

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 1
Castle Hill – Chapman- Mapleton – Presque Isle – Westfield

MINUTES

Board of Directors
October 20, 2021
5:30 p.m.
Presque Isle High School Cafeteria

Directors Present:

Desiree Albert (13)	John R. Johnston (15)
James Bubar (10)	Lori Kenneson (9)
Curtis Culberson (11)	Joanna Newlands (2)
Dan Edgecomb (1)	Michael Ouellette (4)
Susan Goulet (14)	Lucy Richard (12)
John Harvell (5)	Paul Saija (17)
Roberta Fitzgerald-Hathaway (8)	Terry Sandusky (3)
Julie Freeman (16)	

Director Absent: Stephen Sutter (7) & Carol Bell (6).

Others Present: Approximately 30 members of the public and one (1) member of the press.

1. Call to Order

Chair Lucy Richard called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Announcements

The next Board of Directors meeting – November 17, 2021 – 5:30 p.m. – PIHS Cafeteria

3. Adjustments to the Agenda

There were no adjustments to the Agenda.

4. Acceptance of the Agenda

It was moved by Paul Saija and seconded by John Harvell to accept the Agenda as presented.
The motion carried unanimously.

5. Presentation(s)

Dan Duprey, Principal of Mapleton Elementary School, provided an overview of what students and have been up to since the school year has begun.

He reported that students in grades Pre-K through 2 have enjoyed a trip to the School Farm to take tours and learn about harvesting apples and producing cider. The older students, in collaboration with a local farmer, have been learning about the potato harvest. The farmer allowed the students to experience hand picking potatoes, as well as learning about the mechanized ways of harvesting used today.

Mr. Duprey also reported on how pooled testing is going thus far. After two rounds of pooled testing, all students and staff tested have produced negative tests and the process is going smoothly.

Mr. Duprey shared that students in grades 3-5 have begun MEA testing in the areas of Reading, Mathematics and Language Arts through the NWEA assessment. The NWEA provides a good benchmark to assess students current levels in the fall. Students are tested again in the Spring to evaluate progress made over the course of the year.

Lastly, Mr. Duprey spoke about the community service project that Mapleton Elementary is taking on. Students and staff at Mapleton Elementary will be collecting funds and preparing care packages for the local cancer group to be donated at the end of the year.

6. Public Participation

Chelsea Holmes, MSAD #1 resident, spoke to the Board regarding her concerns about a lack of remote learning options being offered to students who are placed on quarantine due to Covid 19 exposure.

7. Approval of Minutes –September 8, 2021

It was moved by Paul Saija and seconded by Jim Bubar to approve the minutes of September 8, 2021, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Approval of Bills & Warrants Signed to Date – September 2021

Holly Vining, Business Manager, provided the Board with an overview of the September 2021 financials. Discussion followed. It was moved by Curtis Culberson and seconded by Jim Bubar to approve the bills and warrants as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Superintendent's Report

- a) Superintendent Greenlaw reported that the presence of Covid 19 has provided some challenges after the re-opening of our schools. As schools opened, we saw around 30 positive cases and approximately 400 close contacts. Even with these elevated numbers, there has been no indication of transmission within our schools.

The Superintendent provided an update on the implementation of pooled testing in the district, and the hiring of Samantha Meile, Pooled Testing Coordinator. So far, 84 students and staff have been tested at Mapleton Elementary. Pooled testing began at Zippel Elementary on Monday.

Testing is slated to begin at Pine Street, Presque Isle Middle School and Presque Isle High School in the coming weeks.

The District in the past two weeks had no reported cases of Covid 19, and all quarantined students returned to in-person learning. He reported that this week, 2 new cases were confirmed but only 8 students were required to quarantine. The number of quarantined students was greatly reduced by the number of vaccinated students and the exception that allows students who are masked to remain in school if the student was found to be within 3-6 feet of a positive case.

The Superintendent reported that the Maine CDC is hopeful to see the approval of the vaccine by the FDA and the CDC for children ages 5-11 in the near future. If/when this happens, the District has plans to work in collaboration with Northern Light A.R. Gould Hospital to provide an in-school vaccine clinic for students who have chosen to participate.

