

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 64  
Bradford   Corinth   Hudson   Kenduskeag   Stetson

REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 26, 2022

The members of the Board of Directors of RSU 64 met at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 25, 2022 in response to an agenda dated April 21, 2022. The agenda was distributed to members electronically.

Members Present:        James Connolly, Wanda St. Peter, Katherine Waite, Anne Kenneson, Julie Byers, Jodi Brasslett, Terri Jane Casavant, Haley Emery, Steven Ingalls, Amy Bean, Michael Anderson, Sherry Horn, Curtis Chadbourne

Student Representatives  
Present:                    None

Members Absent:        Rhonda Williams, Tonya Wozneak, Robert Young, Chad Crooker, Nicole Kelley

Others in Attendance:    Superintendent Rhonda Sperrey, administrators, and members of the public

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair James Connolly at 7:00 p.m. A roll call and check of attendance found a quorum of 13 members present, and 5 members absent.

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second of Katherine Waite, the Board voted to approve the draft minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting (April 14, 2022), Finance Committee Meeting (April 4, 2022), Regular Monthly Board Meeting (March 28, 2022), and the Hiring Committee Meeting (March 28, 2022) and to place the minutes on file as part of permanent Board records.

Unanimous

Petitions and Communications

Vice Chair Connolly indicated the Board is in receipt of a letter of resignation from Riley Donovan (Varsity Boys Basketball Coach), Alan Raymond (CMS Science Teacher), Cindy Shorey (Special Olympics Coach), Laura Ward (CMS/CHS Computer Teacher) and Kerri Wyman (CCES Assistant Principal).

Vice Chair Connolly indicated the Board is in receipt of a letter of retirement from Elizabeth Bell, CCES Ed Tech I.

Vice Chair Connolly called for Public Forum items.

Ron Ireland (Corinth) shared comments pertaining to his understanding of risk assessment processes and the Board Policy BBA pertaining to School Board powers and responsibilities.

Reports

Superintendent Sperrey updated members on the following administrative topics:

**COVID-19 Update**

Each Friday, an email update is sent to the greater school community members who have signed up for District notifications, regarding the number of new cases of COVID-19 reported to the District. Additional information is also included in the email notifications that pertain to how the District

is responding to the pandemic. Most all routines and procedures of the school unit have returned to pre pandemic operations. Some procedures that were put in place in response to the pandemic will remain in place given staff agree they just work better.

The District was informed on April 13 that DHHS will cease support of the statewide pool testing program the week of May 9-13. Therefore, the final pool testing day in RSU 64 will be Tuesday, May 10. The pool testing program is being discontinued given it no longer proves to be effective in its impact on preventing the spread of COVID-19. It is believed that the latest variants are so highly contagious that pool testing results do not come back fast enough for schools to quarantine positive individuals immediately after testing. DHHS is providing home test kits to schools to be distributed to students and staff so individuals can be tested if symptoms are present and then self-isolate if the test is positive. Current guidelines continue to indicate a quarantine period of at least five (5) days is required for a positive individual. If the individual's symptoms improve and there is no fever present for at least 24 hours, the individual may return to school.

#### **Net Billing**

The District has entered into a net billing partnership for electricity usage with Ampion Renewable Energy. It is expected the community solar project collaboration will save the District approximately \$23,161 annually. The agreement would be a 5-year term partnered with an upcoming project on Broadway in Bangor expected to come online in the third quarter of 2022.

#### **Summer School**

Plans are being made to offer a summer school program for elementary school students at CCES in addition to the Extended Year Program (ESY) that is offered for special education students that qualify. The District has been informed that it no longer qualifies for the summer feeding program therefore, breakfast and lunch will not be provided this year. The summer program will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. A snack will be provided midmorning. The program begins July 12 and ends July 28.

#### **District Enrollment (As of April 1, 2022)**

CCES – 491 (+3)  
CMS – 235 (+1)  
CHS – 297 (-3)  
Total = 1023 (+1)

#### **Administrator Reports**

Administrative reports are distributed to Board members in advance of each monthly meeting.

CCES Principal Carrie Carr – Mrs. Carr updated members relative to the Read-A-Thon initiative currently underway at CCES.

CCES Assistant Principal Kerri Wyman – Ms. Wyman had nothing to add to the previously distributed report.

CHS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Jared Foster – Mr. Foster shared highlights from the spring sports season.

Special Education Director Riley Donovan – Mr. Donovan shared with members an update relative to the proposed CDS legislation that was discussed at the March meeting. The legislative bill that had been proposed that would expand public school responsibility for special education programs and related services to include 3 and 4 year-olds did not pass. It is expected this topic will be revisited in future legislative sessions.

Curriculum Coordinator Danette Kerrigan – Ms. Kerrigan updated members relative to the migration of student information system data from Tyler to Infinite Campus.

