

**MAINE REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #50
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022
MINUTES
SOUTHERN AROOSTOOK SCHOOL
6:30 P.M.**

This meeting was also available via Zoom.

Board members present: Danny Barrows, Barbara Burton, Laura Farnsworth, Stephen Porter and Greg Ryan.

Kasandra Foster, Larry Greenlaw, Carman Lilley, and Paula Stevens were absent.

Others present: Staff – Jessica Greene, Shannon Mathers and Elaine Small
Anthony Binotto, selectman from Crystal (amended) Island Fall was in attendance.

Attending remotely were: David Alward, April Bates, Jeni Siltz, Heather Swallow, Janet Vose and Natasha Winslow.

1. Call the Meeting to Order and Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 p.m.; a quorum was declared and the flag salute followed.

2. Approval of the Minutes:

The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 14, 2022, were considered.

Moved to approve by: Laura Farnsworth

Seconded by: Barbara Burton

Vote: Unanimous

3. Time Period to Hear from Citizens: Anthony Binotto congratulated the Board on their continued “great job”.

4. Adjustment(s) to the Agenda:

Moved to approve by: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Barbara Burton

Vote: Unanimous

a. Auditor’s Report – David Alward from Davis, Gates & Alward was available via Zoom to discuss the recent RSU #50 annual audit and answer any questions.

David described how the audit is done and the checks and balances that are performed as well as the “internal controls” that are in place for the RSU. Once again the audit is declared “a clean audit”.

This audit included a review of the federal funds provided to the RSU due to COVID; the audit shows the spending was all appropriate.

The Grant Programs were reviewed as well with “no findings”.

- b. Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) presentation by Jessica Greene and Shannon Mathers. Jessica and Shannon shared a presentation for the new program: Extended Learning Opportunities.

These courses are hands-on, credit-bearing learning opportunities that students will be able to access in high school and may include local businesses, CTE courses and other venues. Often these individualized programs will offer certifications and/or dual credit as well as enhance life-long choices and decisions.

- c. Presentation by Joe Fagnant, RSU 29 Adult Education Director.
Mr. Fagnant presented an overview of the many opportunities available by becoming part of the area program. Adult Education is housed at the Houlton Higher Education building on Bangor Street in Houlton. This encompasses seven major programs: NMCC, Region CTE, Workplace Development, Enrichment programs, HiSET, Maine College and Career Access, as well as an outreach program for learning at the Aroostook County Jail. The area Adult Education is also part of a HUB encompassing adjacent counties. This partnership with HUB offers the opportunity to expand and assist with current workforce shortages.
- d. Change policy # 8: Second readings/updated language/amendments to # 7: First Reading of policies.

5. Reports

- a. Board Chair: n/a
- b. Board Vice-Chair: Laura addressed the many ongoing concerns for Region II: lack of funding, lack of space, transportation and building deficiencies.
Also at this time, there is need for another member to represent RSU 50 on the Cooperative Board.
- c. Committee Reports –
 - Building & Grounds – scheduled for Thursday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m.
 - Education – scheduled for Thursday, March 3 at 5:30 p.m.
 - Finance – warrants were signed
 - Negotiations - Next meeting February 16 at 5 p.m.
 - Policy - see Item 7 for updates on existing policies
 - Region II – No Feb. meeting; March meeting Tuesday the 15th at 6:00 p.m.
- d. Principals: April's report included an update for WinterKids, elementary Winter Carnival fun and a slide show of many of these events.
The Tier III application has been submitted; the FY22 ESEA application and the FY 21 Performance reports have been approved.
March Workshop days will include student-led conferences and trainings in Reading and Math interventions.
Winter NWEA testing was completed in January; the data is included.
- e. Special Services Director: Janet's report included updated numbers for students receiving services, number of meetings held and updates on referrals. Her report is included.
- f. Business Manager: Natasha's report included balances remaining to date for all cost centers.

- g. Superintendent: Jon's report included updates from Region Two and the possibility of a potential change is space here at SACS.
SACS students in grades 8-11 will have the opportunity of visit Region programs on Friday, Feb. 18th.
Updates on student recognition and college acceptance were shared.
Covid updated numbers were included in this report also, as well as vaccination rates for students.
(Full report is included)

6. Announcement of Appointments/Resignations/Retirements: n/a

7 First Reading of policies:

These policies currently exist in the RSU and are being updated:

BCB: Board Member Conflict of Interest

BCC: Nepotism

8. Second Readings/updated language/amendments: n/a

9. Other Business – Old/New

- a. Potential approval of School Calendar for 2022-2023

Approval of the School Calendar will be an agenda item in March.

10. Future Agenda Items

Budget timeline

Shared Services for FY23

11. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Region II Board Meeting

No Feb. meeting

- Policy Committee

Mon. March 14 @ 5:45 p.m.

- Finance Committee

Mon. March 14 @ 6:15 p.m.

- Regular Board Meeting

Mon. March 14 @ 6:30 p.m.

- Region II Board Meeting

Tues. March 15 @ 5:30 p.m.

12. Executive Session Executive Session under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter.

Motion to enter: Greg Ryan

Second: Barbara Burton

Vote: Unanimous

Time in: 8:09 p.m.

Motion to leave: Greg Ryan

Second: Barbara Burton

Vote: Unanimous

Time out: 8:21 p.m.

Action as a result of the Executive Session:

No action was taken.

12. Adjournment:

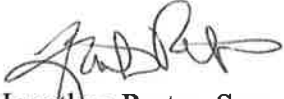
Motion to adjourn: Greg Ryan

Second: Barbara Burton

Vote: Unanimous

at 8:22 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:



Jonathan Porter, Superintendent
Regional School Unit #50