

**MAINE REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #50**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2017**  
**MINUTES**  
**SOUTHERN AROOSTOOK COMMUNITY SCHOOL**  
**6:30 P.M.**

Board members present: Russell Beauchemin, Barbara Burton, Robin Crandall, John Ellis, Laura Farnsworth, Kasandra Foster, Leslie Gardner, Larry Greenlaw, Desiree Harrison, Nicole Mitchell, Stephen Porter, John Qualey, Nate Richardson, Greg Ryan and new Board member from Merrill – Paula Stevens.

Others staff present: Brittany Brewer, Dennis and Cody Brackett, Gerard Guilbeault, Rowena Harvey, Doris Mooney, Jon Porter, Dale Pratt, Marie Robinson, Eryn Schmidt, Elaine Small, Holly Vining and Jessica Walker.

Others present: Terry Hill, Steve Gould, Andrew Kaye, Linda Craig, Rebecca Phillips, Bonnie Pratt, Becky Boone, Alicia McNally and Richard Schmidt.

1. Call the Meeting to Order and Flag Salute:  
The meeting was called to order by co-chair, Stephen Porter at 6:30 p.m.; the flag salute followed.  
  
The new Board member from Merrill, Paula Stevens was introduced.
2. Approval of the Minutes:  
Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 10, 2017.  
Moved to accept by: Robin Crandall  
Seconded by: Laura Farnsworth  
Vote: Greg Ryan abstained
3. Time Period to Hear from Citizens: Dennis Brackett addressed the Board and asked to speak after item 9b. "Approval of the Consolidated Bus Garage Inter-Local Agreement" as introduced for discussion.
4. Adjustment(s) to the Agenda:  
Add item 9d. "To approve Phase 1 of the Regional Service Center application"
5. Reports
  - a. Board Co-Chair:
  - b. Board Co-Chair: Leslie expressed her excitement on moving forward to "make the right choices for kids".
  - c. Committee Reports –
    - Building & Grounds: scheduled for Dec. 7 at 5:30 at KES
    - Education: Met on Nov. 2 at 5:30 p.m.
    - Finance: Finance Committee met at 5:30 and signed warrants
    - Negotiations: scheduled to meet with Support Staff representatives on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at SACS.

Policy: Committee met on October 23; see items 7 and 8.

Region II: Robin shared that Cathy Bither, long-time instructor of the Food Prep course at Region II, is a finalist for a Lifetime Achievement Award and will travel to Nashville to compete and be honored.

- d. Principals: Mrs. Robinson invited Board members to attend the ASP Play – *You're Driving Me Crazy* on Friday at 6:30 p.m. Russell Beauchemin inquired regarding the current reading program at KES: Non Fiction vs Fiction. He also asked Mr. Porter about the Maine Quiz Bowl and suggested that perhaps that become a stipended position for another year.
- e. Special Services Director: N/A
- f. Business Manager: informed the Board of the upcoming 2016-2017 audit scheduled on Nov. 14 and 16.
- g. Nutrition Program: N/A
- h. Superintendent:

Jon Ellis requested that it be noted in the Minutes of this meeting that any/all capital expenditures come before the Board for approval going forward for the remainder of the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

The Superintendent expressed the importance, as RSU 50 moves forward, to continue to have the full Board support and the cooperation of all Board members.

6. Announcement of Appointments:

Support Staff and Co-Curricular Appointments:

Brandon McCarthy: Volunteer for Girls Varsity Basketball at SACS

7. First Reading of Policies:

IHBAI: Special Education Independent Evaluation Policy

JKB: Detention of Students

Moved to accept for a First Reading by: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Robin Crandall

Vote: Unanimous

8. Second Reading/Review/Adoption of policy:

The following policies were reviewed for any conflicting language:

IKCA: Academic Recognition for Graduates of Katahdin High School  
Policy to be replaced by IKD

IKD: Academic Recognition

Reviewed for conflicting language and accepted

IKF: Graduation Requirements

To be further researched

Moved to accept the recommendations of the Policy Committee: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Robin Crandall

After some discussion and public comments, it was agreed to withdraw the motion and continue to further discuss policy IKCA: Academic Recognition for Graduates of Katahdin High School.

