

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 64
Bradford Corinth Hudson Kenduskeag Stetson

REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 22, 2023

The members of the Board of Directors of RSU 64 met at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 22, 2023 in response to an agenda dated May 18, 2023. The agenda was distributed to members electronically.

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

Student Representatives
Present: Liliana Ainsworth, Lindsey Stevens

Members Absent: Michael Anderson, Tonya Wozneak

Members Absent
Without Excuse: None

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

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rhonda Williams at 7:01 p.m. A roll call and check of attendance found a quorum of 16 members present, and 2 members absent.

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second of Anne Kenneson, the Board voted to approve the draft minutes of the Regular Monthly Board Meeting (April 24, 2023), and the Hiring Committee Meeting (April 24, 2023) and to place the minutes on file as part of permanent Board records.

Unanimous

Petitions and Communications

Chair Williams indicated the Board is in receipt of a letter of resignation from Michael Dennis (CHS Science Teacher) and Dominick Swett (CCES Custodian).

Chair Williams indicated the Board is in receipt of a letter of retirement from Ann Marie Smith, (CCES Educational Technician) and Doreen Strout (District Driver).

Chair Williams called for Public Forum items.

Resident Jamy Parkhurst asked why the Board does not use Zoom to broadcast public meetings. Chair Williams explained it is not currently the Board's policy to do so.

Reports

Superintendent Sperrey updated members on the following administrative topics:

Water at CMS & CHS

On Monday, May 22 water pressure was lost at Central Middle and Central High School. Both facilities share a well. Superintendent Sperrey put a one-hour delay in place for the next morning to accommodate

the delivery of bulk water to supply the schools while a resolution could be worked out. The initial assessment indicated a failed pump.

Final In-Service Day

The final student day in RSU 64 is Friday, June 9, 2023. The final staff day is being planned for Monday, June 13, 2023. The Professional Development Committee which is comprised of grade span representative teachers and the administrative team are working on the agenda for the day. Currently, the agenda includes time for staff in their buildings to work on curriculum and assessment, lunch, and an afternoon wellness activity with a comedian.

CCES Literacy Initiative

The CCES instructional staff and administrators have identified specific areas within literacy instruction that are in need of improvement. Several staff have piloted a phonics program in the early grades and a guided reading program for the upper grade levels. Early results indicate both programs have significant benefit potential for literacy development and engagement with students.

FY 24 Budget Update

The FY 24 District Budget Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 8 at 7 p.m. in the CCES cafeteria. Budget booklets have been delivered to each town office and are available online at the District website. The Budget Validation Referendum will take place on Tuesday, June 13. Citizens should check with their town for polling station hours.

Legislative Update

Several bills are before the legislature pertaining to parental rights in education and increased wages for support staff and teachers. A minimum support staff salary bill has been passed in committee as well as the bill advocating an increase in the minimum teacher salary to \$50,000. If passed, both salary bills come with significant fiscal impact to both local and state tax payers.

ESSER Projects Update

The District continues to work on the completion and implementation of several projects being funded with federal ESSER money. A significant HVAC project has been designed for Central High School and both CHS and CMS have had an analysis of the current fire protection systems in place. The District is awaiting approval from DOE on the replacement of the fire protection systems at both schools. A generator project at all three schools is also still in its design phase. These generators would allow school to be in session for a significant amount of time should a power outage take place. Administrators are working on the details of the design and implementation of an eSports program for CHS students. ESSER funds will also be used to pay for the summer programs at CCES and CHS this summer.

District Enrollment (As of May 1, 2023)

CCES – 507 (-4)
CMS – 230 (-1)
CHS – 313 (+1)
Total = 1050 (-4)

Administrator Reports

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

CCES Principal Carrie Carr – Mrs. Carr updated the Board with respect to the huge turnout for Carnival of Hope.

CCES Assistant Principal Nicole Evans – Mrs. Evans shared information about a step up process for elementary students on the final day of school.

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

CHS Principal Dr. Rad Mayfield – Dr. Mayfield highlighted the Central High School community clean-up efforts that took place on Friday, May 19, 2023.

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

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

Curriculum Coordinator Danette Kerrigan – Ms. Kerrigan updated members with respect to the recreation of a summer track program for K-8 students led by Mr. Viani. This program will be funded with ESSER money.

Comprehensive Regional Technical High School Update – Superintendent Sperrey referenced the recent Bangor Daily News article discussing the challenges of this project. Superintendent Sperrey shared discussion from the CCES PTO meeting held on Thursday, May 18, 2023 highlighting parents share the same concerns raised by other districts and in other projects that include the consolidation of schools. Where the Regional Technical School might be located is of most concern. Superintendent Sperrey updated members with respect to a recent conversation with Commissioner Makin about two funding mechanisms that may be possible to support the site selection process, should they be approved in the current State budget and legislative session.

New Business

Annual Authorization to Borrow Funds

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Amy Bean members authorized the Superintendent of Schools and Board Chair to borrow an amount not to exceed the amount of \$400,000 in the event they deem it necessary in order to meet District obligations.

Unanimous

Discussion and Consideration to Authorize the Hiring Committee to Act on Behalf of the Board during the Months of June, July, August, and September

Upon the motion of Nicole Kelley and second by Sherry Horn members authorized the Hiring Committee to act on behalf of the Board during the months of June, July, August, and September.

Unanimous

Discussion and Consideration of the Regular Monthly Meeting Date in June

Upon the motion of Anne Kenneson and second by Wanda St. Peter, members set the next Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors date for June 20, 2023.

Unanimous

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

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Nicole Kelley, members entered into Executive Session.

Time Entered: 7:33 p.m.

Time Returned: 7:42 p.m.

Unanimous

Personnel Nominations and Confirmations

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Robert Young, members approved the recommendation of Superintendent Sperrey of CCES PreK Teacher – Anatalie McGarvey for 2023-2024.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Amy Bean, members approved the Superintendent’s recommendation of CCES Grade 2 Teacher Emily Stefanik for 2023-2024.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Nicole Kelley, members approved the Superintendent’s recommendation of CCES Grade 3 Teacher Zoe Brown for 2023-2024.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Sherry Horn, members approved the Superintendent’s recommendation of the transfer of Adrienne Pelkey to CCES Grade 1 Teacher for 2023-2024.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Nicole Kelley, members approved the Superintendent’s recommendation of the transfer of Marcie Coffin to CCES Grade 4 Teacher for 2023-2024.

Unanimous

Upon the motion of Wanda St. Peter and second by Amy Bean, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by,



Rhonda Sperrey
Secretary