

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 64
Bradford Corinth Hudson Kenduskeag Stetson

REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 24, 2023

The members of the Board of Directors of RSU 64 met at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 2023 in response to an agenda dated April 20, 2023. The agenda was distributed to members electronically.

Members Present: James Connolly, Wanda St. Peter, Katherine Waite, Anne Kenneson, Julie Byers, Jodi Brasslett, Steven Ingalls, Amy Bean, Robert Young, Michael Anderson, Sherry Horn, Curtis Chadbourne, Nicole Kelley, Emily Henderson, Kelsi McHugh-Speed

Student Representatives
Present: Liliana Ainsworth, Lindsey Stevens

Members Absent: Rhonda Williams, Tonya Wozneak

Members Absent
Without Excuse: Haley Emery

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 7:05 p.m. A roll call and check of attendance found a quorum of 15 members present, and 3 members absent.

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second of Anne Kenneson, the Board voted to approve the draft minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting (April 3, 2023), Regular Monthly Board Meeting (March 27, 2023), and the Hiring Committee Meeting (March 27, 2023) 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 Hope Buswell (CMS Special Education Teacher), Robin Clukey (CMS Science Teacher), Gary Currier (CCES Custodian), Rachel Emery-Russell (Grade 2 Teacher), Gabriel Potter (CCES Custodian), Mikayla Richards (CCES Grade 1 Teacher) and Cierra Weeks (CCES Educational Technician).

Vice Chair Connolly indicated the Board is in receipt of a letter of retirement from Irene Lane, CHS Special Education Teacher.

Vice Chair Connolly called for Public Forum items.

CCES Educational Technician Ann-Marie Smith read and distributed a letter to Board members concerning unpaid leave and her notice of retirement.

The Board entered into a discussion about the negotiated benefits of leave available to employees.

Reports

Superintendent Sperrey updated members on the following administrative topics:

School Calendar

The final student day in RSU 64 will be Friday, June 9, 2023, pending no additional cancellation days. The final staff day will be Monday, June 12, 2023. The Professional Discussions Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, April 26 to plan the final staff day.

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. CHS staff is also working on the design of a summer credit recovery program at Hirundo Wildlife Refuge. The summer program will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The program begins July 11, 2023.

District Enrollment (As of April 1, 2023)

CCES – 511 (-2)
CMS – 231 (-1)
CHS – 312 (-5)
Total = 1054 (-8)

Administrator Reports

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

CCES Principal Carrie Carr – Mrs. Carr did not add anything to her report.

CCES Assistant Principal Nicole Evans – Mrs. Evans did not add anything to her report.

CMS Principal Dr. Sandra Cookson – Dr. Cookson did not add anything to her report.

CHS Principal Dr. Rad Mayfield – Dr. Mayfield highlighted student Ethan Whitty’s election of Key Club President for the northeast conference and noted fundraising distinctions for the CHS Key Club.

CHS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Jared Foster – Mr. Foster shared Ethan is planning to start a Key Club Chapter at his post-secondary college of choice.

Special Education Director Riley Donovan – Mr. Donovan did not add anything to his report.

Curriculum Coordinator Danette Kerrigan – Ms. Kerrigan highlighted the recent Maine Through Year Assessment training teachers have engaged in for preparation for the spring assessments.

Comprehensive Regional Technical High School Update – Members discussed the recent Bangor Daily News article discussing the challenges of this project.

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 6% increase in health insurance premiums for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.
- * All payroll expenses have been entered based on current staffing and include negotiated increases.
- * The District has locked in a price for heating oil and propane. Heating fuel will cost \$2.9585/gallon and propane will cost \$1.86/gallon. The pellet bid was awarded at \$225/ton delivered.

- * Transportation costs continue to increase each year. The new contracts include a 3% increase.
- * The draft budget includes instructional and general supplies requests from teachers and an increase in facility and maintenance costs.

The draft budget represents the best estimates available during its creation. The draft includes the District applying a beginning fund balance amount of \$450,000 which is an increase of \$150,000 from last year. Overall, the budget draft is 3.56% higher than last year and uses the expected increase of state revenue of \$278,283.58 and the carry forward balance of \$450,000 to keep increases to town assessments low.

The Finance Committee is also recommending articles within the warrant to establish a reserve account for energy, special education, and transportation. Upon voter approval, these accounts will allow the District to transfer and expend amounts necessary to address instability in these cost areas. The Finance Committee is also recommending the warrant include articles to add to the capital reserve and technology reserve accounts, if appropriate.

The FY24 draft budget presents an increase to town assessments as follows:

- Bradford – 3.49%
- Corinth – 3.38%
- Hudson – 2.21%
- Kenduskeag – 1.62%
- Stetson – 3.30%

On average, the draft budget requires a 2.84% increase to town assessments.

