

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37

October 30, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of RSU/MSAD #37 was held at DW Merritt Elementary School, Addison, Maine on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 to consider and act upon the following items of business:

Board Members Present: Jeffery Beal, Susan Beal, Chris Chartrand, Bethany Hartford, Grace Kennedy, Ronald Kennedy, Gary Magby, Debra Murphy, Vance Pineo, Jr., Dawn Robbins, and Mark Wright

Board Members Absent: Charles Peterson, Jr

Other persons present: Ronald Ramsay, Lorna Greene, Susan Meserve, Maria White, Mary Ellen Day, Ron Green, Lori Mathew, David Mathews, Ron Smith, Darlene Aarsand, DW Merritt Student Council members, Philip and Hilary Rusecky, Amanda Kowalsky, Dawn Fickett, and other citizens

MINUTES

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

1. **The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Vance Pineo, Jr.**
2. **RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2019 REGULAR MEETING**
ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Jeffery Beal, and voted (796-yes, 97-abstentions) to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2019 meeting as printed. (Hartford abstained as she was absent from the meeting.)
3. **RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**
INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay noted that we are near the end of the first quarter of the school year, which is hard to believe.~Over 650 educators from Washington County attended the Harvest of Ideas at UMM on October 15th. The Commissioner of Education spoke to the group virtually and was well received by those attending.~Last week, he attended the annual Superintendents' Meeting with MSSA, as well as the two-day MSMA Fall Conference. Directors Pineo and Wright were also able to attend. There were some good sessions that each attended. The final keynote speaker was the CEO of Cianbro. His speech was very inspiring. Supt. Ramsay was also able to connect with the head of their welding program, who is willing to help us when we get the CTE program up and running.~We now own the building for the CTE Program. The rough end of the building is in the process of being closed in. Still waiting for the bid specs for the interior work. We hope to have them very soon.~There were many new laws passed during the last legislative session, and a lot of them applied to education. A couple that will impact us are the teacher pay increase and public comments at board meetings. He just learned last week that the state will only subsidize the difference in the new mandated minimum salary for teachers hired in 19-20 and before; so if any new teachers are hired next year under that minimum amount, the district is responsible for coming up with the funds. He expects this to be looked at again during the next legislative session as there is quite an uprising over it, since no one was aware of this. Also, the board is now required to have an agenda article that allows the public to comment on any educational issue, whether on the agenda or not, unless it is specific to a student/teacher/etc. and would be considered confidential, slanderous, etc. We will be looking at policy revisions soon because of the changes to the laws.
4. **RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**
INFORMATION:
 - Athletics/Student Activities—None
 - Curriculum & Instruction—None
 - Negotiations & Grievance—None
 - Policy & By-laws—We will be scheduling a meeting soon to begin work on policy revisions.

- Facilities, Maintenance, Safety, & Transportation—none

5. RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS/REPORT FROM RHR SMITH

INFORMATION: Ron Smith, of RHR Smith Accounting, provided an overview of the district's FY19 financial audit. He noted that the district is financially sound with good accounting practices. The undesignated balance is healthy, and he recommended designating some of that in the future to specific projects such as capital funding, special education, etc.

Supt. Ramsay noted that the September 2019 financials show us right where we should be at this point of the fiscal year.

6. RE: ADMIN REPORTS INCLUDING ESSA, G/T, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

INFORMATION: Lorna Greene welcomed everyone to DW Merritt. **Professional Development**—She shared the district's PD history from 1995-present showing all the various trainings, meetings, etc. that we have held. **ESEA**—We are currently serving 187 Title IA students with math and reading supports. **G/T**—Grade 7-12 G/T students visited Treworgy Orchards on October 11th. **School**—DW Merritt has 106 students enrolled. Members of the Student Council presented information on what their organization has been involved in. This included raising funds for cancer research, Red Ribbon & Safety Week with a focus on fire safety, police safety, school bus safety, internet safety, and drug/alcohol safety. They have also been involved in peer tutoring, helping with lunch serving, book buddies, field day, and many other events.

