

RSU #38 Board of Directors
Maranacook Community Middle School & via Zoom
February 16, 2022
Minutes of Meeting

Members Present: Chair Cathy Jacobs, Vice Chair David Twitchell, Keltie Beaudoin, Tyler Dunn (remote), Patty Gordon, David Guillemette, Rebecca Lambert, Betty Morrell, Jade Parker, Shawn Roderick

Member Absent: Kim Bowie, Melissa Tobin, Dane Wing

Administration Present: Superintendent Jay Charette, Special Education Director Ryan Meserve, Technology Director Diane MacGregor, Finance Director Mandy Fitzgerald, Principals Jeff Boston, Tina Brackley, Janet Delmar, Michael Harris, Abbie Hartford, and Kristen Levesque, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Karen Smith

1. Call to Order: Chair Jacobs called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Chair Jacobs reported, this business meeting is being held both in person and virtually, through zoom in compliance with RSU #38 policy BED Remote Participation in School Board Meetings. The meeting is being recorded and will be posted on the maranacook.org YouTube channel.
The “microphones” of the viewing audience will be muted except during the identified portions of public comments at this meeting. If you would like to speak during any public comment section of the agenda, please use the chat feature to signal to Mrs. MacGregor and she will communicate with the Board Chair. In-person speakers please sign up on the clipboard by the door. All individuals that wish to speak, whether in person or virtual, please identify yourself with first and last name and the town you live in. Please note that individuals that do not live in our member communities may or may not be granted permission to speak at the discretion of the Board Chair. Speakers are asked to limit individual comments to 2 minutes and if someone speaks ahead of you that has a similar view please reference the comment. All votes will be taken by Roll Call.
2. Pledge of Allegiance:
3. Citizens Comments: none
4. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent:
Mr. Roderick stated that at the next board meeting there will be a discussion about masks and he has full intentions to make the same motion as last time. He asked that everyone who wants to provide input to do so. Mrs. Parker stressed the importance of people to reach out, including teachers.
5. Action Item: Approval of Minutes of February 2, 2022
MOTION by Twitchell, second by Parker to approve the minutes of February 2, 2022 as presented. **Motion Carried:** unanimous
6. Budget Workshop:
 - a. Special Education
Special Education Director Ryan Meserve reviewed the department’s draft budget for FY23, stating that he believes there will be no increase. He reminded everyone that special education is a mandated program so it can change. The budget request includes one additional readiness skills program teacher. The program has grown and current caseload is 12 students with one teacher, who supervises 8 educational technicians. State max is 15 students. It looks as though we will be able to reduce the budget by one out-of-district placement.
Question was asked about the middle school staffing level with incoming grade 5 students from the readiness program.
 - b. English Language Learners (ELLs):

Superintendent Charette reported on English Language Learners (ELLs). There are no proposed changes for FY23.

c. Gifted/Talented Program:

Superintendent Charette reported on the Gifted & Talented Program. There are no proposed changes for FY23. He reviewed the State mandate that limits the program to 10% of the student population. Discussion ensued on what happens for those students who may be on the cusp of qualifying for the program. Superintendent Charette reviewed the screening process, which includes teacher recommendations.

d. Technology:

Technology Director Diane MacGregor reviewed the District Technology budget recommendations for FY23. The proposed budget includes Year 2 of the MLTI program which would provide laptops for grade 6 students (100 devices) for a cost of \$52,450, the state portion would be \$45,900. The plan is to have the grade 12 laptops go to the grade 5 students. Grade 5 is the only grade level that doesn't have devices less than 2 years old.

The proposed budget also includes the HS Technology/Media Center Ed Tech position that was paid for out of ESSER Funds this year. Since we were unable to fill the position with a full time person for much of the year, there are some funds remaining to go toward the position. The position has provided gains and a nice transformation for the high school to have the support they need.

Discussion ensued about the district's plan to continue with the Google product or perhaps transition over to Office 365, as well as other options for laptops. Mrs. MacGregor noted that Office 365 does work on MacBooks and we have been able to offer Office 365 to those students who need it.

Question was asked about the laptops that are being sold right now and where that money goes. Mrs. MacGregor responded the money becomes district money. Some of it has been used for technology upgrades such as e-collect, add ons for PowerSchool, and other things that benefit the whole district.

Question was asked about insurance. The devices are insured. If damage is due to negligence there is a \$100 fee, otherwise they get repaired.

The proposed cost for the ed tech position is \$44,500 less \$21,000 remaining from this year.

e. Board Discussion: see above

f. Citizens comments regarding budget: none

7. Discussion: re-establish RSU 38 Board Communications Committee:

Superintendent Charette provided a draft action plan for the Board to review stating that it is an opportune time to bring the Communications Committee back. The Board was in agreement. Members will include Tyler Dunn, Keltie Beaudoin, Shawn Roderick, Patty Gordon, and Rebecca Lambert. The Committee will meet and bring back recommendations to the full Board for consideration.

8. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (D), labor contract discussions between the RSU #38 Board of Directors and the Maranacook Area Schools Staff Association

MOTION by Morrell, second by Beaudoin to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (D), labor contract discussions between the RSU #38 Board of Directors and Maranacook Area Schools Staff Association. **Motion Carried:** unanimous

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:11 p.m. and returned to public session at 7:57 p.m.

9. Adjournment: **MOTION** and second to adjourn at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James Charette, Superintendent of Schools
D. Foster, Recorder