9. Other Business – Old/New

a. Nomination by the Superintendent of Meagan Brooks as 9-12 Special Education Teacher at SACS.

Moved to accept the nomination by: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Robin Crandall

Vote: Unanimous

b. Approval of Consolidated Bus Garage Inter-local Agreement

Moved by Greg Ryan that the Board of RSU 50 vote to authorize the Inter-Local Agreement to establish the Southern Aroostook Area Regional Transportation Facility on behalf of RSU 50, as it will exist on July 1, 2018 following the withdrawal of the Towns of Mt. Chase, Sherman, Patten and Stacyville and that the new RU 89 be in no way responsible or liable for this action.

Seconded by: Russell Beauchemin

Vote: 10 yes, 5 abstentions

Dennis Brackett addressed the Board and those attending with his views regarding the consolidated bus garage and that, in his opinion, the logistics of this plan cannot work. His arguments were several:

there will be no savings; it will cost money, the service will be gone, there is not enough information to act.

c. MSMA Conference Report out by those attending: the Superintendent expressed his appreciation for those attending the conference. This was followed by a brief report from those members.

Steve reported on the clinic sessions he attended some of which included: School Law, how technology and social media have affected student rights and discipline, the 279 funding formula, special education for board members, student achievement.

Kasandra – felt that her opportunity to attend was “a bit overwhelming” and she thoroughly enjoyed it! Clinics she attended included: bullying and cyberbullying, how legalizing marijuana affects schools;

Laura: totally enjoyed the session on Spirit – how to talk to kids about really big ideas and the serious aspects of these discussions. She suggested that the group that presented might be utilized by schools in the RSU with a semester workshop through a grant from humanities.

Larry: found the presentation of school budgeting and the 279 funding very interesting. He talked of building professional relationships and how to address the Delegate Assembly, as well as insurance issues and collective bargaining.

The Superintendent reported on the opportunities presented at the conference from vendors statewide

He informed the Board that he will be attending the Regional High School Update Session in Augusta on Thursday this week and the Small Schools Coalition in Bangor on Friday.

A letter from a concerned parent was circulated to Board members regarding the lack of a qualified, full-time music director at SACS.

The Superintendent confirmed that the district continues to search for a certified music teacher however, in the interim he commended Mrs. Noyes on her work and congratulated her and all of the 9 students for their acceptance into the All Aroostook Festival to be held in January at Ashland High School.

d. Approval of Phase 1 of the Regional Service Center application

Moved by Barbara Burton that the Board of RSU 50 vote to authorize the submission of a Part I application to the Maine Department of Education to form a regional service center on behalf of RSU 50, as it will exist on July 1, 2018 following the withdrawal of the Towns of Mt. Chase, Sherman, Patten and Stacyville and that the new RU 89 be in no way responsible or liable for this action.

Seconded by: Robin Crandall

Vote: Unanimous

10. Future Agenda Items

Board Evaluation of the Superintendent – handout to be returned for December meeting. These forms should be returned to co-chair Stephen Porter before the December Board meeting.

11. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| - Building and Grounds Comm. | Thurs. Dec. 7 @ 5:30 p.m. at KES |
| - Finance Committee          | Mon. Dec. 11 @ 5:30 p.m. at KES  |
| - Regular Board Meeting      | Mon. Dec. 11 @ 6:30 p.m. at KES  |
| - Region II Board Meeting    | Tues. Dec. 12 @ 6:00 p.m.        |
| - Policy Meeting             | No Policy Meeting in December    |

12. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Todd LeRoy, Superintendent RSU #50