Susan Meserve reported that Harrington Elementary has been very busy. Enrollment is at 147. Students raised \$1,247 with their Walk for a Cure. The Fire Department visited on October 16th, and three students were chosen to ride to school in a fire truck on the 28th. Other events this month included PreK Family Fun Night, Bus Evacuation Drills, Grades 2 & 3 field trip to the Cole Museum as part of a Reading Recovery Grant, Spook Night, Edge Family Night, Sock-tober Sock drive, and Red Ribbon Week with "Kindness is Contagious" as the theme. The staff will dress up tomorrow as Mother Goose and characters from her rhymes.

Maria White noted that Milbridge has 134 enrolled. They hosted another successful Island Readers and Writers workshop. The topic was birds in Maine. Students learned about Maine birds and did an essay/sketch on specific ones. Grades 4-6 did an author workshop and received signed copies of Annette Cate's book, "Look Up." The soccer team won the Jr. High Championship, and the Grades 1-5 Girls' Cross-Country Team won first place. Some students from the school have fall artwork on display at Bayside. The school's Thanksgiving Dinner is on November 19th, and she invited anyone that would like to join them to come. Students are served the meal by the adults, and then the adults eat after this.

Mary Ellen Day reported an enrollment of 307 at Narraguagus, with 199 in grades 9-12 and 108 in 7/8 grades. The PTSG hosted a Donut Drive Thru, giving out donuts to parents, students, and bus drivers as they arrived at the school. The soccer and volleyball teams both raised money for cancer, which will be split among some local individuals who are battling cancer. Other activities for the month included fire drills were held during Fire Prevention Week, PSAT testing for grades 9-11, FAFSA night for Seniors, bus evacuations for grades 7 & 8, Fall Sports Banquet, and National Honor Society inductions. Fall sports are wrapping up and winter sports begin November 18th. The Veterans' Day Program will be held on November 8th and all are invited to attend.

7. RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Debra Murphy, and voted (unanimously) to table this article as there are no adjustments to be made.

B. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. RE: HIRING SUBSTITUTES

ACTION: Motion by Debra Murphy, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to approve the following substitute teachers as recommended by Supt. Ramsay: Donna Haire, Marla Jordan, Amy Parker, and Lisa Sproul.

2. RE: HIRING LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE FOR GRADES 5/6 AT MILBRIDGE

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to approve Lucille Willey as a long-term sub for Grades 5/6 at Milbridge.

3. RE: APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT FOR NHS GIRLS' BASKETBALL

ACTION: Motion by Debra Murphy, second by Mark Wright, and voted (796-yes, 97-abstentions) to approve Nick Kennedy as a volunteer assistant for NHS Girls' Basketball as recommended by the Supt.

4. RE: HIRING JR. HIGH BASKETBALL AND CHEERING COACHES

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Debra Murphy, and voted (unanimously) to approve the following coaches for jr. high basketball and cheering:

DW Merritt: Sally MacLean, boys' basketball; Nancy McCarthy, girls' basketball

Harrington: Tyler Tenney, boys' basketball; Jeffery Chick, girls' basketball

Milbridge: Rick Parker, boys' basketball; Don Parker, girls' basketball

Jr. High District Cheering: Dayna Barker

5. RE: ACCEPTANCE OF BID FOR SNOWPLOWING/SANDING AT CTE SITE

ACTION: Motion by Jeffery Beal, second by Dawn Robbins, and voted (unanimously) to accept the bid from Osborne Davis to plow/sand the CTE site in Columbia at a price of \$200 per storm for plowing and \$125 for sanding as needed.

6. RE: ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Motion by Jeffery Beal and voted (unanimously) to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald C. Ramsay
Secretary to the Board

MEETING SUMMARY, October 30, 2019

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

2. APPROVED minutes of the 9/25/19 regular meeting;
7. TABLED agenda adjustment;

B. OLD BUSINESS-None

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. HIRED Donna Haire, Marla Jordan, Amy Parker, and Lisa Sproul as sub teachers;
2. HIRED Lucille Willey as long-term sub for grades 5/6 at Milbridge;
3. APPROVED Nick Kennedy as girls' basketball volunteer assistant at NHS;
4. HIRED jr. high basketball/cheering coaches;
5. ACCEPTED CTE snowplow/sanding bid from Osborne Davis