

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37
February 26, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of RSU/MSAD #37 was held at Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School, Harrington, Maine on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 to consider and act upon the following items of business:

Board Members Present: Susan Beal, Chris Chartrand, Grace Kennedy, Ronald Kennedy, Gary Magby, Debra Murphy, Charles Peterson, Jr., Vance Pineo, Jr., Dawnette Robbins, and Mark Wright

Board Members Absent: Jeffery Beal, Beth Hartford

Other persons present: Ronald Ramsay, Todd Emerson, MaryEllen Day, Maria White, Lorna Greene, Susan Meserve, Denise Vose, Laurie Lee, Tiffany Strout, Emma Redimarker, Levi Shaw, Alyssa Lee, Ron Green, Sara Ippolito

AGENDA

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Vance Pineo, Jr.

Spotlight: Three Narraguagus High School students spoke about their upcoming military service. Emma Redimarker will be joining the Coast Guard striving to become a rescue diver. Levi Shaw will be joining the Air Force with plans to become a Boom Operator. Alyssa Lee will also be joining the Air Force hoping to attain a position in the medical field with future goals of achieving a BA in nursing. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the three spotlight students.

Tiffany Strout asked to be able to speak upon meeting items however she did not have anything particular in mind.

2. RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 29, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

ACTION: Motion by Debra Murphy, second by Gary Magby, and voted (unanimously) to approve the minutes as presented.

3. RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)

INFORMATION: Mr. Ramsay indicated the demolition for the CTE building was mostly done and we would be heading into Phase II soon. Phase II includes the negotiated price of construction which has not yet been finalized. However, equipment pricing has begun and, as of last Thursday, the end of July is still the promised date for completion.

According to the preliminary ED279 we will be receiving an increase of \$250,000 more than last year. The first budget meeting is set for March 18th.

Legislative updates: There is a new State mandate of having breakfast available after the school bell has rung. We will need to increase participation by 70% (10% each year). Mr. Ramsay stated concern over meeting that goal.~There is a new Federal compliance for ELL for any tier 1 student (limited English) which would make is mandatory for these students to received 2 periods per day of ELL instruction by a certified ELL teacher. Currently, the District only has one certified ELL teacher. His concern with this mandate would be possible budget and staffing issues.~Title I is being significantly cut. We will not be able to run our Title I program as it currently stands. Mr. Ramsay stated he sees two options to help offset this decrease. Option 1 could be to reduce personnel which would cut the program back. Option 2 would be to partially fund the programs with additional local funds. On top of the decrease in Title I funds, the other Title programs are also seeing a decrease in the amount of funding, which cuts into the amount being transferred into Title I programs.

Discussion: Director Pineo asked where Machias is with the Director of CTE position. Mr. Ramsay stated the ad is still running.

4. RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS INFORMATION:

- Athletics/Student Activities—Director Murphy stated the Athletics/Student Activities committee met on Feb. 24th and discussed the future of Jr./Sr. High Athletics. The meeting was well attended with approximately 35 people at the open forum. While most of the discussion was geared toward the basketball programs, it was noted that all sports should be included in the discussion. It was noted that peer encouragement would most likely encourage or provide an increase in student participation. There was stated a need for improved communications. Also discussed was the lack of skilled and knowledgeable applicants. Due to lack of time and gym space during basketball season, grades 7 and 8 must go back to the Elementary schools to practice.

Director Magby asked about a mandate or contract which he thought was in place 10 years ago which coaches needed to sign. Mr. Ramsay said there was a coaches' agreement which could be made available for review that outlined expectations of the coaches.

Next steps: Director Murphy agreed changes are needed and Director Pineo said there would be continued discussions on this topic.

- Curriculum & Instruction—Did not meet
- Negotiations & Grievance—Committee met and Director Wright indicated this would be taken up in an action item on the current agenda.
- Policy & By-laws—Did not meet
- Facilities, Maintenance, Safety, & Transportation—Met to discuss CTE which Mr. Ramsay discussed in article three.

5. RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INFORMATION: Mr. Ramsay stated the January financial statements indicated approximately 41% of the budget remained which is where the District should be at this point. Going forward expenses would be closely reviewed to ensure a proper carryover balance would be available for next year.