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Anne Kenneson, members voted to approve the proposed RSU 64 Budget for 2023-2024 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 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Central Community Elementary School for the purpose of voting on the annual budget for the District for the 2023-2024 fiscal year; that the District Budget Validation Referendum be called for Tuesday, June 13, 2023 for the purpose of approving the Budget adopted at the District Budget Meeting for the 2023-2024 fiscal year; that the form of Notice of Amounts adopted at Budget Meeting be approved, in accordance with the District Budget Meeting on June 8, 2023 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 13, 2023 District Budget Validation Referendum.

Unanimous

Personnel Nominations and Confirmations

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Anne Kenneson, members approved the recommendation of Superintendent Sperrey of CHS physical education teacher Jon McAllian for 2023-2024.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Anne Kenneson, members approved the Superintendent’s recommendation of CHS math teacher Cynthia Dehm for 2023-2024.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Anne Kenneson, members approved the Superintendent’s recommendation of the transfer of Liberty Oko to CHS science teacher for 2023-2024.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Sherry Horn, members approved the recommendation of Superintendent Sperrey of first year probationary contract to second year probationary contract teachers for 2023-2024:

Renee Batchelder, CMS Guidance
David Doering, CMS Grade 8 Social Studies
Alison Huff, CHS Spanish
Lyndsey Lavoie, CCES Grade 3
Derek McKinley, CMS Grade 7 ELA
Liberty Oko, CHS Science
Robert Pomeroy, CHS .5 FTE Social Studies
Laura Shorey, CCES Grade 4
Raymond Sprague, CHS Math
Stephen Urli, CMS Grade 7 Science
Lori Weiss, District Nurse
Jessica Williams, CMS/CHS Art

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Anne Kenneson, members approved the recommendation of Superintendent Sperrey of second year probationary contract to continuing contract teachers for 2023-2024:

Jennifer Fall, District Social Worker
Laurie Hatch, CCES Special Education
Rachel Jones, CCES Grade 3 Teacher
Natalie Knowlton, CCES Guidance Counselor
Tracy McKay, CMS Special Education
Casey Twist, CHS Library Media Specialist
Macy Ward, CCES Grade 5

Unanimous

Members acknowledged Superintendent Sperrey's support staff appointments for 2023-2024:

Elaine Allen, Food Service Assistant
Christina Bean, Food Service Assistant
Hattie Bean, .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
Tami Call, CMS Ed Tech III, Library
Nichole Clark, CMS Office Manager
David Craig, CHS Ed Tech III
Connie Crocker, Food Service Assistant
Diana Davies, CMS Custodian
Nika Day, CCES Ed Tech III
Maddigan DeMoranville CCES/CMS Ed Tech I
Nicole DeMoranville, CHS Ed Tech I
Bram Dennis, CCES Ed Tech III
Bryan Doughty, CMS Custodian
Sandra Emery, Food Service Assistant

Beth Goodwin, CHS Guidance Secretary II
Karen Graham, CCES Secretary II
Joanne Gray, CCES Ed Tech III
Hilary Gross, CCES Custodian
Brady Harding, CCES Ed Tech
Nicole Harrison, CCES Ed Tech III, Library
Renee Harvey, CCES Custodian
Stephanie Helstrom, Food Service Manager II
Michele Hewitt, CCES Ed Tech I
Joan Ireland, CMS Ed Tech I
Carin King, CMS Custodian
Moriah King, CCES Ed Tech III
Bonnie Leighton, CCES Ed Tech I
Mary Lord, CMS Ed Tech I
Sarah McCorrison, Food Service Assistant
Mary McGowan, CCES Custodian
Shelby McGowan, CHS Custodian
Steven McGowan, CHS Custodian
Amber Mitchell, CCES Ed Tech II
Susan Nash, Food Service Assistant
Shawna Neal, CMS Ed Tech III
Jeffrey O'Bar, CHS Custodian
Wayne Page, District Day Custodian
Robert Pomeroy, CHS Ed Tech III .5 FTE
Christopher Pullen, CCES Custodian
Kristen Quido, CCES Ed Tech III
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
James Russell, Special Services Driver
Angel Sawyer, CCES Office Manager
Ashley Shorey, CHS Ed Tech II, Library
Cynthia Shorey, CCES Ed Tech I
Dianne Skawski-Pride, CCES Ed Tech III
Ann Smith, CCES Ed Tech I
Doug Smith, CHS Ed Tech III
Shelby Smith, CCES Ed Tech I
Luanne Speed, Food Service Manager I
Richard Spencer, Special Services Driver
Alyssa Stachowiak, CCES Ed Tech
Tavia Storman, CCES Secretary II
Dominick Swett, CCES Custodian
Wendy Tate, CHS Ed Tech I
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 support staff appointment for 2022-2023:

CCES Custodian – Dominick Swett

Members acknowledged Superintendent Sperrey's Schedule B appointment for 2022-2023:

CMS B Baseball Coach – Ethan Valley

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Anne Kenneson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by,


Rhonda Sperrey
Secretary