

SIPAYIK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
MEETING OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

September 28, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alberta Newell, Chairperson,
Theresa Sapiel, Vice-Chairperson,
Holly Cleaves, Rachael Nicholas,
Stormi McLaughlin.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Reza Namin, Superintendent,
Dan Morang, Principal
Dana Mitchell (21st Century Afterschool Program Coord.),
Cyril Francis and Sue Carol Duffy (tree house project update)

1. Chairperson Newell called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Moment of silence

3. Motion by Vice-Chairperson Sapiel and seconded by Ms. Cleaves to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2022 meeting with revisions. Voted: Unanimous

4. Dana Mitchell reported on the 21st Century Afterschool Program. He shared that Sipayik Elementary School has been awarded funds for three additional years of programming, with a 25% increase in funding. Mr. Mitchell mentioned a number of exciting programming opportunities that have been offered and highlighted some of the activities being planned for this school year. Programming runs from 3:00-4:15 p.m., Monday through Wednesday. Each session runs for a period of eight weeks. The School Committee expressed appreciation for all of Dana's hard work and commitment to providing high quality programming.

5. Cyril Francis and Sue Carol Duffy facilitated a discussion about the Tree House project. Many ideas were shared about the project design, its function, and the importance of safety. Dan will reach out to Paul Hauley, safety inspector for the BIE, and schedule a time when he can meet with the Team and school staff to further discuss the project.

6. Motion by Ms. Cleaves and seconded by Ms. McLaughlin to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Dennis Nicholas as Special Education Ed. Tech. III Intensive Needs Provider with a written reasonable assurance for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. Voted: Four in favor and 1 abstention

7. Motion by Vice-Chairperson Sapiel and seconded by Ms. McLaughlin to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Cante' England as Secretary/Receptionist at Maine Indian Education for the remainder of the 2023 fiscal year. Voted: Unanimous

8. Motion by Vice-Chairperson Sapiel and seconded by Ms. Cleaves to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Tristan Philips as Soccer Coach, Dana Mitchell for Cross-Country Coach, and Natalie Bassett for Assistant Cross-Country Coach for the 2022 Fall Season with extracurricular contracts. Voted: Unanimous

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9. Motion by Ms. Cleaves and seconded by Vice-Chairperson Sapiel to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Seana Mackeldey as RREV Site Coordinator with an extracurricular contract for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. Voted: Four in favor and one abstention

10. Consideration to update the MIE Employment Policies in accordance with the recommendation of the BIE Criminal Background Audit was tabled until the October meeting.

11. Consideration to enter into a contract with Personnel Security Consultants, Inc. to provide background investigations and adjudications according to the BIE Criminal Background Auditing was tabled until the October meeting.

12. Consideration of approving the purchase of fingerprinting equipment was tabled until the October meeting.

13. Motion by Ms. Cleaves and seconded by Ms. Nicholas to approve of the SES Meeting Cancellation Policy as follows:

In times of mourning, the Sipayik Elementary School Board meetings will be held as scheduled until the deceased person or ashes arrive on the SIPAYIK Reservation and burial is held. The meeting will be rescheduled to the following week or the next available date.

Voted: Unanimous

13. REPORTS:

PRINCIPAL'S: (Exhibit A)

SUPERINTENDENT'S: Dr. Namin shared that Sipayik Elementary School is one of the few across BIE to receive approval for three electric buses.

Dr. Namin also reported that he is continuing to work on obtaining approval from the BIE to use Maine's state assessments for the purposes of meeting the federal requirements for assessment and accountability.

HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY/SCHOOL LIAISON: Nina Clement shared that there has been a great deal of communication with families that have students at Calais High School regarding the bathroom procedures that were instituted at the start of the school year. She has also been in communication with administration regarding students' needs for access to the restrooms prior to getting on the bus for a lengthy ride home.

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Ms. Clement noted that there are 14 students at Washington Academy, 28 at Shead High School, and 17 at Calais High School. She continues to address the challenges facing students as they arise.

14. COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

Vice-Chairperson Sapiel expressed many thanks to Wabanaki Public Health and Wellness for providing programming for families and community members on the afternoon of the Indigenous Day celebration at Sipayik Elementary School.

Ms. Cleaves expressed gratitude for all of the hard work and effort that went into creating such a wonderful experience for all during the celebration of Indigenous Day. "Thanks to everyone."

15. Motion by Vice-Chairperson Sapiel and seconded by Ms. Nicholas to adjourn. Voted: Unanimous Time out: 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Reza Namin, PhD".

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

Principal's Report
September 28, 2022

- We've had a great start to the school year. We have added many talented staff members to our family at Sipayik Elementary.
- Our new PreK program is up and running. The students are doing an amazing job learning the routines and programs at the "big school."
- We continue to review and implement our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) behavior system. Our PBIS motto is "Get involved at Sipayik- Show Pride, Respect, and Responsibility! Students are being acknowledged for following positive behavior expectations.
- The Bear's Den has been a welcome additional support for our students.
- In a coordinated effort with the Pleasant Point Police Department, we have a School Resource Officer. Officer Peter Harris is based at the school to work with staff and students.
- Grades 5-8 will be participating in an anti-bullying program with Wabanaki Public Health. WPH comes in every month to provide training to staff and students. WPH will be leaving the curriculum with the school to provide lessons and materials throughout the year.
- Sipayik Elementary is continuing to work with the PPHS on a social emotional learning program for grades K-4. This program incorporates the moving stories method to help students understand certain situations and learn coping skills.
- National Indian Day and Community Wide Healing Day -The celebration will be held last ~~Friday~~ ^{Thursday} on September 22. The day will started with drumming and dancing. Students and family members were encouraged to dance together. Following the morning program, we had a traditional meal. In the afternoon, there was the opportunity to participate in team building activities, informational booths on anti-bullying and mental health.
- The MIE staff are implementing a new reading program next year called My Views/ My Perspectives.
- October 6- AMHC will be here for Sexual Assault and Healthy Communications Training for all classes
- Soccer and Cross Country seasons are underway
- Foster Grandparent Program through Penquis FCAP
- 6-8 RREV Grant

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Morang

* September 29 - noon dismissal for CPR and First Aid Training