

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MAY 11, 2020
MINUTES
SOUTHERN AROOSTOOK SCHOOL
6:30 P.M.

Due to the Covid 19 Public Health Emergency, this meeting was held via ZOOM.

Board members present via ZOOM were: new Board member from Oakfield, Danny Barrows, Barbara Burton, Laura Farnsworth, Kasandra Foster, Larry Greenlaw, Carman Lilley, Stephen Porter, Greg Ryan and Paula Stevens.

Others present; April Bates, Jessica Greene, Sona Hallett, Shannon Mathers, Steve Mine, Jeni Siltz, Elaine Small, Heather Swallow, Holly Vining, Janet Vose, Sarah Williams and Tera York.

1. Call the Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 13, 2020 were considered.

Moved to approve by: Laura Farnsworth

Seconded by: Larry Greenlaw

Vote: Unanimous

3. Time Period to Hear from Citizens

4. Adjustment(s) to the Agenda:

Moved to accept this adjustment by: Laura Farnsworth

Seconded by: Carman Lilley

Vote: Unanimous

- a. Shannon Mathers will make a brief presentation to the Board for the After School Program; this is a requirement for the grant.
Shannon presented an overview of what the After School Program looks like during this remote learning time. Her presentation is included.

- b. Vote to authorize \$22,164 for the School Revolving Fund Loan Forgiveness Grant Financing.

This will be the amount forgiven by the Bond Bank with a one-time payment for the RSU of \$13,429. These funds will replace the outdated handicap lift in the elementary school to complete ADA requirements. This project is underway with expected completion by June 30, 2020.

Moved to authorize: Laura Farnsworth
Seconded by: Carman Lilley
Vote: Unanimous

5. Reports

Chair: N/A

Vice Chair: Laura reported briefly on the recent Region II meeting held in April.

Committee Reports –

Building & Grounds: N/A

Education: N/A

Finance: Holly reported, handout included.

Negotiations: N/A

Policy: N/A

Region II: Meeting is May 14th at 3 p.m.

Principals: See April's report (included)

Special Services Director:

-Janet reported briefly on the uptick in anticipated numbers for the coming school year.

-Year-end Evaluations have been scheduled.

-She gave the Board insight into some virtual classes which are being held remotely for students who receive services.

-She also addressed guidance she has received from the State regarding needs which are difficult to address for these students at this time.

Business Manager: see Finance Report included

Superintendent: The Superintendent's report is included.

6. Announcement of Resignations:

Bus Driver, Don Hall has resigned

7. First Reading of Policies: None

8. Second Reading/Review/Adoption of Policies: None

9. Other Business – Old/New

- a. Request from the Oakfield Fire Department to place a radio antenna on school property in order to broaden their reception area.

Moved to approve by: Barbara Burton

Seconded by: Carman Lilley

Vote: Unanimous

- b. Request for approval to adjust the 2019-2020 School Calendar to end instruction on, Friday, June 5, 2020. The following week, June 8 to 11, 2020 will be used by our staff for professional development.

Moved to approve by: Barbara Burton

Seconded by: Larry Greenlaw

Vote: Unanimous

c. Nomination of Probationary and Continuing Contracts – RSU 50 Teaching Staff:

i. Year 2 Probationary Contract

Taylor Bishop
Shelby Cummings
Krista Hardy

ii. For Year 3 Probationary Contract:

Kristen Fitzherbert
Crystal Gallop

iii. For Continuing Contract:

Meagan Brooks
Maggie McNally

Moved to approve by: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Barbara Burton

Vote: Unanimous

d. Motion to approve the nomination by the Superintendent for the following annual employees to be placed under contract for FY21:

Administration: April Bates, Elementary Principal
Business Manager: Holly Vining
Central Office: Elaine Small
Special Education: Janet Vose
Guidance: Jessica Greene and Sarah Williams
Technology: Todd Kuindersma and Thomas Small
Food Service: Gayle Glidden
Maintenance, Transportation & Building & Grounds:
Robert Betschner and Gerard Guilbeault

Moved to approve by: Greg Ryan

Seconded by: Barbara Burton

Vote: Unanimous

e. Compliance with Federal Guidelines

Authorize the Superintendent of Schools to apply for Federal/State Grants/Programs that may become available for the school system during June, July, and August, 2020.

