

Hermon School Committee  
Agenda – Regular Meeting  
Monday, September 14, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.  
Hermon High School Room 167

*Providing Leadership to Enhance the Aspirations of our Children*

*\*\* Due to Governor Mills' declaration of emergency, this meeting will be closed to public attendance. The public may join the meeting virtually by using the following link:*  
[meet.google.com/aut-gskf-ufq](https://meet.google.com/aut-gskf-ufq)

Present

Ted Harris, Chair  
Debora Farnham, Vice Chair  
Deborah Langille  
Kristen Shorey  
Debbie CoWallis

Attending Virtually

Scott Hatch  
Mackenzie Stepp, Student Representative  
Madison Despault, Student Representative

Staff (attending virtually and in person): Cindy Badger, Stephanie Biberstein, Janice Clain, Jim Chasse, Melissa Davis, Kathryn Goodman, Micah Grant, Jenny Perry, Jamie Rennebu, Leslie Smith, Brian Walsh, and Jody White.

Guests: Diane Dickerson

Item I: Mr. Harris, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Item II: Agenda Adjustments

Add VII.E. Change in District Calendar - To change the Inservice date of October 9th to be October 5th in order to gain a student day.

Item III: Approval of Minutes

Mrs. CoWallis moved, seconded by Ms. Langille, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 3, 2020 and the Special meeting of August 17, 2020, with the adjustment to add Ms. Langille welcomed Mrs. Shorey to the School Committee in the August 3rd minutes.

Unanimous (6)

Item III: Proclamations and Presentation

A. Public Comments: None

B. Presentation, Bangor Y program (COVID Relief Funds)

Diane Dickerson, C.E.O. Bangor Region YMCA, gave an online presentation outlining our joint effort to apply for CRF funds to hopefully fund school-aged day programs during COVID in the town of Hermon. Discussion ensued.

Item IV: Personnel

A. Superintendent Chasse announced the resignations of:

- Taylor Morrison, PADS Ed Tech II Self-contained
- Josh Burgess, HSD Assistant to the IT Director
- Doug Shaffer, Van Driver

B. Transfer

- o Mark Reed from PADS to HMS Physical Education teacher

C. Co / Extra-curricular positions

**Hermon High School Co-curricular** \* *New applicant to the position*

Department Heads:

English Language Arts: **Mallory Cook**

Health, Physical Education, and Career Prep: **Shawn Good**

Mathematics **Wendy Lynds**

Modern Languages and Arts: **Janice Clain**

Science and Technology: **Amy Taylor**

Social Studies **Jesse Hargrove**

Special Education: **Anna Anthony**

Class Advisors:

Freshman (2): **Mathew Murray, Sami Ireland \***

Sophomore (2): **Liam Adams, Ryan Garbe**

Junior (2): **Ruth Parent, Sue Shapiro**

Senior (2): **Nicholas Stahl, Elizabeth Trenckmann**

Art Club: **Sue Shapiro**

Chemical Hygiene Officer: **Deb Merrill**

Chess - High School: **Amy Luce**

Civil Rights Team Advisor: **Lillian Barry**

Extended Music: **Terry Flegel**

French Club: **Ruth Parent**

Key Club: **Nathan Petersen**

Math Team: **Heather Haskell**

Musical Play (Fall Production) Director: **Kathleen Toole**

National Honor Society: **Kathryn Bjorklund**

One Act Play: **Kathleen Toole**

Show Choir Director: **Stephanie Erb**

Student Council (2) **Janice Clain, Justin Hollbrook**

**Hermon Middle School Co-curricular**

Building Club Advisor **Heidi Fairbrother**

Chess **Jim Fratini**

Math Team Advisor - **Nicole LeBarnes and Shelley Cyr**

Spelling Bee (2) - **Sonya Wedge** (*no second yet*)

Staff Facilitators (5-8) (2):

**Nicole LeBarnes, Chelsea Pinette, Charles Colson, Amanda Lovejoy  
and Shelley Cyr**

Student Council Advisor - **Elizabeth Walls**

Yearbook Advisor - **Amanda Lovejoy**

**Patricia A. Duran School Co-curricular**

Staff Facilitators (K-4):

