

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 56

Frankfort • Searsport • Stockton Springs

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

January 9, 2007 – 5:00 P.M.

Central Office - Searsport

Present: Nedra Bellows Bonnie-Jean Brooks (5:10) Tom Calderwood
James Cunningham Robert Danks Harold Grove
Michael Hamilton Christopher Krause (6:48) Veronica Magnan
Twylar Webster

Absent: Bradley Jones

Visitors: 12

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairperson Bob Danks called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Veronica Magnan to enter executive session for labor contract negotiations pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (D).

VOTE: 7-0-0 (Webster absent for the vote)

The Board entered executive session at 5:01 pm and resumed public session at 6:25 pm. Chairperson Bob Danks then called the regular portion of the Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA.** An executive session was added to the agenda under “10” - information in confidential records pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) (F).

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Twylar Webster to approve the December 12, 2006 Board minutes with three revisions. A revised copy of the minutes will be placed in the official Minutes Book at Central Office and posted on the district’s website.

VOTE: 8-0-1 (Brooks)

4. **PRESENTATIONS.**

A. The superintendent gave an overview of the SAT and why this assessment was added to meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind law. Gregg Palmer then gave a detailed description of the SAT. Discussion followed. The Board would like information on how many students were accepted into college and the number of our students still in college after one year. They also want statistics on where all of our students go after high school. Also, does the state have any SAT data on testing results for home schoolers and others?

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

1. Alan Hammond asked if any parent groups were solicited for input on policy JJIBC. He feels it may affect parent/teacher groups. Discussion followed. Bonnie-Jean Brooks shared the updated article the superintendent gave Board members regarding procedures and policies. The chair asked for specific feedback areas on this policy. The superintendent asked building administrators to get the names of any PTO presidents so a memo could be sent to all PTOs and the Alumni Association to obtain feedback on the policy. The superintendent is also attending a

training to see if Moodle will help us to put up future policies on the webpage for community members. Agendas are advertised. Perhaps copies of proposed policies could be placed in schools and post offices so that parents could view them. A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Bonnie-Jean Brooks to table this policy until we review it again and get feedback.

VOTE: 10-0-0

2. There was a request about the new SAU proposal.
3. Bonnie-Jean Brooks mentioned the passing of Esper Bagley, a former teacher in MSAD #56.

6. REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT.

The superintendent recognized the following students who have been accepted to college programs: Beau Seekins to Beal College for law enforcement, Travis Wyman to Maine Maritime Academy for maritime transportation operations, Sarah Ellis to the University of Maine at Farmington for elementary education, Shannon Vasiliauskas to Friends University in Kansas for zoology science, and Josh Nickerson to Husson College for business.

- A. Enrollment numbers.
- B. Administrative Reports. Questions revolved around Palm Pilots and MaineCare. Gregg Palmer reported that staff will get Palm Pilots in February. Sharon Goguen reported on the loss of the Maine Care budget. Brian MacFarland is being very conservative. The superintendent shared the article in the Bangor Metro that talked about the Great Schools Project and also that there was an advertisement in Newsweek with Nathan Seekins. The superintendent was recognized for her visitations to schools, attendance at a basketball game, and for working/reading books while at the hospital.
- C. Donation of percussion instruments by Michael Housman.
- D. New proposal for SAUs. The superintendent presented information regarding the Governor's proposal on the reorganization of SAU's. MSAD #56 will be with MSAD #3 and #34, to be known as Region 11. Three Board members, Veronica Magnan, Tom Calderwood, and Harold Grove attended the ATM session with the superintendent regarding the new reorganization. The superintendent shared the proposed timeline: Regional Board elected in October 2007, hiring of a regional superintendent by February 2008, and the start of Region #11 business on July 1, 2008. Each school will have a local advisory committee and each school will present its budget to the Regional Board. Three days after the Regional Budget Hearing, a referendum must be held. If the budget does not pass, it will go back to the Regional Board. Various Board members spoke out. One suggested we notify our legislators and ask the superintendent to obtain the 800 numbers and the list of legislators. Another shared the importance of going and speaking to legislators in Augusta when public hearings are held. A healthy discussion followed. The Board expressed concern with this proposal. A Board member suggested calling our legislators. The Board asked that the Superintendent get more information for the Board, after which the Board would then create a task force to investigate the topic in depth. In addition, we need another plan, because legislators may ask for an alternative.
- E. Assessments. The superintendent reported that at the next Board meeting, she will present the district and state assessment data.
- F. Other

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

The chair reported that each of the Committee Reports are in your folders and asked if there were comments or questions.

