

MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 1 MEETING HELD April 22, 2019 AT 6:00 PM AT BATH MIDDLE 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 **May 20, 2019 meeting).**

Members Present: Stephen August, Chairperson; Lou Ensel, Vice Chairperson; Anita Brown, Jennifer Ritch-Smith, Bill Perkins, Alan Walton; Patrick Manuel, Superintendent of Schools

Members Absent: Megan Fuller, Sydney Hollingsworth, Hayden Platteter

Others Present: Debra Clark, Katie Joseph, and the RSU 1 Administrative Team

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 reminded the Board and members of the public of the many year-end activities taking place in the district in hopes that they will be able to attend some of the events. Mr. August paid a visit to the Maine Maritime Museum to watch the boat building activities our students are involved with and was very impressed with the program. Mr. August hopes that the community supports the new communications position in the budget which will be used to help make the public aware of the great things that are happening in RSU 1 and what our students have accomplished.

APPROVE/AMEND MINUTES FOR MARCH 25, 2019

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

TO: Approve the minutes of March 25, 2019 as written.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC SESSION

None

MHS BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Superintendent Manuel reported that the district did receive final funding approval for the high school project from the state. Harvey Construction began the concrete work on the site a few weeks ago. Dr. Manuel thanked the City of Bath for their cooperation and support through the process. The color and design committee has been formed and has begun their work.

CURRICULUM ASSESSMENT AND INSTRUCTION UPDATE

Assistant Superintendent Katie Joseph announced that the first meeting of the Later Start Time Advisory Committee is scheduled to take place Tuesday, April 23rd at 1:00 pm in the Center for P.E.A.C.E. & Community at 44 Summer Street in Bath. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.

The required state testing in our schools is complete with the exception of science.

Ms. Joseph stated that the district is required to report the amount of Title I, Title II and Title IV funding received in the district and our plan on how the money will be spent. The majority of the funds are used for staffing and professional development. Ms. Joseph will provide the Board with a more detailed report next month once she receives the final numbers from the state. Two years ago the district received \$596,000 for Title I and next year will be receiving approximately \$542,000. This is a trend across the state as federal funding is down. Two years ago we received \$109,000 for Title II and last year we received \$93,000 which is a significant decrease. A representative from the state told Ms. Joseph that the Title II funding would either remain the same or decrease by 5%. Title IV funding for this year was \$53,000 and will be increased to \$54,400 next year. Ms. Joseph will provide the Board with a more in-depth report next month to go over what this means to our programs and what may be shifted around due to the reduction in funds.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Board member Perkins reported that the Facilities Committee met to continue the discussion about the capital improvement projects. The committee's recommendation is that the funds be taken out of the reserve fund. The committee also discussed the need to formulate a committee to begin to look at our future elementary school building project so that we will be prepared. The committee would look at the overall needs, the future of our elementary schools, and possible sites for the new school.

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Manuel reported on the following:

- Phippsburg School held a surprise assembly on April 5th to recognize Laura Phelps for being awarded the 2019 Maine Association of School Librarians, Walter J. Taranko Award. The award is given in recognition of excellence in school library work within the State of Maine. It is awarded annually to a school librarian who embodies his traits: collaboration, advocacy, outreach, and mentoring. The award is given to librarians who have made significant contribution to the school librarian profession on the state or local level.
- JMG had their Annual Career Development Conference on March 26th. Congratulations to all the students that participated and represented Morse High School very well.
- Two Odyssey of the Mind teams will be going to Michigan to compete in the World Finals. Bath Middle School's 6th grade team took 3rd place and their 7th grade team placed 1st to qualify for the finals.
- Dane Dwyer was recognized at a recent Athletic Directors' conference and received the Excellence in Middle Level Athletic Administration award.

FINANCE REPORT

Business Manager Debra Clark provided the Board with the Financial Report for the month ending March 31, 2019. At the end of March we have spent \$19.6 million and encumbered \$7.9 million for salaries and benefit for the remainder of the year. At this point it appears that the district will be within the budget for all cost centers this year. Revenues are bringing in a little bit more interest on our investments. We have spent \$12.5 million on the Morse High School/BRCTC building project and are in the middle of putting together the paperwork for the bond sales. Once the rates come back in May, we will have a closing at the end of May and pay off the other two BANs. The Board will have a special meeting to go over the terms of agreement and interest rate once the document is complete.

REVIEW OF 2018-2019 BOARD GOALS

Board member Ritch-Smith reported that the Board attended a brief workshop before the meeting to talk about Schedule B positions as part of Goal 4. The workshop gave the Board a better understanding of the positions, the time required with each position, and the costs involved. The Board will continue to review the information provided and participate in future discussions. The monthly report on the construction project continues to keep everyone updated as part of Goal 1.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR FY '20 PROJECTS

The proposal to use some of the capital reserve funds to finance capital improvement projects over the summer was presented last month. The proposal was recommended by administration and requires a Board vote to use capital reserve funds. The estimate to complete the three projects is around \$275,000 which would leave \$75,000 in the capital reserve fund and an additional \$50,000 will be added to the capital account from the 2019-2020 budget.

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

TO: Authorize expenditure up to \$275,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund for the FY '20 projects as presented.

PUBLIC FORUM TO DISCUSS FY '20 PROPOSED BUDGET

Chairperson August opened the discussion and welcomed any input or questions from the public and the Board. The second reading of the budget where the Board accepts the budget and signs the warrants will take place on Monday, May 6th.

Superintendent Manuel stated that we will not be cutting any positions but we are looking at doing some things differently at some of the schools. We will be adding a behavior support program at the high school and an elementary interventionist at Dike-Newell and Fisher-Mitchell. These positions will be filled by a teacher in each building which will be cost neutral.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Superintendent Manuel announced the retirement of Suzanne Paule, Social Worker at Fisher-Mitchell School.

APPROVAL OF PROBATIONARY TEACHERS

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

TO: Approve the list of probationary teachers as presented.

APPROVAL OF MERRYMEETING ADULT EDUCATION AGREEMENT

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

TO: Approve the Interlocal Agreement for Shared Adult and Community Education Services in the form presented to this meeting to authorize the Superintendent to sign the interlocal agreement on behalf of the School Board and to authorize submission of the interlocal agreement to the Commissioner of Education for approval.