**Meredith Brookings, David Nason, Courtney Williams and Denise  
Young**

**Hermon High School – Athletics**

Baseball, J.V. Boys **Jerimy McIntyre**

Basketball, J.V. Girls **Shawn Good**  
Basketball, Varsity Boys **Mark Reed**  
Cheerleading, Fall Cheering **Kaitlinn Turner**  
Cheerleading, Varsity Asst. **Kaitlinn Turner**  
Cheerleading, Varsity **Kristy Reed**  
Cross Country **Megan McCarthy**  
Field Hockey, J.V. Field Hockey **Kaitlinn Turner**  
Field Hockey, Varsity **Shawna Neal**  
Football, Varsity Assistant Football Coach (2)  
**Matt Farnham, Gary Swoboda**  
Football, Varsity Coach **Kyle Gallant**  
Golf **Kent Johnson**  
Soccer, J.V. Boys Soccer **Sami Ireland \***  
Soccer, Varsity Boys **Shawn Good**  
Soccer, Varsity Girls Soccer **MJ Ball**  
Softball, Varsity Girls **Jody Theberge**  
Tennis **Shawn Good**

**Hermon Middle School – Athletics**

Basketball, Girls “A” **Liza Muth**  
Basketball, Girls “B” **Miranda Mauger**  
Cheerleading **Erica Turmel**  
Cross Country **Justin Holbrook**  
Field Hockey **Andrea Lee**  
Soccer, Boys Soccer **Troy Willis**  
Soccer, Girls Soccer - **Liza Muth**  
Softball, Girls **Jessica Fusco**

**Volunteers – Athletics**

Basketball, V. Boys Volunteer **Anthony Davis**  
Football Assistant Volunteer **Connor Patten\***

Item VI: Old Business

- A. Excused Absence of School Committee Member/s: None
- B. School Board Goals (2020-23)
  - 1. Fully support a rigorous, relevant, innovative, and comprehensive learning environment where all students have an opportunity to achieve excellence in academics, extra-curricular activities, athletics, and The Guiding Principles.
  - 2. Prioritize and review district policies that support academic achievement, safety, and a positive educational experience for all students.
  - 3. Promote positive and trusting relationships with all stakeholders through honesty and transparency, where people come first.
  - 4. Cultivate and leverage community involvement with the Hermon School Department
  - 5. Commit to individual goals to enhance effective boardsmanship.

Mrs. Farnham asked what some of the trickle down goals would be that would be identifiable. Superintendent Chasse stated that if the goals are broad, then they can be variable based on action steps. Mr. Harris asked Mrs. Davis about where

the curriculum mapping was. Mrs. Davis stated that the high school is about 90% mapped. It is pretty good with the four cores at the middle school, but they are still working on some of the changing standards that came up from the State. Denise Young had been working with Great Schools Partnership for a number of years before we dropped the GSP contract at the Patricia A. Duran School, particularly around Reading, Writing and Math. They are still in the middle of mapping Math since it is a relatively new program. They have a good headway on it, but there is still a lot more work to be done. The State has just changed the ELA standards, but she will be working on that this year. Mrs. Shorey suggested adding action steps under each goal. Mrs. CoWallis asked if goals from the past few years could be looked at.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille to accept the first reading of the School Committee Goals for the 2020-21 school year.

Unanimous (6)

#### Item VII: New Business

##### A. Delegate for MSBA Annual Assembly

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to designate Debora Farnham as the delegate and Kristen Shorey as the alternate delegate for the MSBA Annual Assembly.

Unanimous (6)

##### B. Job Description

###### a. Assistant Director of Information ServicesHermon.net

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille to approve the first reading of the Assistant Director of Information ServicesHermon.net job description.

Unanimous (6)

##### C. Policy

###### a. BED Hermon School Committee Rules

Mrs. Farnham asked how the meeting schedules listed in the policy meshes with the Charter. Mr. Harris asked to send any suggestions for how to tweak the policy to Mr. Chasse to update those prior to the next meeting.

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to approve the first reading of Policy BED Hermon School Committee Rules.

Unanimous (6)

##### D. Discussion of Maine School Management Policy Review

Superintendent Chasse stated that Maine School Management offers a policy review. They will look at anything that is outdated, as well as look at policies that may be locally driven and separate those. They will then let you know which ones need to be updated ASAP which you could do as a bulk approval.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to spend up to \$2,500 to update policies.

Voting for (5): Mr. Harris, Mrs. Farnham, Mr. Hatch, Ms. Langille and Mrs. Shorey

Abstaining (1): Mrs. CoWallis

##### E. Change in District Calendar

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to change the inservice date of October 9th to be October 5th in order to gain a student day.

