

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

MINUTES

Board of Directors
November 17, 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)	Carol Bell (6)
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) & Joanna Newlands (2).

Others Present: Approximately 50 members of the public and two (2) members 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 – December 15, 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 Roberta Fitzgerald-Hathaway to accept the Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **Presentation(s)**

Dr. Jennifer Bourassa, Curriculum Coordinator for MSAD #1, provided a discussion/review of academic data collected from the NWEA standardized testing conducted in the Fall and Spring semesters. She explained that the NWEA testing has given teachers a benchmark to determine

individual student's strengths and weaknesses based on RIT scores. This also provides a snapshot of where the student is performing in comparison to other grade-level students as well as the state averages.

Dr. Bourassa presented Fall data spanning grades 1 through 8 from the last four years. The data presented showed a relatively steady trend from year to year. The data displayed a slight dip in scores for Fall 2020. These scores rebounded in 2021 showing exponential growth across the board despite challenges presented during the current pandemic.

6. Public Participation

Nancy Watson, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment to the Board regarding her opposing views of the vaccine clinic being offered in the school setting and mask wearing.

Nate Berry, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment to the Board regarding frustrations with the current SOP and quarantine requirements. He requested a special meeting to discuss policy revisions for masking and quarantine.

Keith Wilcox, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment to the Board regarding his desire to see the quarantine guidelines revised and asked for a "test to stay" option to be offered.

Dawn Casella, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment to the Board regarding her desire to see a "test to stay" option for quarantine students, opposition to universal masking, and would like to see a public forum to discuss these things with the Board.

Scott Violette, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment regarding his frustrations with the current SOP, requested a "test to stay" option for quarantine students, and would like to see a public forum to discuss these items with the Board.

Emily Smith, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment to the Board regarding her frustrations with the current SOP, keeping children in school and lifting mask requirements. She also asked the Board to revisit the MSAD #1 attendance policy surrounding absences due to quarantine.

Chelsea Holmes, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment to the Board regarding her desire to remove masking requirements, implement a structured remote learning plan, implement a "test to stay" option for quarantine students, and would like to see a public forum to discuss these items with the Board.

Michaela Hotham, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment to the Board regarding her feelings that children are being denied access to an appropriate education due to the current SOP. She asked for consideration of the removal of these mandates.

Lisa Roderick, MSAD #1 resident, and Carrie Haas, Easton resident, presented an audio recording regarding the opposition of vaccinating for Covid 19.

Danielle Feinburg, MSAD #1 resident, offered comment to the Board of her support of current policies and her appreciation for the provisions put in place to protect students and staff within the district.

Barrie Fien, New York resident, offered comment to the Board regarding her appreciation for all of the staff at MSAD #1 and how the current SOP guidelines are being followed.

7. Approval of Minutes –October 20, 2021

It was moved by Paul Saija and seconded by Roberta Fitzgerald-Hathaway to approve the minutes of October 20, 2021, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Holly Vining, Business Manager, provided the Board with an overview of the October 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 cases in the district rose over the last thirty days with 39 reported positives. Thanks in part to higher vaccination rates, increased pooled testing, and universal masking, the numbers of students required to quarantine has been much lower than previous months.

Superintendent Greenlaw also shared with the Board the development of documents that provide parents/guardians of quarantined students procedures and contacts for learning during their quarantine.

Superintendent Greenlaw clarified that all Maine school districts have been provided with a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to follow for Covid 19 exposure, quarantine guidelines, and health protocols to follow. He listed the four exceptions to quarantine, one of which is universal masking. Due to the implementation of universal masking, the number of students who need to quarantine after exposure is drastically lower than it would be if masking was optional.

- b) Superintendent Greenlaw shared the results of the 2021 Harvest Survey with the Board. The survey reports that out of approximately 462 students at Presque Isle High School, 14.9% of students worked a harvest related job. This is an increase from 2020's 12.9%.
- c) Superintendent Greenlaw spoke to the Board regarding the election of Board Officers for 2022. Sue Goulet has agreed to contact the members of the Board to see if members were interested in being considered for an officer position.
- d) Superintendent Greenlaw shared with the board the results of the November election and offered congratulations on the re-election of Desiree Albert, Jim Bubar, Michael Ouellette, and

Terry Sandusky. He welcomed the two new Board members, Brian Hall who will be replacing Sue Goulet and Karl Dampf who will replace Stephen Sutter.

The Superintendent also reported that there was a tie between current Board member John Johnston and Susan Johnston for the seat in District 15. As a result, there will be a run-off election held on December 28, 2021 for District 15.

- e) Superintendent Greenlaw informed the Board that they were given a paper for their choice of Board Committees for the 2022 term. The Board was asked to return these to Lucy or the Superintendent's office.
- f) ESSER 3 - Superintendent Greenlaw reported that the ESSER 3 grant has been approved. He summarized the projects completed to date with CRF and ESSER funds, and said that he will have a comprehensive list of all of these projects for the next Board meeting.

10. Old Business – Discussion and Action

There was no old business to discuss.

11. Committee Reports

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

Lucy Richard, Chair of the Negotiations Committee, reported there will be a meeting on December 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Hall of Fame room at PIHS.

Stephen Sutter, Chair of the Policy Committee was not in attendance. Jennifer Bourassa reported on his behalf that the Policy Committee met on November 16, 2021 to review policies JFCA and EBCA.

Paul Saija, Chair of the Building & Grounds Committee, reported that there will be a meeting on December 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Hall of Fame room at PIHS.

12. New Business – Discussion and Action

- a) Superintendent Greenlaw shared with the Board that the school nurses of Maine have been selected to be the recipients of the 2021 MSBA Distinguished Service Award. There will be a presentation to follow at a later date.
- b) The Board reviewed the 2021/2022 Co-Curricular list. Paul Saija made a motion to accept the list, Curtis Culberson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- c) Ralph Conroy, Director of Presque Isle Regional Career and Technical Education Center presented the Board with the proposed name change to Presque Isle Tech Center. Terry Sandusky made a motion to accept the name change, Paul Saija seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The changes will take effect for the 2022/2023 school year.

d) Other - there were no considerations.

13. **Consideration of Policies**

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

JFCA - Dress Code

It was moved by Paul Saija and seconded by Sue Goulet to accept the updated dress code policy as written. The motion carried with one opposed and one abstention.

EBCA - Comprehensive Health and Safety Emergency Management Plan

It was moved by Paul Saija and seconded by Jim Bubar to accept the updated policy as written. The motion carried unanimously.

14. **Consideration of Administrative Planning and Assessment - Executive Session (MRSA 405 (6) (A))**

It was moved by John Harvell and seconded by Desiree Albert for the board to move to Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session commenced at 7:07 p.m.


Open Session resumed at 7:50 p.m.

No action was taken.

15. **Adjournment**

It was moved by Susan Goulet and seconded by Roberta Fitzgerald-Hathaway to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. Motion carried.

/s/ Respectfully submitted,


Benjamin Greenlaw