

**MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 1 MEETING HELD August 27, 2018 AT 6:00 PM AT WOOLWICH CENTRAL SCHOOL. (NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the Board. Such action, either to approve or amend and approve, is anticipated at the September 17, 2018 meeting).**

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**Members Present:** Stephen August, Chairperson; Lou Ensel, Vice Chairperson; Anita Brown, Megan Fuller, Bill Perkins, Alan Walton; Sydney Hollingsworth, Student Representative; Patrick Manuel, Superintendent of Schools

**Members Absent:** Jennifer Ritch-Smith

**Others Present:** Debra Clark, Katie Joseph

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson August called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS FROM CHAIR**

Chairperson August announced that he had the pleasure of attending the opening day ceremony this morning for all RSU 1 staff. It was a great kick-off for the new school year. Mr. August shared Board member Ritch-Smith's apology for missing tonight's meeting due to a conflict with her work responsibility. The Board will be discussing this year's Board meeting schedule at the end of the meeting.

### **APPROVE/AMEND MINUTES FOR JUNE 18, 2018 AND JUNE 28 2018**

**MOTION:** Walton

**SECOND:** Ensel

**VOTE:** Board (6-0)

**TO:** Approve the minutes of June 18, 2018 and June 28, 2018 as written.

### **ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA**

The agenda was adjusted as follows:

- Move the two Student Reports to take place after the first Public Session
- Add two additional field trips to Item 10,2
- Remove 9.1 Second Reading of Policy JJIAB – Extra-Curricular Activity Participation Regulation. Morse High School administration felt they needed more time to work on it and will include it on the September Board agenda.
- Include a presentation by Assistant Superintendent Katie Joseph under the Superintendent Report.

### **PUBLIC SESSION**

Fisher-Mitchell parent Andria Deitrick requested that the notice of Board meetings also be available through other social media outlets.

### **MHS BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE**

Superintendent Manuel reported that the Morse High School project is on schedule and blasting will begin tomorrow. Dr. Manuel commended Crooker Construction for their work on the project.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Manuel reported on the following:

- Set for Success took place on August 19<sup>th</sup> at Bath Middle School for students in Pre-K through grade 12. Students had the opportunity to get a free haircut and school supplies during this event. Dr. Manuel acknowledged the community for their support surrounding this event and thanked Jamie Dorr from MidCoast Community Alliance for all the work she did to make this a success.
- Staff returned to school today and will have a professional development day tomorrow. Students in grades K-9 begin on Wednesday with all students K-12 returning on Thursday.
- Staff in grades 6-12 participated in the ALICE training last year which will continue this year with practice drills and further education. RSU 1 is working closely with Bath Police Chief Mike Field and Student Resource Officer Chuck Reece to schedule and organize this training. Staff in grades Pre-K through 5 will be involved in the training next school year.
- Assistant Superintendent Joseph provided the Board with an update on the district's vision for Proficiency Based Learning (PBL) and where things stand in the legislature and in our district. At the conclusion of last school year the legislature decided not to vote on the bill whether to make proficiency based diplomas optional. Now that they have voted, RSU 1 is left with two choices. 1) Opt into the new proficiency based diploma format, or 2) Opt into the old credit system which, rather than passing the standards, students will need to take a certain number of credits/classes. Ms. Joseph stated that the staff is excited about work we have done with proficiency based learning and support choosing the credit option while continuing with the PBL work. Ms. Joseph read the following statement from the RSU 1 administrative team:

With the change in Maine state law from a once required to now optional proficiency based learning (PBL) diploma, the RSU 1 administrative team sees this as an exciting opportunity to solidify and communicate our beliefs around what makes excellent teaching and learning. It allows us to maintain the components of the old requirements that benefit students and teachers, and shed those we do not (and never did) support. Therefore, given this leeway to customize our approach, we will not be moving to adopt the MDOE's new PBL requirements. Rather, we choose to continue to improve our current RSU 1 systems based on the below vision and practices related to teaching and learning in order to do what is in the best interest of all of our students.

