

**MAPLE RUN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
July 20, 2016**

6:00 SACS Library – immediately following the FCSU Board Meeting

Present for a Quorum:

Nilda Gonnella-French, Al Corey, Michael Malone, James Farr, Nina Hunsicker, Steven LaRosa

Unable to Attend: Mike L'Esperance, Martha Casavant-Ries, Denise Smith, Jack McCarthy

Administrators: Kevin Dirth, Superintendent; Sean O'Dell, Curriculum Director; Kathy Finck, Human Resources Director; Martha Gagner, Business Manager; Julie Regimbal, Special Education Director; Michelle Spence, Early Childhood Programs Director; Joan Cavallo, SACS Principal; Georgie Andrews, SACS Assistant Principal.

1. **Call to Order** – James Farr called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Al Corey made a motion to approve the agenda; second by Michael Malone. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Visitors**

A. Introductions - Directors and Administrators introduced themselves.

B. St. Albans City School Tour & Information – Joan Cavallo explained that the timing wasn't great for a tour due to some construction, and asked that she give a limited tour today and a more thorough tour the next time the Board meets here. Ms. Cavallo presented the school's mission statement: St. Albans City; Safe, Achieving and Caring. Where Everyone Counts and Kindness Matters. She explained that the water bottle that was provided to the Board members is also provided to all students so that they always have access to clean water at the water station. She went on to explain who they are, and how the staff is structured. They run an extended day/extended year program. They have 30 acres of land, most of which is in the Town, but most of the building is in the City. The land plays a really big role in the school and is part of the education: It is used to teach. They are structured into learning communities. She expressed that relationships are everything and that is how they run the school. They focus on the whole child. Ms. Cavallo gave a tour of the building and grounds.

5. **Consent Agenda**

C. Approval of Minutes of July 6, 2016 – Mr. Farr asked if there was a need to remove the minutes from the consent agenda for discussion or changes. Hearing none, the minutes are adopted.

6. **Old Business**

D. Retreat/Training Review - Board members reported that it will be good when we get a quiet air conditioner in the FCSU Board Room. They found the training useful. There is hope that the next part will be more of the mechanics of what needs to be done. There will be a link sent out for input before the next training session.

E. Logo – The logo that was presented last meeting has been tweaked. Kathy Finck reported that some professionals in the field suggested making more definition between the letters, and there is a way to have gradations of color to look better in

black and white. Dr. Dirth said that once the Board selects the font style and color we will have it professionally done. Board members said that they liked the lower case, not all caps, and liked the veins in the leaf, and soften the box, a strong maple leaf. Maple Leaf in red with vein, Maple Run in green, font on one, color and type of leaf on number 2 (with the stem), and more space between the M and the R. Unified School District not bold and maybe not box, and try sentence case for all.

F. Policies Possible Adoption – The following policies were reviewed last meeting and have been warned for adoption:

- F1. A1 Board Member Conflict of Interest
- F2. A21 Public Participation at Board Meetings
- F3. B1 Substitute Teachers
- F4. B2 Volunteers and Work Study Students
- F5. B3 Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace
- F6. B5 Employee/Non-Employee Harassment
- F7. B6 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Compliance
- F8. B7 Tobacco Prohibition
- F9. C1 Education Records
- F10. C3 Transportation
- F11. C4 English Language Learners

Michael Malone moved to adopt policies A1, A21, B1, B2, B3, B5, B6, B7, C1, C3 and C4 as presented; second by Al Corey. The motion carried unanimously.

7. **New Business**

G. Policies for review – the following policies have been posted and warned for review/first reading – seeking a motion to warn for adoption (with changes if made) at the next meeting:

- G1. C2 Student Alcohol and Drugs – comments included that the Board should be copied on the report; regulated drug should be changed to clarify not to include Dr. Prescription like unauthorized or define under the influence. Line 33, specific organization should not be included, and be changed to approved, qualified agencies.
- G2. C6 Participation of Home Study Students – looks good as is.
- G3. C7 Student Attendance – looks good as is.
- G4. C8 Protection of Pupil Rights – line 27 specifies surveys from department of education, and it was questioned why not others. This wording is directly from statute, so it should be left as is.
- G5. C9 Wellness Policy – line 32, what is meant by appropriate grades or recess periods. Maybe make it clear that this is a pre K – 12 policy. Kathy will speak with the building principals to be sure it works.
- G6. C10 Harassment Hazing Bullying – Comments included line 203 and 189 should read MRUSD not FCSU. Line 225 in appendix title guidance misaligned and there are some changes in positions. Line 9 gender identity or expression. Line 65 the word intended was discussed and Julie Regimbal explained that this is determined by a trained investigator, thus the importance of training an investigator.
- G7. D1 Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirement

Michael Malone moved to warn policies C2, C6, C7, C8, C9, C10, and D1 with changes as indicated for approval at a future Board meeting; second by Al Corey. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Enosburg – James Farr spoke to the issue of an agreement with FNESU to exchange students between BFA and Enosburg High Schools, but they didn't unify. Michael Malone asked if we could try to have an agreement anyways. Mr. Farr said that we should be all set for a few years because of grandfathering students and Act 129; and to see what they do and take it from there. We will keep an eye on it as we move forward.

I. Negotiations – James Farr said he will be meeting with a few of the Association members to discuss how we begin moving forward with unification and bargaining agreements.

J. Municipal Retirement – Kathy Finck explained that premature public knowledge of this issue could put all parties at a substantial disadvantage.

Michael Malone made a motion to move this to executive session; second by Steven LaRosa. The motion carried unanimously.

K. Non-union salaries for FY18

Nilda Gonnella-French made a motion to table non-union salary schedules for FY18 until the next meeting; second by Michael Malone. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Other Business

L. Administrator Reports – City Report was given at the beginning of the meeting.

M. Superintendent's Report - Kevin Dirth reported that convocation is coming along, and at the August retreat, all administrators will be getting together to create a proposal for Administrator reports/attendance at the Maple Run Board meetings.

9. Agenda Items for Future Meeting – non-union salary schedules, policies, negotiations.

10. Potential Executive Session (Action)

Michael Malone made a motion to enter executive session at 9:08 to discuss municipal retirement which was previously found to qualify; second by Nilda Gonnella-French. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive session ended at 9:30 p.m.

11. Adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Brenda Comstock