

PENOBSCOT INDIAN SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
MEETING OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MONDAY, March 27, 2023, @ 5:00 P.M.
Budget Review Beginning at 4:30 P.M.
Community Via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carole Binette, Naomi Neptune (Absent)
Jo-Ann Lolar, Elisha Sockbeson, David Sapiel, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Lee Francis, Principal (Absent)
Dr. Reza Namin, Superintendent.

AGENDA

1. Chairperson Binette called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
2. Ms. Lolar made a motion to approve the minutes from February 27, 2023 meeting and seconded by Mr. Sapiel, Jr. The motion passed 4-0.
3. Ms. Lolar made a motion, seconded by Chairperson Binette to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ David Loring as Custodian (full-time) for the remainder of the 2022-2023 fiscal year with a written reasonable assurance. The motion passed 4-0.
4. Consideration of the Superintendent's Nominations to Employ Professional Staff for the 2023-2024 School Year.
 - a. Ms. Lolar made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sockbeson, to accept the Superintendent's nominations to employ Devin Downing as Native Studies Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year with a first-year probationary contract. The motion passed 4-0.
 - b. Chairperson Binette made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lolar, to accept the Superintendent's nominations to employ Ali O'Keefe as Kindergarten Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year with a first-year probationary contract. The motion passed 4-0.
 - c. Ms. Lolar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sapiel, Jr., to accept the Superintendent's nominations to employ Natalie McCarthy as Elementary Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year with a first-year probationary contract. The motion passed 4-0.

- d. Ms. Lolar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sapiel, Jr., to accept the Superintendent's nominations to employ Heather Henderson as Special Education Coordinator (full-time) for the 2023-2024 school year with a first-year probationary contract. The motion passed 4-0.

There was a request to verify that Heather Henderson's participation in PBIS will not conflict with her duties.

5. Ms. Lolar made a motion, seconded by Chairperson Binette to accept the Penobscot Indian School Department FY 2024 budget and salary scales totaling \$ 4,839,183. The motion passed 4-0.
6. Ms. Lolar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sapiel, Jr., to approve the Indian Island School 2023-2024 calendar. The motion passed 4-0.

The Calendar had a missing Month of September due to a print issue that needs to be resolved.

7. Chairperson Binette made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sockbeson, to approve the revised Administrative Assistant Job Description. The motion passed 4-0.

The last line under Special Knowledge Skills "*Must be willing to evolve with ever-changing demands of the job to continually improve the refine skill set and application of current resources*" be replaced with "***Must be willing to adapt with changes as they occur***"

8. Outdoor Classroom Project Update. Dr. Namin informed the school committee that the funding for the outdoor classroom project remains unchanged and can be allocated for the project. There are some records showing the history of actions and the project that will be shared with the school committee. This includes the staff conversations and planning regarding the Outdoor Classroom.
9. REPORTS:

PRINCIPAL'S (See Exhibit A)

SUPERINTENDENT'S

Dr. Namin informed the school committee the school community grant opportunity will be a five-year grant-funded opportunity to provide more culturally responsive programs to support the student's academic and emotional needs. He also updated the school committee regarding the Joint School Committee meeting in Bar Harbor, Maine on May 7-9. There will be more updates regarding the use of the morning of May 9th for any potential additional workshop.

10. COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

There were comments and excitement regarding the new staff hires and the plan to hire a replacement for Special Education Teacher.

11. Chairperson Binette made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Sockbeson seconded the motion at 5:34 P.M. The motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Reza Namin, PhD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'R'.

Dr. Reza Namin, Superintendent of Schools
Maine Indian Education
Penobscot Indian School Department