6. RE: ADMIN REPORTS INCLUDING ESEA, G/T, PD, & SPECIAL ED INFORMATION:

Sp. Ed. Director Denise Vose reported there are 160 special education students and 20 504 students. Things are going smoothly at this time. Director Peterson asked for clarification regarding the Child Find policy. Mrs. Vose indicated this was a state mandated revision which would not necessarily change the way we currently do things. Director Wright asked about the rumors of increase in Sp. Ed. Funding. Mrs. Vose said she was also hearing those rumors but at this time there are no facts published to corroborate an increase in funding. Mr. Ramsay stated the current preliminary ED279 does not show an increase in Sp. Ed. Funding.

Mrs. Meserve stated there are currently 136 students attending Harrington Elementary. On Feb. 7th they held an honor roll and attendance assembly which was well attended. The county spelling bee was hosted at HES where Chase Willey earned first place. Noah Alicea claimed runner up. Pee Wee basketball is underway. This Friday the Chewonki Bugmobile will be at HES.

Mrs. Greene stated there are 110 students at D.W. Merritt. Students will begin a Coins for Cancer Challenge with all proceeds going to the Beth C. Wright Cancer Center. Top fundraisers will be able to participate in a Knock-Out Bowling or Basketball game. Prizes will be awarded also. The school also had a Valentines' Day party and sock hop. Students participated in the Maine Constitution Essay and Poster Contest. Mrs. Greene noted that Pee Wee basketball has begun.

- Professional Development- On Feb. 14th staff discussed the District book study, *Fostering Resilient Learners*.
- ESEA there are 190 participants
- Gifted and Talented – funds from this have paid for eleven early college classes as well as required textbooks.

Mrs. White stated there are 136 students attending Milbridge Elementary (MES). Pee Wee basketball is underway. Grade 6 students refurbished the trail around the school and benches were made. They plan on putting up bird houses around the trail, too. 39 students were on the honor roll. A retired Milbridge teacher, Becky Torrey referred a friend and MES became the recipient of a \$15,400 award. These funds will be used to purchase supplies, books and educational programs for MES. Also, \$10,000 has been earmarked to award as a scholarship to a Milbridge student pursuing a career in teaching. Jane Bell, an autism specialist, spoke to staff and provided best practices. The carpet on the stage was replaced.

Mrs. Day indicated there are 301 students attending NJSHS of these 192 are Sr. High and 109 are Jr. High. On Jan. 11th the school was in a 'soft lock down' due to a threat received regarding Sen. Collins impeachment vote. The Sherriff's Dept. was present on that day and the following week. Mrs. Day received positive feedback from parents and students regarding the School's and District's handling of the threat. Kaci Alley was recognized for joining the "1000 point" club. "Forever Passes" were presented to Lucille Willey for her years of service and Heather Thompson for being the first Gold Ball Basketball Coach. Lisa Cauros the CEO of Harrington Family Health Center met with faculty on Feb. 14th to talk about what services the Center can provide. The Winter Sports Athletic Banquet was held on the 25th. Rowan Michaud was both a Gold Key and honorable mention in the 2020 Maine Regional Scholastics Writing Awards with a short story entitled "Letters to the Barrows". Lydia DeSchiffart was awarded a Gold Key in the 2020 Maine Regional Scholastics Art Award for her jewelry "Elemental Stole". This is on exhibit at the Maine College of the Art in Portland. Mrs. Day also let the board know that the seniors had been advised of their rank before vacation. Kaci Alley will be the Valedictorian and Aryanna Beal the Salutatorian.

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: CONSIDERATION OF 2nd READING OF POLICY REVISION-IHBAC CHILD FIND

ACTION: Motion by Mark Wright, second by Dawn Robbins, and voted (unanimously) to approve the 2nd reading of IHBAC Child Find. This now becomes the district's revised policy.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. RE: HIRING SPRING COACHES AT NARRAGUAGUS

ACTION: Tiffany Strout asked about softball and baseball coaches for 7&8. Mr. Ramsay said we have not yet posted these positions. Ms. Strout asked if there will again be a Knights 7&8 team instead of having individual Elementary teams. Mr. Ramsay said the teams will depend on the number of students interested in playing.