Assistant Superintendent Joseph shared the three mission statements and the practices and systems that help carry out this vision in all of our schools. Ms. Joseph met with the first group of teachers today and she felt that they agree that we are following the right course of action. All the work done with PBL has improved our teaching and we want to continue it. We want to make sure that students with IEPs are supported and teachers get to do the more exciting work that keeps students on task. We will continue to use the old transcripts and Morse Principal Eric Varney and Ms. Joseph will be working to revise the district's graduation policy.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Business Manager Debra Clark provided the Board with the Financial Report for the months ending June 30, 2018 and July 31, 2018. We ended the month of June with a balance of \$581,134. The cost centers stayed within their budget with the exception of special education. With the approved transfer of funds into the foodservice program, we should have a positive balance in the account next June. On the revenue side, we ended the school year with \$51,000 more than budgeted. The

July report shows that the district spent 5% in supplies and salaries for staff that follow a July contract. The teachers' salaries will show up on the September report. We just closed on \$12.5 million BAN for the high school project and met with Bath Savings Institution to find other investment options that would provide a better interest rate. Currently, we have spent \$3.3 million so far on the high school project; although we have not received an invoice from Crooker Construction yet.

## **SECOND READING OF POLICY JL – WELLNESS**

**MOTION:** Ensel                      **SECOND:** Perkins                      **VOTE:** Board (6-0)

**TO:** Approve the second reading of Policy JL – Wellness as written.

## **PERSONNEL ITEMS**

Superintendent Manuel announced the resignation of John Gosselin, Health teacher at Woolwich Central School

A list of the Schedule B appointments was provided to the Board for their information.

## **OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS**

**MOTION:** Ensel                      **SECOND:** Fuller                      **VOTE:** Board (6-0)

**TO:** Approve the following overnight field trip requests as a group:

- FLOW trip for BMS 8<sup>th</sup> graders – September 18-21
- FLOW trip for BMS 8<sup>th</sup> graders – September 25-28
- FLOW trip for WCS 8<sup>th</sup> graders – October 1 – October 4
- Ecology Beach School trip for BMS 7<sup>th</sup> graders – September 17-19
- Pine Tree Camp trip for MHS JMG students – October 16-17

## **APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR SHARED ADULT EDUCATION MANAGEMENT RESOURCES**

Superintendent Manuel reported that the attorneys have worked with SAD 75 and RSU 1 to develop a formal agreement which would require Board approval. RSU 1 will not be losing any Adult Education services with this agreement. A director has been appointed to run the program for the year which allows time for us to explore whether it makes sense for RSU 1 to enter into a partnership with SAD 75 next year.

**MOTION:** Walton                      **SECOND:** Perkins                      **VOTE:** Board (6-0)

**TO:** Approve the Interlocal Agreement for Shared Adult Education Management Resources as presented.

## **FIRST READING OF BOARD POLICY EFA STUDENT MEAL ACCOUNTS**

When reviewing the language in the Student Meal Accounts policy, Chairperson August shared his concern that there is no clear measure of what constitutes “habitual overages” and felt the standards were soft in the fourth paragraph. Superintendent Manuel stated that administrators have been working on trying to develop a policy that we can live with and we feel that the current policy isn’t the right thing to do.

Vice Chairperson Ensel stated he doesn't have a problem with the language and feels that every situation is going to be different and likes that this policy provides some flexibility.

The Policy Committee will revisit the policy during the September meeting before bringing it back to the Board for a second reading.

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

Fisher-Mitchell parent Karen D'Silva inquired as to why MySchoolBucks charges a fee when a deposit is made in a student's account. Superintendent Manuel felt that is was a fee from the company for this service but he would check with our Food Service Director.

## **NEXT MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS**

Chairperson August will work with Board member Ritch-Smith to look at other possible dates and send a list of new meeting dates to the Board to review. Mr. August asked the Board members to let him know if they had any conflicts with the new schedule.

- Next regular RSU 1 Board meeting; Monday, September 17, 2018 at Fisher-Mitchell School– 6:00 PM

## **ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Perkins

**SECOND:** Fuller

**VOTE:** Board (6-0)

**TO:** Adjourn at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick M. Manuel  
Secretary