

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37**  
**November 18, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of RSU/MSAD #37 was held at the Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School, Harrington, Maine, on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon the following items of business:

**Board Members Present:** Ronald Kennedy, Debra Murphy, Charles Peterson, Jr, Drusilla Ray, Michael W. Strout, Sally Thompson, and Mark Wright

**Board Members Absent:** Angela Alley, Everett Grant, Beth Hartford, Brandi Lovejoy, and Sarah Willson

**Other persons present:** Ronald Ramsay, Denise Vose, Lorna Greene, Susan Meserve, Lucille Willey, John Daley, Alfred Moore, Sr., Ron Green, Sara Ippolito, Mary Moore, and Dawn Fickett

**MINUTES**

**A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS**

1. **The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Debra Murphy. She noted that Directors Grant, Hartford, Lovejoy, and Willson are excused tonight due to other commitments.**
2. **RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 2015**  
**ACTION:** Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Ronald Kennedy, and voted (463-yes, 149-abstentions) to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2015 meeting as presented. (Ray and Wright abstained as they were absent from that meeting.)
3. **RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**  
**INFORMATION:** Supt. Ramsay reported that he attended the Supt. State Professional Development Committee meeting last week. They discussed the positive feedback from having Chris Cassidy, the astronaut from Maine, present at the MSMA Conference. The committee has decided it would like to make that a theme, and have annual speakers that are former Maine-educated students who have gone on to be very successful. Next year's speaker will be a U.S. Olympian with Maine roots.

He noted that Bill Beardsley is the acting commissioner of education at the present time, which is good; however, Mr. Beardsley has no intentions of accepting the permanent position. He makes the 7<sup>th</sup> commissioner that we have had in the last 5.5 years. Having no consistency in the Department of Education hurts the whole system. In order for education to move forward in the state, we need more consistent leadership.

It is hard to believe that we are already a third of the way through this fiscal year and a quarter of the way through the school year. We have had a few minor glitches, but otherwise it has been a good start.

He reported that he and John Daley attended the PVC meeting last week in Bangor. John noted that it went very well. They were prepared to speak on the issue of why we wanted to join the PVC. The committee was very receptive and agreeable to our joining. A vote was taken and it was approved to allow Narraguagus to join in the 2016 season. The schedule is being worked on now.

4. **RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR OCTOBER 2015**  
**INFORMATION:** As noted earlier, we have a third of the fiscal year behind us. There is about a 10% difference between the remaining budget and the remaining year. This is very good. We are in good shape

fiscally, and are fortunate, as many of the districts around us that Mr. Ramsay talks to are not in such a favorable position. This makes it hard to meet your financial obligations.

**5. RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS INFORMATION:**

- Athletics/Student Activities—Debra Murphy noted that the committee met before the board meeting tonight and has a recommendation for the board on new cheering coaches.
- Curriculum & Instruction—none
- Negotiations & Grievance—Michael W. Strout noted that the committee will be meeting in the near future to begin negotiations with teachers on a successor contract. Mr. Ramsay suggested that they meet before Christmas to establish ground rules. A date will be set up.
- Policy & By-laws—A meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Facilities, Maintenance, Safety, & Transportation—none

**6. RE: ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS INCLUDING NCLB/ESEA**

**INFORMATION:** Supt. Ramsay noted that Maria White is at the MPA Conference in Portland, which is why she is not here. She asked him to pass along the following: enrollment is at 111; the Holiday Concert will be on December 15<sup>th</sup>; there was good turnout for parent/teacher conferences; a Veterans' Day Program was held at Milbridge and was very good; she will be attending sessions on proficiency-based learning, legislative updates, and motivating staff at the MPA conference.

Lorna Greene reported that DW Merritt has 115 students. Teachers made 100% contact with parents during conferences, with most coming in to the school. The school held a ceremony for Veterans on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There were 50 parents/others that joined students today for the Thanksgiving dinner. The Boosters' Club held a bottle drive and raised over \$1,600. In Professional Development, the third Best Practices Session for new hires was held today at Harrington. Grade 5 teacher have a teacher round coming up on the 5<sup>th</sup>. She attended a meeting for NCLB-Title I last week. The state said that the federal government is pushing for more monitoring, which in turn means more paperwork for us. Gifted/Talented students attend a session on Egyptian animals at the Grand a couple of weeks ago.

Susan Meserve noted 141 are enrolled at Harrington. They just finished Red Ribbon Week activities, culminating with a "Sock It To Drugs" sock hop. The school garden was very productive this year. The kitchen even served potatoes one day that students grew! Grades 5 & 6 attended the Veterans' Day Program at Narraguagus. Grade 2 shared Thanksgiving dinner with parents today.

Denise Vose reported that she attended a recent MADSEC meeting, with topics on proficiency-based education, diplomas, updates on learning disabilities, transitioning to post-secondary education, as well as other sessions. She has attended 52 IEP meetings in October and November. The staff is getting ready for the site review later this year. The desk audit is due at the end of December, with the actual site visit scheduled for March. Ashley Cirone has been conducting the CPI training with staff.

Lucille Willey noted that enrollment at Narraguagus is 289. Teachers have formed task groups and are looking into several different areas such as beyond proficiency, growth mindset, troubleshooting proficiency-based effort, and software for tracking proficiency. National Honor Society induction was on October 29<sup>th</sup> with ten new members. The Gear Up College Visit trip on November 12 and 13 went well. Forty-one students went and feedback was very positive. Several other events have made for a busy month.

**7. RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

**ACTION:** Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to table this article as there are no adjustments necessary.

**B. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. RE: HIRING COACH FOR GRADE 3 & 4 BASKETBALL PROGRAM AT MILBRIDGE**

**ACTION:** Motion by Drusilla Ray, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to hire Donald Parker as the coach for the grade 3 & 4 basketball program at Milbridge as recommended by the Superintendent.

**2. RE: HIRING VARSITY CHEERING COACH AT NARRAGUAGUS**

**ACTION:** Motion by Drusilla Ray, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to hire Michelle Libby and Tracy Kafka as co-cheering coaches at Narraguagus as recommended by the Athletic Subcommittee and the superintendent.

**C. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. RE: HIRING SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIANS**

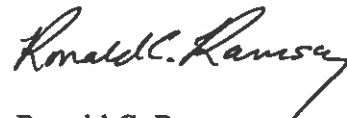
- a. Guy Pelletier
- b. Darren Pritchard

**ACTION:** Motion by Drusilla Ray, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve hiring Guy Pelletier and Darren Pritchard as substitute custodians as recommended by the Superintendent.

**2. RE: ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., and voted (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald C. Ramsay  
Secretary to the Board

**MEETING SUMMARY—November 18, 2015**

**A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS**

- 2. APPROVED the minutes of the 10/28/15 regular meeting;
- 7 TABLED agenda adjustment;

**B. OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. HIRED Donald Parker as grade 3 & 4 basketball coach at Milbridge;
- 2. HIRED Michelle Libby and Tracy Kafka as co-cheering coaches at Narraguagus;

**C. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. HIRED Guy Pelletier and Darren Pritchard as substitute custodians