Comprehensive Regional Technical High School Update – Superintendent Sperrey updated members on the most recent meeting of the Planning Committee for the comprehensive regional technical high school concept held on April 11, 2022 at CCES. During the meeting, Planning Committee members discussed the recent tour of Blackstone Valley School in Massachusetts and their impressions of the facility and programming. It was agreed the next steps in the planning process for the local project is to formalize the Planning Committee structure with equal representation from each participating district. Each district was asked to appoint four current Board or community members to join the district superintendent in this work. Once the formal Planning Committee is formed, the next steps include the selection of an architect and engineering firm that will help facilitate the site selection process. LD 176 was signed into law by the Governor on Friday, April 15 which provides the legal pathway for the continued work forward.

Members engaged in significant dialogue about potential next steps for RSU 64. Members Curt Chadbourne, Anne Kenneson, Julie Byers and Steven Ingalls agreed to serve as representatives on the formal Planning Committee.

#### New Business

##### **Proposed Budget**

Superintendent Sperrey reviewed the budget draft recommended by the Finance Committee and summarized the following points impacting the budget process:

- \* The District was informed of a zero percent increase in health insurance premiums for the 2022-2023 fiscal year therefore, no adjustments to premium expenses were made.

- \* All payroll expenses have been entered based on current staffing with the increase of one position at CHS and the expansion of the part-time nurse position to a full-time nurse position.

- \* The District has not yet locked in a price for heating oil or propane. Given the volatility in the market, vendors are not in a position to offer a contract. Therefore, the draft budget includes an estimate of expenses for heating fuel and propane.

- \* Electricity costs in the draft budget have been increased to compensate for the adjustments in rates the District has seen since January.

- \* The draft budget represents the implementation of new contracts for photocopiers and printers, snow plowing and sanding, the newly ratified teacher collective bargaining agreement, administrative contracts, and salary and benefit increases for supportive staff working in the District Office.

- \* The draft budget includes instructional and general supplies requests from teachers and a slight increase in maintenance services costs and IT purchased services.

The draft budget represents the best estimates available during its creation. The draft includes the District applying a beginning fund balance amount of \$300,000 which is consistent with the past two years' plans. Overall, the budget draft is 4.99% higher than last year and uses the expected increase of state revenue of \$627,037.99 to keep increases to town assessments low.

The FY23 draft budget presents an increase to town assessments as follows:

Bradford – -0.01%  
Corinth – 4.82%  
Hudson – 4.34%  
Kenduskeag – 2.92%  
Stetson – 2.91%

On average, the draft budget requires a 3.39% increase to town assessments.

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Katherine Waite, members voted to approve the proposed RSU 64 Budget for 2022-2023 as recommended by the Finance Committee, and approve the Warrant for the District Budget Meeting and that a District Budget Meeting be called for Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Central Community Elementary School for the purpose of voting on the annual budget for the District for the 2022-2023 fiscal year; that the District Budget Validation Referendum be called for Tuesday, June 14, 2022 for the purpose of approving the Budget adopted at the District Budget Meeting for the 2022-2023 fiscal year; that the form of Notice of Amounts adopted at Budget Meeting be approved, in accordance with the District Budget Meeting on June 9, 2022 and to deliver attested copies of said Notice to the clerks of each municipality in the District for posting at all polling places for the June 14, 2022 District Budget Validation Referendum.

Unanimous

**Appointment of Temporary Board Member Representation to SPRPCE**

Upon the motion of Jodi Brasslett and second by Amy Bean, members appointed Wanda St. Peter as the temporary Board Member Representative to SPRPCE until after the Board reorganization process is completed and so that the Board will be represented at the upcoming meeting of the SPRPCE Board of Directors.

Yea – 12

Nay – 0

Abstention – 1 (St. Peter – Subject of Vote)

**Executive Session under 1 MRSA 405(6)(A) for Discussion of a Personnel Matter**

Upon the motion of Jodi Brasslett and second by Katherine Waite, members entered into Executive Session under 1 MRSA 405(6)(A) for discussion of a personnel matter.

Unanimous

Time Entered: 8:13 p.m.

Time Returned to Public Session: 8:23 p.m.

Upon the motion of Amy Bean and second by Curtis Chadbourne, no action was taken.

Unanimous

**Executive Session under 1 MRSA 405(6)(F) for Discussion of a Matter Related to Information Contained in Confidential Records**

Upon the motion of Jodi Brasslett and second by Curtis Chadbourne, members entered into Executive Session under 1 MRSA 405(6)(F) for discussion of a matter related to information contained in confidential records.

Unanimous

Time Entered: 8:24 p.m.

Time Returned to Public Session: 8:58 p.m.

Upon the motion of Amy Bean and second by Curtis Chadbourne, no action was taken.

