

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #38 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(meeting via Zoom)
May 20, 2020
Minutes of Meeting

Members Present: Chair Gary Carr, Vice Chair Wendy Brotherlin, Kim Bowie, Patty Gordon, Cathy Jacobs, Rebecca Lambert, Betty Morrell, Shawn Roderick, David Twitchell, Alexander Wright
Member Absent: Melissa Tobin, (two vacant positions)
Administrators: Superintendent James Charette, Principals Jeff Boston, Dwayne Conway, Janet Delmar, Abbie Hartford, Kristen Levesque, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Nancy Harriman, Technology Director Diane MacGregor, Finance Manager Brigette Williams

1. Call to Order:

Chair Carr called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Superintendent Charette announced, in accordance with An Act to Implement Provisions Necessary to the Health, Welfare and Safety of the Citizens of Maine, in Response to the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency, as enacted, the RSU #38 Board meeting will be held via Zoom. It will be recorded and posted on Maranacook.org YouTube channel.

Due to the change in the format of this Board of Directors meeting, please be aware that during the course of this meeting the “microphones” of the viewing audience will be muted except during the identified portions of public comments which are Items 2 and 7c. If members of the public have questions or comments that fall outside the appropriate public participation times, please call the Superintendent’s Office or email the superintendent or any board member and answers will be provided as soon as possible.

Attendance and all votes of the Board will be conducted through roll call. When your name is called please cast your vote with the 3 available options of yes (approve), no (disapprove) or abstain.

2. Presentation/Update: Graduation 2020, Dwayne Conway

Dr. Conway provided an overview of plans for graduation.

3. Citizens’ Comments: none

4. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda by Board and/or Superintendent:

Chair Carr reported on a recent meeting of the Maine School Boards Association (MSBA).

Mr. Roderick inquired about offering the school lunch through the summer, stating there has been a waiver to allow this. Superintendent Charette responded he would talk with Mr. Roderick, stating there are a few things that need to be consider. Ms. Jacobs stated she would also like to hear Mr. Charette’s thoughts. Superintendent Charette will send an email or report at the next meeting. Ms. Bowe added the food pantry group will be meeting to see what they can do.

Mrs. Morrell asked about continuing school learning over the summer. Will the on-line programs continue to be available? Superintendent Charette replied those accounts will not be available after June 30th. Technology Director Diane MacGregor added there is more to think about than paying to continue the programs through the summer. It also means students will

need the equipment, the mobile hotspots, staff needs to have plans for Rtl students and the most vulnerable students. It would need to be monitored.

Dr. Carr added the idea of possibly school starting earlier, but it would need to be negotiated with the union.

Mr. Roderick asked about plans should there be another outbreak in the fall; is there money in the budget if that happens? Superintendent Charette responded they are looking at all options and there will be CARES money to use for this. He is in the process of putting teams together to address these points so we are prepared in the fall for as many eventualities as possible.

5. Action Items:

a. Approval of Minutes of May 6, 2020

MOTION by Brotherlin, second by Morrell to approve the Minutes of May 6, 2020 as presented. Chair Carr noted a correction on page 2, 4b, the last sentence should read, "Dr. Carr added the new statement included in section K applies to items H to L, and it should be moved following the sentence before H. The motion carried with the revision.

Roll Call Vote: **Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 0 opposed

b. Motion to authorize use of funds for Class of 2020

MOTION by Brotherlin, to provide an exception to policy DFF for the Class of 2020 due to the COVID-19 health care crisis precluding project graduation, as follows:

1. The Class of 2020 account be maintained until the end of school year 2025, after which remaining funds be transferred to the scholarship fund, unless further extended by the school board; 2. The expenditures from the class 2020 account be approved by the high school principal; 3. The events funded from the Class of 2020 account might not be covered by the district's insurance and that the district will not pay for insurance; and 4. The provisions of Policy DFF apply to the extent not inconsistent with the Board vote. The motion was second by Morrell.

Mrs. Bowe asked to discuss the policy itself stating it was last revised in 2015. Superintendent Charette replied this policy was on the docket to be reviewed this school year, but in talking with the Policy Committee, he was gathering information on fundraising in the district. Since normal fundraising that takes place in the spring did not happen, the plan is to bring this forward for review in the fall. This motion is for the Class of 2020 only. Discussion ensued about PTO groups and guidelines. Further investigation will be done regarding Mrs. Bowe's questions.

Question was asked regarding the statement that the account be maintained until 2025? Superintendent Charette responded that in talking with the parent group that did the fundraising, everyone said reasonable time, and he thought 5 years gives them plenty of time to plan things in the future.

Roll Call Vote: **Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 0 opposed

6. Budget Workshop:

a. Updates: Chair Carr stated there were no updates.

Dr. Carr shared some paperwork dealing with the distribution of funds. He asked board members to review the spreadsheet that shows a different way of assigning students to the district, having them appear in the town they reside not the school they attend. This does not change the budget line. He referred to Policy JCA, which states that students are assigned to the

district in the town in which they reside. It was agreed to look further into the way students are assigned in the district prior to the next budget season.

b. Deliberations, follow-up and decision making: none

c. Vote on 2020-2021 RSU 38 Budget:

MOTION by Brotherlin, second by Wright to approve the FY21 budget in the amount of \$18,912, 819.00 as presented.

Roll Call Vote: **Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 0 opposed

d. Vote on 2020-2021 RSU 38 Adult Education Budget:

MOTION by Brotherlin, second by Wright to approve the FY21 Adult and Community Education budget in the amount of \$216,000.00 as presented.

Roll Call Vote: **Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 0 opposed

e. Vote to Call and Approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting and the Validation Referendum and to Authorize the Notice of Amounts Adopted

MOTION by Brotherlin that the vote entitled, "Vote to Call and Approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting and the Validation Referendum and to Authorize the Notice of Amounts Adopted, "be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting." The motion was seconded by Wright.

Roll Call Vote: **Motion Carried:** 10 in favor, 0 opposed

7. Adjournment: **MOTION** and second to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James Charette, Superintendent/Secretary
D. Foster, Recorder

May 20, 2020

Motion: I move that the Vote entitled, “Vote to Call and Approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting and the Validation Referendum and to Authorize the Notice of Amounts Adopted,” be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting.

VOTE TO CALL AND APPROVE THE WARRANTS FOR THE BUDGET MEETING AND THE VALIDATION REFERENDUM AND TO AUTHORIZE THE NOTICE OF AMOUNTS ADOPTED

VOTED: That the warrant for the Regional School Unit Budget Meeting presented to the meeting be and is hereby approved and that the Regional School Unit budget meeting be and is hereby called for June 17, 2020 for the purpose of voting on the annual budget for the Regional School Unit for the 2020-2021 fiscal year;

That the Warrant and Notice of Election for the Regional School Unit Budget Validation Referendum presented to the meeting be and is hereby approved, and that the Regional School Unit budget validation referendum be and is hereby called for July 14, 2020 for the purpose of approving the budget adopted at the Regional School Unit budget meeting for the 2020-2021 fiscal year; and

That the form of Notice of Amounts Adopted at Budget Meeting presented to this meeting be and is hereby approved, and that the Superintendent of Schools of the Regional School Unit is hereby authorized and directed to complete said Notice by adding the amounts approved by the voters for each expenditure category and the total school budget summary expenditure amount, all in accordance with the Regional School Unit budget meeting on June 17, 2020, and to cause copies of said notice, as completed, to be delivered to the municipal clerks of each municipality of the Regional School Unit for posting at the polling places for the July 14, 2020 Regional School Unit budget validation referendum.