- b) Superintendent Greenlaw provided the Board with an update on enrollment as of October 1st. Currently, the District is seeing an overall 0.8% decrease (14 total) in students compared to last year's October 1 count. There has also been an increase in students enrolled in homeschooling. There are 96 students enrolled in homeschooling this year, which is 6 more than last year.
- c. ESSER III Status – He reported that we are still waiting on the state for ESSER III funding.
- d. Other

Winter Sports – Superintendent Greenlaw reported that sporting events are going to be open to spectators. All spectators and athletes will be required to wear masks.

Superintendent Greenlaw reported that Jacob Graham, grade 7 teacher at Presque Isle Middle School, is being recognized by Momentum Aroostook on November 18, 2021 as an Aroostook Achiever in Education.

Superintendent Greenlaw updated the Board on the status of the "Workshop"---formally known as the ATM Room. Renovations to the Workshop have been done in partnership with MMG and Husson University to provide a collaborative space with the latest technology for students and staff to access online courses, professional development and virtual instruction. The Workshop formally opened for use on October 14, 2021.

Superintendent Greenlaw reported that MEA testing has finished for Fall. The new MEA is the NWEA, a test based on student growth. He reported that we have been testing students through the NWEA in grades 2-10 for a number of years. It provides immediate results and helps to identify specific strengths and weaknesses, helping teachers identify areas of need.

Superintendent Greenlaw reminded the Board that the MSMA Fall Conference will be held virtually next Friday. The MSAD 1 Music Department submitted pieces of music from different grade levels which will be featured between speakers and during breaks for the conference.

10. **Old Business – Discussion and Action**

There was no old business to discuss.

11. **Committee Reports**

Paul Saija, Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, reported they will confirm a date to meet later in November.

Stephen Sutter, Chair of the Policy Committee was not present, but it was reported that there will be a Policy Committee meeting scheduled for late November or early December.

Terry Sandusky, Chair of the CTE Committee, reported that the Committee met September 15, 2021.

- The Committee discussed the Department of Education's EPS formula and how it impacts MSAD 1. Next year, we could be looking at a decrease in funding from \$200,000 to around \$66,000. The committee discussed options to help lessen the impact of this change. Options being considered are looking into grants at both the federal and state level to help fund the program, reductions in programs offered, or looking at the tax base as a last resort.
- Current enrollment at CTE is up from 117 students enrolled last year to 166 students enrolled this year.
- Mr. Sandusky discussed the proposed changes to the IHA policy, which changes threshold spending limits in the CTE Program. He also introduced the hope that MSAD 1 will be the first district in the state to expand its courses to 8th grade students, this would be overseen by the current CTE Director, Ralph Conroy. Lastly, he has introduced the proposed name change from Presque Isle Regional Career and Technical Center to Presque Isle Tech Center. The name change would take effect in the 2022/2023 school year and will be brought to the full board for consideration at the November meeting.

Curtis Culberson, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported they had met prior to the Board meeting to review the September 2021 financials.

12. **New Business – Discussion and Action**

a. **Consideration of Staff Appointment.**

Superintendent Greenlaw recommended the following appointment for the 2021-2022 school year:

Angela King	Licensed Social Worker	Presque Isle Middle School
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It was moved by Paul Saija and seconded by Curtis Culberson to approve the appointment of Angela King as Social Worker at Presque Isle Middle School for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Other – Superintendent Greenlaw reported that the position of GT Coordinator is the only remaining position to be filled. Since there have been no qualified applicants for this position, duties will be overseen by Dr. Jennifer Bourassa and other administrators. The position will be re-advertised in the spring.

13. **Consideration of Policies**

Dr. Jennifer Bourassa, Curriculum Coordinator reported updates on the following policies:

IHAI - Presque Isle Regional Career and Technical Center Applied Learning Projects Policy

JKAA - Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion

JKAA-R – Procedures on Physical Restraint and Seclusion

IHBA-C – Child Find

GBGB – Workplace Bullying

BHC – Board Relations and Communications with Staff

JG – Student Discipline

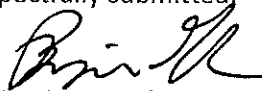
JGD – Suspension of Students

It was moved by Paul Saija and seconded by Susan Goulet to accept all updated and new policies as written. The motion carried unanimously.

14. **Adjournment**

It was moved by Roberta Fitzgerald-Hathaway and seconded by Jim Bubar to adjourn at 6:28 p.m. Motion carried.

/s/ Respectfully submitted,


Benjamin Greenlaw