Unanimous

### **Personnel Nominations and Confirmations**

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Jodi Brasslett, members approved the recommendations of Superintendent Sperrey of First Year Probationary Contract to Second Year Probationary Contract Teachers for 2022-2023:

Thomas Cote	CMS Grade 7 ELA
Jennifer Fall	District Social Worker
Hannah Farrar	CMS/CHS Art
Maureen Ferriter	CMS Guidance
Laurie Hatch	CCES Special Education
Rachel Jones	CCES Grade 3
Natalie Knowlton	CCES Guidance
Tracy McKay	CMS Special Education
Mikayla Richards	CCES Grade 1
Casey Twist	CHS Library Media Spec.
Macy Ward	CCES Grade 5

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Jodi Brasslett, members approved the recommendations of Superintendent Sperrey of Second Year Probationary Contract to Continuing Contract Teachers for 2022-2023:

Connor Chu	CHS Math Teacher
Terri-Lynn Fowler	CHS Science Teacher
Jennifer Plourde	CHS Physical Education

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Amy Bean, members approved the recommendations of Superintendent Sperrey of Third Year Probationary Contract to Continuing Contract Teachers for 2022-2023:

Kelley Bean	CCES Grade 4
Gary Collins	CMS Special Education
Marcilla Jackson	CCES Grade 5
Terri Jenkins-Suggs	CHS English
Carol Quimby	CHS Math
Michael Roman	CMS Grade 8 Math

Unanimous

Members acknowledged Superintendent Sperrey's Support Staff appointments for 2022-2023:

Elaine Allen, Food Service Assistant  
Hattie Bean, CCES .5 FTE CMS Secretary  
Jamie Bean, CCES Ed Tech I  
Laura Bell, CHS Ed Tech I  
Phillip Bennett, CCES Ed Tech III  
Amy Bubar, CCES Ed Tech I  
Arlen Burns, CHS Ed Tech I  
Tami Call, CMS Ed Tech III, Library  
Nichole Clark, CCES Secretary II

Emily Clement, CMS Office Manager  
 Jessica Commeau, CHS Ed Tech III  
 David Craig, CHS Ed Tech III  
 Connie Crocker, Food Service Assistant  
 Gary Currier, CCES Custodian  
 Diana Davies, CMS Custodian  
 Stewart Davis, CHS Custodian  
 Nika Day, CCES Ed Tech III  
 Nicole DeMoranville, CHS Ed Tech I  
 Bryan Doughty, CMS Custodian  
 Nicole Dow, Food Service Assistant  
 Sandra Emery, Food Service Assistant  
 Beth Goodwin, CHS Guidance Secretary II  
 Karen Graham, CCES Ed Tech II  
 Joanne Gray, CCES Ed Tech III  
 Hilary Gross, CCES Custodian  
 Josephine Hanson, CCES Ed Tech I  
 Nicole Harrison, CCES Ed Tech III  
 Renee Harvey, CCES Custodian  
 Stephanie Helstrom, Food Service Manager II  
 Michele Hewitt, CCES Ed Tech I  
 Joan Ireland, CMS Ed Tech I  
 Dorothy Iverson, CCES Ed Tech III, Library  
 Carin King, CMS Custodian  
 Moriah King, CCES Ed Tech III  
 Mary Lord, CMS Ed Tech I  
 Sarah McCorrison, Food Service Assistant  
 Jason McCutcheon, CHS Ed Tech III  
 Steven McGowan, CHS Custodian  
 Caitlin McGuire, CCES Ed Tech III  
 Amy Miller, Food Service Assistant  
 Amber Mitchell, CCES Ed Tech II  
 Shawna Neal, CMS Ed Tech III  
 Jeffrey O'Bar, CHS Custodian  
 Wayne Page, District Day Custodian  
 Robert Pomeroy, CMS Ed Tech III  
 Gabriel Potter, CCES Custodian  
 Christopher Pullen, CCES Custodian  
 Makenzy Randall, CCES Ed Tech I  
 Stachia Randall, CHS Secretary II  
 Michael Reynolds, District Maintenance  
 Cassandra Rice, CCES Ed Tech I  
 Rhonda Roberts, Food Service Assistant  
 Jayna Robinson, CCES Ed Tech III  
 Diane Rollins, CHS Office Manager  
 Jillian Roy, CCES Ed Tech I  
 James Russell, Special Services Driver  
 Angel Sawyer, CCES Office Manager  
 Cynthia Shorey, CCES Ed Tech I  
 Laura Shorey, CCES Ed Tech III  
 Ann Smith, CCES Ed Tech I  
 Doug Smith, CHS Ed Tech III  
 Luanne Speed, Food Service Manager I  
 Richard Spencer, Special Services Driver

Tavia Storman, CCES Secretary II  
Doreen Strout, Special Services Driver  
Dianne Skawski-Pride, CCES Ed Tech III  
Wendy Tate, CHS Ed Tech I  
Jessica Thompson, Central Office Secretary  
Tammy Thompson, CCES Ed Tech I  
Alicia Werenko, CCES Ed Tech III  
Connie Weymouth, CCES Ed Tech II  
Holly Weymouth, CCES Ed Tech I  
SontaRae Weymouth, CMS Ed Tech I  
Don Wilson, CHS Ed Tech III

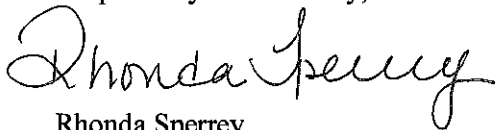
Members acknowledged Superintendent Sperrey's Schedule B appointments for 2021-2022:

Special Olympics Coach – Gary Collins  
CMS Assistant Track Coach – Charlie Monzo

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Amy Bean, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rhonda Sperrey". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name.

Rhonda Sperrey  
Secretary