Moved to authorize by: Barbara Burton

Seconded by: Larry Greenlaw

Vote: Unanimous

- f. Authorize the Superintendent to hire professional staff during the months of June, July, and August, 2020.

Moved to authorize by: Laura Farnsworth

Seconded by: Barbara Burton

Vote: Unanimous

- g. Finalize and Adopt the FY21 Budget for RSU #50.

Moved to adopt by: Barbara Burton

Seconded by: Greg Ryan

Vote: Unanimous

10. Future Agenda Item(s)

11. Upcoming Meetings and Events

Region 2 Meeting	May 12, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m.	Houlton
High School Science Fair	May 18 – remote presentations	
NHS Induction Ceremony	June 4 - remote	
Policy Comm.	June 8, 2020 @ 5:30 p.m.	
Finance Comm.	June 8, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.	
Regular Board Meeting	June 8, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.	
Region 2 Meeting	June 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.	Houlton
Upcoming Events will include Baccalaureate, Class Nigh, Graduation,		
District Budget Meeting	June 30. 2020 at 7:00 p.m. (tentative)	

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jonathan Porter, Superintendent
Regional School Unit 50

RSU 50 Superintendent Report

May 2020 RSU 50 Board Meeting

1. Student/Staff Recognition

Congratulations to the following students and/or staff on their recent accomplishments:

2019-20 So. Aroostook Chapter of the National Honor Society Members:

Sydney Brewer	Levi Brown	Emily Canavan
Maia Crandall	Kayla Gadsby	Alexis Hartin
Hannah Landry	Makaelyn Porter	Abby Stevens
Gavin Vining	Rose Arnts	Jacob Brooks
Hannah Brown	Kacy Daggett	Delaney Greenlaw
Wyatt Harthorne	Emma Nadeau	Paige Vose

New inductees- Spring 2020:

Hunter Burpee	Bre Daggett	Lindsay Derosier
Lucas Duff	Carson Grant	Collin Grant
Esther Greene	Jordyn Legassee	Nate Mahan

National Honor Society Advisors:

Brittany Brewer	Meagan Brooks
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National Honor Society Faculty Council:

Terri Slauenwhite	Rowena Harvey	Shannon Mathers
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NHS Induction ceremony will be held on Thursday June 4, 2020 at 6:00pm. You may view the live ceremony on Zoom Meeting. The address is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89437589625?pwd=NmxwSWpzSmFlaVBvTml4TGZncjVRZz09>

SACS Class of 2020-Graduating with Honors

Summa Cum Laude GPA 3.75-4.00

Abigail Stevens

Magna Cum Laude GPA 3.4-3.75

Emily Canavan Carson Grant Makaelyn Porter

Cum Laude GPA 3.0-3.4

Sydney Brewer	Levi Brown	Kayla Gadsby
Alexis Hartin	Hannah Landry	Wyatt Nadeau
Gavin Vining	Shelby Violette	

SACS Middle/High School Honor Roll 2019-20, 2nd Trimester

Grade 6

Highest Honors: Ashlyn York

High Honors: Hannah McGary

Honors: Dillan Bishop, Richard Chambers, Ariana Given, Lincoln Hardy, Daniel Kuindersma, Connor Lane, Kason Lawlor, Barrett Mathers, Mason Schools, Ally Shields, Kyliena Wenzloff

Grade 7

Highest Honors:

High Honors: Olivia Engebretson, Sarah London, Addyson Schmidt, Rylee Webb

Honors: Libby Anderson, Ethan Collier, Jacob Ellingwood, Rylee Kuliga, Trafton Russell, Bethany Schmidt, Aliana Stevens, Josiphine Tarr

