

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #38 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Maranacook Community Middle School**  
**October 6, 2021**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

Members Present: Chair Cathy Jacobs, Vice Chair David Twitchell, Keltie Beaudoin, Kim Bowie, Tyler Dunn, Patty Gordon, David Guillemette, Rebecca Lambert, Betty Morrell, Jade Parker, Shawn Roderick, Melissa Tobin, Dane Wing

Student Representatives: High School Representatives Cassidy McCormick and Rocco Scott; Middle School Representatives Celia Bergdahl and Joseph Couture

Administrators: Special Education Director Ryan Meserve, Principals Tina Brackley, Dwayne Conway, Janet Delmar, Abbie Hartford, Kristen Levesque, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Karen Smith, Adult and Community Education Director Steve Vose, Finance Manager Brigette Williams, Facilities/Transportation Director Shaun Drinkwater

1. Call to order: Chair Jacobs called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance:
3. Student Representative Reports:
  - High School student representatives Cassidy McCormick and Rocco Scott reported on school wide events.
  - Middle School student representatives Celia Bergdahl and Joseph Couture reported on team projects, and school wide events.
4. Citizens' Comments: none
5. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent: none
6. a. Celebration:
  - Principal Conway introduced Spanish Teacher Señorita Barley and student Sarah Muniz. Señorita Barley reported on Hispanic Heritage Month and Sarah Muniz reported on her family heritage and a school project she did on her Spanish heritage.b. Reports: Written reports were included in the Board packet.
- c. Committees: Committees will begin meeting in November.
7. Action Items:
  - a. Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2021
    - MOTION** by Dunn, second by Twitchell to accept the minutes of September 15, 2021 as presented. **Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 0 opposed 3 abstained (Lambert, Parker, Tobin)
  - b. Acceptance of Donations
    - MOTION** by Lambert, second by Wing to accept the donations as presented.
    - Motion Carried:** unanimous
  - c. Awarding of Snow plow/sanding contracts for 2021-2022
    - MOTION** by Morrell, second by Lambert to award the snow plow/sand bids for the 2021-2022 year as recommended by the Superintendent.
    - Question was asked about the plowing/sanding contract for the Manchester Elementary campus. Maintenance/ Transportation Director Shaun Drinkwater responded that he is in talks with Lyons Construction and hopes to have more information by the end of the week.
    - Motion Carried:** unanimous
  - d. Awarding of bus lease purchase agreements:

Approved 10/20/21

**MOTION** by Twitchell, second by Dunn to award the municipal lease for the two school buses to Gorham Leasing, as recommended by the Superintendent. **Motion Carried:** unanimous  
e. Health and Safety Procedures and Protocols

Chair Jacobs outlined the process for this agenda item. Special Education Director Ryan Meserve will review the information provided to the Board by Superintendent Charette, the Board will have a discussion, and then the Board will take citizen comments. The Board will then vote on the Superintendent's recommendation.

Mr. Meserve reviewed the general information in the packet and provided an update on how the work on pool testing is proceeding. Superintendent Charette recommends that the health and safety protocols continue as is for the next month, and that the Board review again at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting.

**MOTION** by Morrell, second by Twitchell, that the RSU 38 health and safety protocols remain unchanged, and be reviewed again at the first November board of directors meeting.

The Board discussed concerns around pool testing, the strain it will put on staff, the ability to fill the covid nurse position, and low buy-in by parents to take part in the program.

Question was about whether the ESSER 3 funds could be reallocated. Finance Manager Williams responded that there will be opportunities to reallocate funds as needed. She reminded the Board that the district will have almost 3 years to use the funds.

It was noted that whether or not the district pursues pool testing, the additional covid nurse is still needed.

It was noted that the pool testing option was added by the Board because it adds another layer of keeping more students in school.

Question was asked whether or not pool testing would be up and running before the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Mr. Meserve responded that it is the plan, but there are a number of things that need to be in place before it can be started, including having the nurse position filled.

Suggestion was made to get more information out to parents that better explains what pool testing would mean for children, and how it would help keep children in school.

Chair Jacobs opened the meeting up for citizen comments. Citizens spoke supporting masking but expressed concerns about the additional work that will be required for the staff who are already at a breaking point. A parent asked for the Board to review when students need to wear masks, such as, is it necessary for them to be masked when sitting at their desks taking tests. She also asked the board to poll the community to see what they want. She also asked about the monies coming into the district for covid and what that looks like per child.

A parent asked for the Board to leave things as they are a little longer, stating masks are working; everyone just needs to give it more time.

Chair Jacobs asked for a vote on the motion.

**Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 3 opposed (Beaudoin, Lambert, Parker)

8. Information Item: Fall Coaching and Co-Curricular Appoints – no questions

Chair Jacobs noted that a sheet was added to the folders with the draft RSU 38 Norms. She asked that board members review the sheet prior to the next meeting, when the Board will have a workshop on the Norms and Goals. She asked that members reach out to her with any changes or questions prior to the next meeting.

9. Adjournment: **MOTION** and second to adjourn at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ryan Meserve, Special Education Director  
D.Foster, recorder