

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 56

Frankfort • Searsport • Stockton Springs

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting
February 14, 2006 – 6:30 P.M.
Frankfort Elementary School

Present: Kimberly Ashley Nedra Bellows Bonnie-Jean Brooks
 Tom Calderwood Robert Danks Harold Grove
 Michael Housman Christopher Krause Veronica Magnan
 Glenn McFadden Twyler Webster

Absent: None.

Visitors: 13

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairperson Bonnie-Jean Brooks called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Bob Danks to make the following adjustments to the agenda: Under Presentations, add B, Saxon Phonics Program, under New Business add A, 7 Resignation of Rachel Donovan, E2 Going out to bid for the district's insurance, and F2, accepting roof projects using Revolving Renovation Fund money.

VOTE: 10-0-1 (McFadden)

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** A motion was made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Twyler Webster to approve the January 10, 2006 minutes as presented. Michael Housman left the room.

VOTE: 7-0-3 (Brooks, Grove, McFadden)

3. **PRESENTATIONS.**

- A. The superintendent asked Gregg Palmer to recognize the following inductees to the National Honor Society: Nandrea Zito, Amanda Chaney, Julia Martin, Aimee Nielson, Shannon Vasiliauskas, Matt Robertson, Omar Chaar, Cassie Dinsmore, Hannah Moore, Kyle Parks, Ashley Ward, and Annette Anderson. The Board of Directors applauded their efforts.
- B. Julie Vinson, a kindergarten teacher at Stockton Springs Elementary School, and Christina Ellis, a second grade teacher at the Frankfort Elementary School, were asked by Curriculum Steering Committee to give a brief overview of the Saxon Phonics Program. Mrs. Vinson demonstrated a kindergarten lesson and Mrs. Ellis shared a lesson for second graders. Questions and answers followed.
- C. Brian MacFarland, Business Manager, reviewed the 2004-05 audit report and three citations from the Management Letter.
 - Capital Assets were not updated properly. This has been taken care of.
 - At the Middle School, student activity accounts were not reconciled in June. They will now be reconciled monthly.

- There is a need for personnel to take vacations. This will allow another person to fill in for the position, thus creating a checks and balance.

The Board asked questions about the audit. Mr. MacFarland will write a response to the auditors, identifying the corrective actions the district will take.

Mr. MacFarland then reviewed the actual report, citing various numbers and accounts. The best-run department is the Hot Lunch Program, which has a \$48,594 positive balance. The superintendent complimented the Business Office, Diane Libby, accounting clerk, Brian MacFarland, Business Manager, and Agnes Nelson, director of Food Service.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None.

5. **REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT.**

- A. “Academic Readiness for College: What Does It Mean?” – Why we need standards. The superintendent gave an in-depth presentation on the purpose of education in the 21st century, compared to the past. In the past, 20% of the student body was educated to be the leaders of tomorrow. The other 80% were educated to follow directions, be a good citizen, do routine tasks, and vote. It was a reflection of the economic times. Today, however, we need to educate 100% of our students to be problem solvers, critical thinkers, collaborators, and apply application to new situations. American high schools, and schools in general, need to change to reflect our economic needs. The superintendent received the recent 2005 data “Academic Readiness for College: What Does It Mean?” The superintendent shared that the requirements for an electrician in math includes algebra, geometry, calculus, statistics, and their applications. Our high school sophomores presently take 1 ½ years of science (biology and physical science) and all juniors take chemistry. Discussion and questions followed.
- B. Using the SAT as a means of assessment for 11th graders. It is likely that this will pass the legislature. It will replace the MEA for 11th graders and will be administered on Saturday, April 1, 2006.
- C. The state has placed a moratorium on local assessment work. This is a period of time in which there is a suspension of a specific activity until further events warrant a removal of the suspension, or the issues regarding the activity have been resolved. The superintendent reported that the district will continue our work with assessments but will be integrating the assessments more.
- D. The superintendent announced a change for the Brooklyn Sister School exchange, from 3/2 – 3/5 to 3/11 – 3/14, due to the one-act plays.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

- A. Finance Committee. Nedra Bellows reported that the minutes were in the Board member folders.
- B. Transportation Committee. Nedra Bellows reported that the minutes were in the Board member folders. Glenn McFadden had questions regarding bus routes and the number of students on each run. The superintendent will get the material for Mr. McFadden.

- C. Buildings and Grounds Committee. Tom Calderwood reported that the committee reviewed Revolving Renovation fund grants and a revised contract with Honeywell. Both require Board action, and are further along in the agenda.
- D. Policy Committee. Harold Grove reported that the minutes were in the Board members folders. Polices for both first and second readings are on the agenda tonight.
- E. Region Seven. The superintendent put the most recent set of minutes in Board members folders.
- F. Personnel Committee. Chris Krause reported that the minutes were in the Board members folders. Tonight's minutes will be in next month's packet.
- G. Curriculum Steering Committee. This committee has met once, and has an item on the agenda tonight for action.
- H. Legislative Report. Bonnie-Jean Brooks reported on a draft state report, which wants us all to be one big happy family. The superintendent commented on various bills. Copies were sent to the Board. It is important for Board members to read these and speak to our legislators. The Chairperson wants a discussion of the bill that directly affects our district regarding consolidation of schools. This will be on the March agenda. Discussion followed.
- I. Chris Krause reported that he has sent the superintendent evaluation forms to all stakeholders. The Board is looking for feedback, and will use the feedback in their evaluation. Chris Krause said they were looking for honest responses. Board members also need to complete the evaluation. There are some areas where new members will not be able to answer.