- A. Finance Committee. Minutes are in the Board packets.
- B. Transportation Committee.
- C. Buildings and Grounds Committee.
- D. Policy Committee. Harold Grove shared the importance for Board members to read policies as they come out. It is difficult to notify all stakeholders when policies come up, so it is important to read the agenda in addition to what was suggested tonight.
- E. Region Seven. Mrs. Szwec indicated that the Board would deal with one issue later tonight.
- F. Personnel Committee.
- G. Curriculum Steering Committee. No meeting due to a Board training.
- H. Legislative Report.

8. **OLD BUSINESS.**

A. Second readings of the following policies:

1. JJIBA, Hiring and Evaluation of Coaches. A motion was made by Jim Cunningham and seconded by Mike Hamilton to send this policy back to the Policy Committee.

VOTE: 2-7-1 (Hamilton, Krause) (Danks)

Discussion followed. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Twyler Webster to accept JJIBA for a second reading with some amendments.

VOTE: 10-0-0

2. JJIBB, Sportsmanship. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Mike Hamilton to approve the second reading of this policy.

VOTE: 10-0-0

3. JJIBC, Relations with Booster Groups. Tabled in a previous vote. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Mike Hamilton to make various parent groups aware of the policy and to get input within 30 days.

VOTE: 10-0-0

9. **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Harold Grove to accept the nomination of Ashley Bryant to a first year probationary contract as a kindergarten teacher, effective retroactively to December 12, 2006.

VOTE: 10-0-0

B. A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Bonnie-Jean Brooks to approve Josh McFarlin as a volunteer JV Boys Basketball Coach.

VOTE: 10-0-0

C. Board discussion on bargaining (MSMA October Conference):

1. Basic Collective Bargaining – Mary, James, Tom, Veronica, Bob
2. Bargaining in Uncertain Financial Times – Mary, James, Tom, Veronica, Nedra
3. Labor Relations – Jim

A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Twyler Webster to pass over this item due to the Board's work done prior to the beginning of the regular meeting tonight.

VOTE: 10-0-0

D. Consideration of approval of the following revised job descriptions. A motion was

made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Mike Hamilton to take #1 – 13 as one vote.

VOTE: 10-0-0

The Board had some questions.

1. COTA. The Board wanted to know why supervising OTR means Registered Occupational Therapist. Sharon Goguen said this was correct, but she did not know why. (**Answer:** To obtain a license, applicants must pass a national certification examination. Those who pass the exam are awarded the title “Occupational Therapist Registered (OTR”).)
2. Computer/Technology Coordinator
3. Gifted and Talented Coordinator
4. Head Teacher
5. Home School Coordinator/Social Worker
6. Psychological Service Provider
7. School Health Coordinator. The Board asked for clarification of what DASH means. (**Answer:** CDC DASH stands for Center for Disease Control’s Division of Adolescent and School Health.)
8. Speech/Language Pathologist
9. Technology Assistant
10. Technology Integration Specialist K-5
11. Technology Integration Specialist 6-12
12. Therapeutic Tutor
13. Tutor

A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Bonnie-Jean Brooks to approve the 13 job descriptions. Mrs. Szwec will get answers to the Board’s questions. (Answers are in the 1/9/07 minutes.)

VOTE: 10-0-0

- E. Review/change in Cooperative Agreement for the Waldo County Technical Center. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Harold Grove to accept state statute as identified by legal counsel.

VOTE: 10-0-0

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

- A. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Twyler Webster to enter executive session for information in confidential records pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) (F).

VOTE: 10-0-0

The Board entered executive session at 8:31 pm and resumed public session at 8:44 pm. A motion was made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Bonnie-Jean Brooks that student X’s expulsion remains in place until his MSAD #56 class of 2007 graduates, and then his expulsion will end.

VOTE: 9-0-1 (Hamilton)

- B. A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Veronica Magnan to enter executive session for the evaluation of an official/employee pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A).

VOTE: 8-2-0 (Bellows, Danks)

The Board entered executive session at 8:48 pm and resumed public session at 9:16 pm.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,