

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 56**

Frankfort • Searsport • Stockton Springs

Minutes

Special Board of Directors Meeting

April 4, 2006 – 6:30 P.M.

Central Office - Searsport

Present: Kimberly Ashey      Nedra Bellows      Tom Calderwood  
Harold Grove      Michael Housman      Veronica Magnan  
Glenn McFadden      Twyler Webster

Absent: Bonnie-Jean Brooks (ex.), Robert Danks, Christopher Krause

Visitors: 9

1. Vice-chairperson Harold Grove called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M. An executive session was added to the agenda.
2. A motion was made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Twyler Webster to approve the March 21, 2006 Board minutes.

**VOTE: 7-0-1 (Bellows)**

3. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Kim Ashey to approve the appointments of Trent Emery and Bret Perryman as co-coaches for Middle School baseball.

**VOTE: 8-0-0**

4. Revolving Renovation Fund Grants. The superintendent reviewed the proposal for the Stockton Springs Elementary School roof project using a Revolving Renovation Fund Grant. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Veronica Magnan to proceed with the Stockton Springs Elementary School roof project by submitting it for state approval.

**VOTE: 8-0-0**

Discussion followed with lots of questions. How are we going to utilize the building?

5. Budget Work Session. The Board agreed to move the REACH program to the front.
  - REACH program. The superintendent reviewed the data based both on REACH itself and district assessments. She asked Bret Perryman to give a brief overview of the program. The REACH program is for those students who are at-risk of graduating from high school and need organization, life skills, study skills, etc., including having the teacher work with students. The district's portion would be \$19,000. Discussion and questions followed.

The total cost of the program is \$50,000. JMC provides training, accountability. There is a 99% graduation rate in the state. It is invested with the Center for Career Management. This summer there will be trainings in literacy.

The Board questioned the cost of a high school program. That would be an additional \$40 – 50,000. Some members wanted to review the rest of the budget. They took a straw vote. A motion was made by Kim Ashley and seconded by Veronica Magnan to keep the REACH program for one year at the cost of \$19,000 in district funds for 2006-07.

**VOTE: 6 –1-1 (McFadden) (Housman)**

- Elementary budgets K-8. Board members discussed each section of the budget.  
Middle School. The Board asked questions about health insurance, the number of teachers, the ratio of teachers to students, class sizes, pulling out special education students, and the scale of teachers with benefits. Nedra Bellows requested that we wait until we were doing the entire budget.  
Searsport Elementary School. There was discussion and questions. There are 12 regular classrooms. They talked about field trips, tuition costs, and workmen's compensation. The Board requested the number of students in the multiage classrooms who are from Frankfort and Stockton Springs.  
Frankfort Elementary School. The Board asked about the number of teachers and the increase in supplies due to math journals. The principal researched the cost of doing one handbook for all three schools. The district could save \$100. The three principals decided to keep the handbooks as three separate books.  
K-5 Guidance. Why guidance? Is the position needed? EPS states the ratio is 1:350 students.  
6-8/9-12 Guidance. Check on the social worker's salary (answer: 3.96%) What is the role of the Student Assistance Counselor and the Social Worker? How many do we have? The social worker works more at the high school level. Question: do we need a full-time Middle School guidance counselor? The Board requested a spreadsheet of all the middle school classes and the number of students in each class.  
High/Middle school libraries. They are teaching classes including keyboarding.  
Elementary libraries. The superintendent explained an increase in books.  
Office of the Middle School Principal. A Board member questioned the number of administrators. Do we need them all with an EPS ratio of 1:350?

Expenditures are up 4.26%. The local assessments show an overall decrease of 1.18%. One Board member requested that the Board review the entire budget and get the superintendent any questions so that she can answer them. Then the Board could vote on the entire budget at the April 11 meeting.

The Board asked the superintendent for the following:

1. Cost savings if the ELA wing at the high school is closed.
2. Cost savings if the Central Office is closed.
3. Stipends broken down K-12.
4. The process of closing a building.
5. The Ad Hoc Committee. One Board member wants only the Board to do it and not have an outside committee. Other Board members felt differently.

This will be put on the April 11 agenda for discussion.

- High school budget. Not done.
- District-wide budgets. Not done.
- School restructuring discussion continued. Not done.

6. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Michael Housman to enter executive session for labor contract discussions between the MSAD #56 Support Staff Education Association and the MSAD #56 Board of Directors pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (D).

**VOTE: 8-0-0**

The Board entered executive session at 9:18 P.M. and resumed public session at 9:24 P.M. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Kim Ashey that the Board take no action.

**VOTE: 8-0-0**

7. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,