Grade 8

Highest Honors:

High Honors: Tristen Hardy, Roza Parker, Cami Shields, Bailey Vose

Honors: Rowan Billotti, Jordyn Bishop, Amaya Boutilier, Dylan Burpee, Candace Day, Emmalee Landry, Kobe Macarthur, Bridger Noyes, Hunter Noyes, Lexi-Lynn Rackliff, Autumn Robinson, Madison Shields, Connor Walker

Grade 9

Highest Honors: Maggie Harthorne

High Honors: Jennah Brooks, Alyssa Crandal, Callie Russell

Honors: Chance Barrows, Austin Hillman, John Langer, Peyton Lawlor, Andrew Lewis, Alexia Maclaren, Mia Mahan, Suzannah Mathers, Shayna McMannus, Camden Porter, Robert Robinson, Madison Russell, Jayniece Wenzloff

Grade 10

Highest Honors:

High Honors: Esther Greene

Honors: Willow Brooks, Adain Bubar, Hunter Burpee, Lindsay Derosier, Samantha Derosier, Aedan Gadsby, Laura Lyons, Julia Murray, Ethan Webb, Broden Wood

Grade 11

Highest Honors: Delaney Greenlaw

High Honors:

Honors: Rose Arnts, Jacob Brooks, Hannah Brown, Lucas Duff, Collin Grant, Wyatt Harthorne, Shaylyn Lindsay, Emma Nadeau, Paige Vose

Grade 12

Highest Honors: Hannah Landry, Makaelyn Porter, Abigail Stevens

High Honors: Levi Brown, Emily Canavan, Carson Grant

Honors: Sydney Brewer, Maia Crandal, Kayla Gadsby, Alexis Hartin, Alexa Merry, Wyatt Nadeau, Gavin Vining, Shelby Violette

2. End of year activities, Tentative Planning & Overview

Graduation Activities: still working on details with Senior Class, will keep you posted as information becomes available.

Baccalaureate June 10 or 11, may combine with class night. Zoom meeting, working on details following Governor's orders and guidance from the Maine Dept of Education about social distancing.

Class Night: June 10 or 11, may combine with Baccalaureate. Zoom meeting, working on details following Governor's orders and guidance from the Maine Dept of Education about social distancing.

Graduation June 12, 7:00pm Ceremony to be held on the Soccer Field with a limit of people in attendance and also sitting in vehicles. We will be following Governor's orders and guidance from the Maine Dept of Education about social distancing. WHOU will be live streaming for us. We will have a

photographer to take pictures for parents to limit movement. Following Graduation, a parade through the community with seniors and their parents.

High School Academic Awards

Date-TBD

Live Zoom Meeting open to the public, teachers take turns presenting/reading awards live, similar to the daily press conferences the Maine CDC runs.

Post the award winners in the news section of the RSU 50 website

Awards include academic awards for excellence in classes, honor roll, etc.

Middle School Academic Awards & Grade 8 Completion

Tentative Date-June 8, 6:00pm

Live Zoom Meeting open to the public, teachers take turns presenting/reading awards live, similar to the daily press conferences the Maine CDC runs.

Post the award winners in the news section of the RSU 50 website

Awards include academic awards for excellence in classes, honor roll, etc.

8th Grade completion ceremony, slideshow for 8th Grade students

RSU 50 Budget Meeting

June 30, 2020

7:00pm

Following Governor's orders and guidance from the Maine Dept of Education about social distancing.

Will be sharing more details in the next few days. Budget Validation Referendum on July 14, 2020.

3. Other Notes

So. Aroostook Food Service & Delivery Program: As of Wednesday May 6th, they have put out 24,958 meals.

Maine Dept. of Education is sending RSU 50, **sixty-six free devices with wifi hotspots**

School Lunch Fairy sent \$18,000 to RSU 50 to pay unpaid lunch bills.

