superintendent.
12. **RE: APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER VOLLEYBALL AND SOCCER COACH ASSISTANTS**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant and second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve Rianne Fraser as a volunteer volleyball coach and Daniel Kane as a volunteer boys' soccer coach at NJSHS.
13. **RE: ACCEPTANCE OF THREE-YEAR SNOWPLOW BIDS**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by David Perham, and voted (unanimously) to accept the 3-year snowplowing bid for DW Merritt from Osborne Davis.
Motion by Mark Wright, second by Everett Grant, and voted (unanimously) to accept the 3-year snowplowing bid for Harrington Elementary from Jonathan MacLeod.
Motion by Mark Wright, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to accept the 3-year snowplowing bid for Milbridge Elementary from Eric Bosley.
Motion by Mark Wright, second by David Perham, and voted (751-yes, 108-abstentions) to accept the 3-year snowplowing bid for Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School from Jonathan MacLeod. (Strout abstained.)
Motion by Grace Kennedy, second by Mark Wright, and voted (751-yes, 108-abstentions) to accept the 3-year snowplowing bid for the Superintendent's Office from Zachary Strout. (Strout abstained.)
Motion by Everett Grant, second by Mark Wright, and voted (751-yes, 108-abstentions) to accept the 3-year snowplowing bid for the CWCIT from Dennis Morisaey. (Strout abstained.)
14. **RE: ELECTION OF DELEGATE FOR MSBA DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**
ACTION: Motion by Everett Grant, second by mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to elect Tiffany Strout as the local delegate for the MSBA Delegate Assembly.
15. **RE: ADJOURNMENT**
ACTION: Motion by Tiffany Strout, and voted (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald C. Ramsay
Secretary to the Board

AUGUST 25, 2021, MEETING SUMMARY

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

2. APPROVED Minutes of the July 28, 2021, meeting as presented;
7. TABLED agenda adjustments;

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVED 2nd reading of IHAI-Applied Learning Projects and IHAI-E Live Work Request Form;
2. APPROVED 2nd reading of IMGA-Service Animals;
3. APPROVED 2nd reading of revised JLCB-Immunization of Students;

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. HIRED Hannah Bennett as long-term sub for health;
2. HIRED Marla Bagley as jr. high science teacher;
3. HIRED Lowell Beal as long-term sub for math;
4. HIRED Denise Curtis as long-term sub for jr. high math;
5. HIRED Kristine Beal as long-term sub for special ed teacher at DW Merritt;
6. HIRED Holly Hanning as long-term sub for special ed teacher at NJSHS;
7. TABLED
8. TABLED
9. TABLED
10. HIRED Joan Moore as Kidspace driver;
11. HIRED Myah Jellison and Hilary Oliver as sub teachers;
12. APPROVED Rianne Beal, volunteer volleyball coach, and Dan Kane, volunteer soccer coach;
13. ACCEPTED 3-year snowplow bids: DW Merritt-Osborne Davis; Harrington-Jonathan MacLeod; Milbridge-Eric Bosley; Narraguagus-Jonathan MacLeod; Supt. Office-Zachary Strout; CWCIT-Dennis Morisaey;
14. ELECTED Tiffany Strout as MSBA Delegate.