7. **OLD BUSINESS.**

A. Second readings of the following policies:

- 1. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Twyler Webster to approve BEA, Regular Board Meetings, for a second reading. Mr. Grove noted the revisions in this second reading.
VOTE: 11-0-0
- 2. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Bob Danks to approve BDA, Board Organizational Meeting, for a second reading.
VOTE: 11-0-0
- 3. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Bob Danks to approve BEDB, Agenda Format, for a second reading.
VOTE: 11-0-0
- 4. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Bob Danks to approve BBA, School Board Powers and Responsibilities, for a second reading.
VOTE: 11-0-0
- 5. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Harold Grove to approve DN, School Properties Disposition, for a second reading.
VOTE: 11-0-0

8. **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. Employment changes:

1. Resignation of Michael Morgan, 8th grade math teacher, effective August 31, 2006.
2. A motion was made by Glenn McFadden and seconded by Bob Danks to approve Mike Vasiliauskas as the Varsity Track coach.

VOTE: 11-0-0

3. Appointment of Dwight Pitcairn as an Educational Technician II for the Special Services Department and his subsequent resignation. The Board did not take any action.
 4. Resignation of Gregory Zielinski, science teacher, effective August 31, 2006.
 5. Appointment of Patricia Richards as a custodian.
 6. Appointment of Trent Emery as a long-term substitute elementary art teacher.
 7. Resignation of Rachel Donovan as the Community Library Assistant
- B. A motion was made by Glenn McFadden and seconded by Bob Danks to approve a field trip, by six high school students, to New York City on March 10-13, 2006 for a radio convention. Leslie Gregory was present to answer questions. Discussion followed.

VOTE: 11-0-0

- C. First readings of the following policies:
1. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Bob Danks to approve KF, Community Use of School Facilities, for a first reading. Questions followed, such as “Can we manage the policy?” Bonnie-Jean Brooks gave written suggestions to the superintendent for the next policy committee meeting. These will be looked at.

VOTE: 10-1-0 (Brooks)

2. A motion was made by Bob Danks and seconded by Twyler Webster to approve KF-E, MSAD #56 Building and Grounds Request Form, for a first reading. Discussion and questions followed. A Board member submitted written revisions. A comment was made concerning inconsistencies between the policy and the form. This will be checked.

VOTE: 10-1-0 (Brooks)

3. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Twyler Webster to approve BEDG, Minutes, for a first reading.

VOTE: 11-0-0

4. A motion was made by Glenn McFadden and seconded by Harold Grove to approve IMDA, Patriotic Exercises, for a first reading.

VOTE: 11-0-0

- D. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Bob Danks to approve using the Saxon Phonics program district wide in K-3, and purchasing such materials as may be necessary to implement the program. In response to a question, the superintendent stated that the cost of the program will be approximately \$7400.00 with shipping.

VOTE: 11-0-0

- E. A motion was made by Nedra Bellows and seconded by Veronica Magnan to approve the 2004-05 annual school audit. The Board directed that Brian MacFarland should write a letter detailing the district’s corrective actions.

VOTE: 11-0-0

E2. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Bob Danks to authorize going out to bid for the district's insurance.

VOTE: 11-0-0

F. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Tom Calderwood to approve full coverage from Honeywell, as follows: \$55,850 the first year, \$57,526 the second year, and \$59,252 the third year.

VOTE: 11-0-0

F2. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Harold Grove to accept the project for the high school roof renovations, based on current estimates, with a maximum funding of \$749,741.31, the portion of the loan to be forgiven at \$311,823.00 and the local share to be \$437,918.31. The superintendent explained the process used with state and budget approval. The work would be done in the summer of 2007. Discussion followed.

VOTE: 11-0-0

A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Bob Danks to accept the project for the middle school roof renovations, based on current estimates, with a maximum funding of \$720,339.69, the portion of the loan to be forgiven at \$425,000.42, and the local share to be \$295,339.27.

VOTE: 11-0-0

G. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Bob Danks to enter executive session for an update on a labor contract issue pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (D).

VOTE: 11-0-0

The Board entered executive session at 8:58 P.M. and resumed public session at 9:14 P.M. A motion was made by Nedra Bellows and seconded by Bob Danks to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to accept bids for oil and fuel.

VOTE: 11-0-0

H. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Michael Housman to enter executive session for the evaluations of an official and an employee pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A).

VOTE: 11-0-0

The Board entered executive session at 9:17 P.M. and resumed public session at 9:28 P.M.

9. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,