Motion by Debra Murphy, second by Grace Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to approve the following spring coaches at Narraguagus:

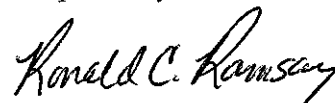
Bradley Cirone, Varsity Baseball	Tracie Martin, Varsity Softball
Daniel Kane, Baseball Volunteer Assistant	Lynn Lyford, JV Softball
Tricia Brown, Track & Field	Lanie Perry, Softball Volunteer Assistant
Corrie Hunkler, Track & Field Assistant	

2. RE: APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF 2-YEAR ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTS THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022

ACTION: a. Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Dawn Robbins, and voted (unanimously) to approve the extension of the contract of Maria Frankland, Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School Guidance Counselor.

- b. Motion by Mark Wright, second by Debra Murphy, and voted (unanimously) to approve the extension of the contract of Lorna Greene, DW Merritt Elementary Principal.
 - c. Motion by Mark Wright, second by Ronald Kennedy, and voted (unanimously) to approve the extension of the contract of Susan Meserve, Harrington Elementary Principal.
 - d. Motion by Mark Wright, second by Charles Peterson, Jr., and voted (unanimously) to approve the extension of the contract of Denise Vose, Special Education Director.
 - e. Motion by Grace Kennedy, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve the extension of the contract of Maria White, Milbridge Elementary Principal.
3. **RE: HIRING EVENING CUSTODIAN FOR HARRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to table this article.
4. **RE: APPROVAL OF JMG OVERNIGHT TRIP**
ACTION: Mr. Ramsay noted that this trip is an annual one with no obvious deviations from previous years' trips. Motion by Ronald Kennedy, second by Dawn Robbins, and voted (unanimously) to approve the JMG overnight trip.
5. **CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO WITHDRAW DAYS FROM ED TECH SICK BANK**
ACTION: Motion by Grace Kennedy, second by Dawn Robbins, and voted (unanimously) to approve the request from Thania Hernandez to withdraw 12 days from the ed tech sick leave bank, as she has met the criteria to do so.
6. **RE: APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATOR AND SUPPORT NEGOTIATIONS FOR 2020-2021**
ACTION: Director Wright said the percentage increase mimics what is negotiated in the Teacher Contract. Director Peterson questioned the translation into percentage increase of the three dollar-increase amounts requested. While Mr. Ramsay could not provide a definitive percentage increase for two, he indicated the Transportation Director suggested increase was 8%. Director Peterson stated he could not support that amount of increase for that position.
- Motion by Mark Wright, second by Debra Murphy, and voted (699-yes, 108-no) to approve the administrator and support negotiations for 2020-2021 as follows:
- High School Athletic Director Stipend (TM)—increase stipend by \$2,000
 - Assistant to Superintendent (DF)—increase salary by \$2,000
 - Transportation Director (LM)—increase salary to \$32,500; increase bus driver wages by 2.75% as other support staff
 - Administrators--2.75% increase in pay
 - Condense the secretary scales to one Administrative Assistant scale
 - Support Staff—Increase all scales by 2.75% and place employees on appropriate step; those already at the top of the scale and beyond will receive a 2.75% increase to their present hourly wage
7. **RE: ADJOURNMENT**
ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., and voted (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald C. Ramsay
 Secretary to the Board

MEETING SUMMARY, January 29, 2020

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

2. APPROVED minutes of the 1/29/2020 regular meeting;
7. TABLED agenda adjustment;

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACCEPTED 2nd reading of revised policy IHBAC—now become district policy

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. HIRED spring coaches at NHS: B. Cirone, baseball; T. Martin, softball; L. Lyford, JV softball; D. Kane, volunteer asst. for baseball; L. Perry, volunteer asst. for softball; T. Brown, Track & Field; C. Hunkler, Track & Field Asst.;
2. EXTENDED contracts of administrators to June 30, 2022: Frankland, Greene, Meserve, Vose, and White;
3. TABLED hiring evening custodian at Harrington;
4. APPROVED the JMG overnight trip;
5. APPROVED request from T. Hernandez to draw from ed tech sick bank; and,
6. APPROVED administrator and support negotiations for 2020-2021.