WAGM will be doing a **Spring Sports Senior Profiles** for the next couple of weeks, SACS student/athletes profiles have been posted on our school website

High School Science Fair being done remotely the week of May 18th.

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week, May 4-8, Staff received a Box of Maple Candy from Spring Break

Respectfully Submitted:

Jon Porter, RSU 50 Superintendent

5/11/2020

Board Meeting
Elementary Report
May 11, 2020

1. Remote learning is continuing with some teachers and students finding it to be successful, while others are challenged by it.
 - Some students are going above and beyond what is expected, while others struggle with the internet, schedule, motivation, and responsibility.
 - Teachers continue to send learning packets as well as online assignments.
 - All elementary teachers are having Google Meetings with their students one-to-one, small group and whole group.
2. This week the elementary staff is working on the following:
 - Class list
 - End of year report cards - What do they look like with remote learning for elementary students?
 - End of year activities - Remote Field Day, End of Year Parade, Materials & Device Collection
3. Two elementary teachers are signed up to take Responsive Classroom remotely in June.

- Attending daily Zoom meetings with the School Finance Team from the DOE and other Business Managers around the State. The meetings are primarily question and answer sessions and are proving to be a great resource. Topics include:
 - The application process for CARES funding and allowable costs
 - Budget process during COVID
 - Food service, cleaning, summer school, transportation
 - Concerns about future curtailments from the State
- CARES Funding
 - State's estimate is 91% of 80% of our Title I Funding
 - Application is pending answers from the US Department of Education – some of the allocation may be shared with private schools. If so, there will be less for public schools.
 - Recommendation is that this money be spent on one-time expenses that can be directly tied to COVID
 - Any expenditures charged to CARES will not be considered as reimbursable for future subsidy calculations– schools must be mindful of this when completing the application
- FEMA Public Assistance Grants
 - FEMA is also offering assistance for schools and municipalities to help respond to unanticipated COVID expenses
 - Attended a webinar on it last week and submitted a request for assistance
 - If we are approved, we will be given the opportunity to apply for funding
 - The application process is complex and the regulations extensive, but schools are encouraged to apply
 - FEMA funds are not related to CARES
- Possible curtailment in FY 21
 - The State has promised that it is able to meet its obligations for school funding through FY 20, but currently no promise for FY 21
 - There is a lot of concern due to revenue loss at the State level that we could experience a curtailment in FY 21
 - The State will not be doing revenue forecasting until August, which is too late for the school budget process
 - Many business managers are planning to increase their undesignated fund balance with any budget savings this year
 - Undesignated fund balance can be used as a Rainy Day or budget stabilization fund. It is also a help with cash flow when the State or towns are slow to pay.
 - By law, schools are not allowed more than 3% of the prior year's budget in undesignated fund balance. However, the State has been lenient with districts

recognizing that this percentage is less than ideal. Most auditors recommend between 12-18%.

- As of April 30, we are forecasting a budget savings of approximately \$35,000. Doug Burdin from Maine School Management has also said that they still plan to pay unemployment returns. RSU 50 is slated to receive \$30,000 in unanticipated revenue from our unemployment trust fund.
- School Revolving Renovations Fund Grant/Loan to replace the elementary lift
 - The Board previously voted on the application and will need to vote to accept the funds tonight
 - Our share is considered a pre-paid loan \$13,500/State share is a grant \$22,200
 - Lift is on order with Maine Accessibility and Mike Nadeau & Sons has started the construction
- The Siemens presentation originally scheduled for tonight has been postponed. They have emailed us their reports, which we will forward to the Board. Our guaranteed cost savings from heat and electricity for year 1 was \$80,308. Our actual cost savings for the first year was \$83,403, which exceeded the guarantee by \$3,095. According to the report, we also saved \$31,159 during the construction period for a total measured cost savings through 2/29/20 of \$114,561.