Voting for (5): Mr. Harris, Mrs. Farnham, Mr. Hatch, Ms. Langille and Mrs. Shorey  
Abstaining (1): Mrs. CoWallis

## Item VIII: Reports

## A. Superintendent (as written/goals included)

Superintendent Chasse went over his goals from the handout, as well as highlighted some of the steps he has taken under some of the goals. There was discussion around van and bus drivers. He also mentioned that he had a full Admin Team meeting earlier in the day and that he continues to be impressed with their caliber, quality, professionalism and their heart for students.

## B. Principals (as written)

## C. Finance Report (as written)

Superintendent Chasse stated that the finance report included the cost center summary, as well as the full budget as a percentage of where we are at today. He stated that the summary would be given every month, then the full budget maybe quarterly. The auditors will be here November 2nd and we will wrap up our position from last year. He also mentioned that the October 1st reports are coming up so we will know our tuition students and what our revenue stream looks like. He is trying to convince the State to not change our October count because of homeschoolers, so that our subsidy stays the same because we built our budget on that. Note of caution, the State is \$1.3 billion in the hole over the next two years. Hopefully the economy makes a roar back, otherwise you will probably be looking at curtailments in State payments in subsequent years. This is a contract negotiation year, so there will be costs associated with that. Superintendent Chasse mentioned that Jamie Rennebu, Business Manager has been excellent to work with.

## D. Curriculum/Assessment Report (as written)

## E. Guidance &amp; Social Work Report (as written)

## F. Nurses Reports (as written)

## G. Transportation (as written)

## H. Other (RSU87 Minutes)

## I. Possible Future Agenda Items

Mackenzie Stepp, Student Representative, mentioned that she was happy to be back in school. Freshman are starting their elections. Student council is doing a mini, abbreviated spirit week.

Madison Despault, Student Representative, stated that she thought school was going really good and people are finding their routine which is good. Google classroom is working really well. She feels it's going as well as it can be right now. Both she and Mackenzie stated that they were excited to get Macbooks when asked by Mr. Harris.

Ms. Langille thanked everybody for all the hard work. School is not what we are used to it being, everybody has worked very hard. Thank you for the bus banner and all of the signs saying bus drivers wanted. She also said 'great job' to Mr. Chasse on all of the TV interviews.

Mrs. Farnham said it was good that the drop-off/pick-up was transitioning a little easier. She noticed in the Hermon Connection it talked about Billings Road repairs. To tie up Route 2 and the Billings Road is going to be chaotic. She asked if the word could get out to students to plan to be here early on days they are driving because it will be crazy. She was also curious about the home school and how it will impact us next year on the budget. Mr. Harris asked that to be an agenda update next month. Mr. Chasse has contacted the Commissioner directly and has some response on that, he followed her guidance although we do not know if that will secure the funding.

Mr. Harris took a minute to appreciate the building administrators and staff. He thinks it's incredible what we've been able to accomplish. He thinks that if nothing else from COVID, it has shown how strong our team is, how detailed they can be, and how willing they are to pitch in and help out. He also added that his teenager in high school is getting a better education right now under the same pretense because of fewer classes, fewer people in classes, so the one to one attention is more than it was. This has opened our eyes to technology. He would like an update next month on solar, potentially have one of the other companies come in to present. He would also like an update on the track, maybe see if Mr. Thomas, the lead chair of that, can chime in next month on the timeline on that. Mrs. Farnham stated that Plymouth Engineering was tasked with going in and looking at various options, potentially reaching out to DEP and how to set that up for a better sense of how it would be positioned, and estimated costs. Mr. Harris also asked about the SLOTA report. Mr. Hatch stated that the SLOTA report was to determine all usable space at the three facilities, additional expansions of buildings, parking and any sports/rec fields.

Item IX: Approval of Warrants

Mr. Harris moved, seconded by Ms. Langille to approve warrant 3 of August 7th, warrant 4 of August 21st, and warrant 5 of September 4, 2020.

Voting for (5): Mr. Harris, Mrs. Farnham, Mr. Hatch, Ms. Langille and Mrs. Shorey  
Abstaining (1): Mrs. CoWallis

Item X: Adjournment

Mr. Harris moved, seconded by Ms. Langille to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Unanimous (6)

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Chasse  
Superintendent of Schools

*\* This is an opportunity for members of the public to comment on agenda items, contribute information that may be of interest to the School Committee or ask clarifying questions. Please wait to be recognized and identify yourself before speaking. This is not the time to register complaints or promote a personal agenda. Please remember that you may **not** identify any person by name or job function.*