

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 56

Frankfort • Searsport • Stockton Springs

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

May 22, 2007 – 6:30 P.M.

Central Office - Searsport

Present: Joseph Altilio Nedra Bellows Tom Calderwood
James Cunningham Robert Danks Harold Grove
Michael Hamilton Veronica Magnan Twyler Webster

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

Visitors:

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairperson Robert Danks called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA.** None.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Harold Grove to approve the May 8, 2007 Board minutes.

VOTE: 8-0-1 (Bellows)

4. **PRESENTATIONS.**

- A. Health and Wellness Grant Report – Janis Hogan. The superintendent shared that this is the last year of the Healthy Maine Partnership. Part of the grant was used to purchase a machine to measure Body Mass Index (BMI). Janis Hogan, school nurse, gave the background of the HMP in Waldo County, and then talked about the BMI. She shared facts nationally, and within our district. Our district results are higher than average (42%) compared to 32% nationally. She shared what we are doing as well as what else we can do. Discussion followed.
- B. Dennis Pike and Jalysa Parks, students, gave a presentation on their recent trip to England as part of “Dreams and Teams”. The Board saw a slide show created by Julie who also did the background music. The camp was about creating leadership. They learned to be active, great leaders, and to volunteer. There were only four Americans out of 400 students. Julie’s specialty is badminton; Dennis’s specialty is table tennis. They will both be working with our students in 2007-08.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None.

6. **REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT.**

- A. The superintendent reported that 57% of our seniors are going on to some form of post-secondary education. She recognized the following students:
 - Eric Bishop: New England School of Communication (Husson); computer gaming systems
 - Travis Anderson: New England Culinary Institute (Vermont); chef training
 - Brandi Bishop: University of Southern Maine; undecided
 - Jon Gillway: Bloomfield College in NJ; gaming development and programming.
 - Haley Grove: University of Maine; engineering technology

- Paul Floyd: New England School of Communication
- Damien Ward: Eastern Maine Community College and Central Maine Community College; building construction
- Monica Josephson: UMA; pre-nursing
- Justin McFarlin: Eastern Maine Community College; computer
- Chelsea Mcleod: UMA; liberal studies
- Brian Kronholm: Eastern Maine Community College; automotive technology
- Kyle Richie: UMO; undecided
- Michaela Strickland: Word of Life Bible Institute

The superintendent also reported that Board member Chris Krause had surgery for prostate cancer and he asked that this be shared with the Board. The Board wishes him a speedy recovery.

- B. The superintendent recognized Maura DiPrete, science teacher, and Morgan Elkins, student, who were accepted to the Secondary Science Teachers and Student Neuroscience Lab Workshop held at Bowdoin College. Usually these grants are not given to first time applicants; this time they were accepted on their first try. The superintendent asked that Maura and Morgan return to the Board to share their experiences.

The superintendent also recognized Morgan Elkins and Abby Norman for being selected to attend the Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Workshop at Vassar College. This is a program that educates, empowers, and activates young women to become the next generation of human rights leaders. Only 60 students were selected out of 160 applicants.

The superintendent also announced that Hillary Hoyt was selected to be the Waldo County Young Poet Laureate.

The superintendent offered congratulations to Rusty Grove who has completed his Apple training and has passed both exams which allows him to service our Apple computers.

The superintendent also shared feedback from two companies participating in our job shadowing program. The companies gave us the highest scores for preparation, motivation, manners and dress, and stated our students were on time. Our students' communication/social skills were excellent. Both companies said they would participate in the program again.

- C. The superintendent reported on the evaluation of the Comprehensive School Reform (CSR) grant that commended the school culture, leadership team's commitment, professional development, and student learning. Areas to continue working on include connecting parents to guidance and aspirations, student-led conference training, practices around remediation and acceleration, school schedule to support leadership team members, and ways to prevent students from being ridiculed by other students.

D. The superintendent shared that the Board of Directors had backup materials in their folders on the meeting between SAD 3, 34, and 56 regarding consolidation. Discussion followed.

E. Other.

- A letter from Robert Tufts on consolidation was in the Board packets.
- The superintendent reviewed the latest consolidation report based on Plan A or Plan B. Backup material is in the Board packets. Our district is encouraged to be in RSU #9 with Bucksport, Orland, and Prospect. Discussion followed regarding which vocational school our students would attend: Region 7 or Ellsworth. If we had to go to Ellsworth, do we still pay an assessment and debt to Region 7?
- If you are interested in graduation tickets, please let Elaine know in the high school office.
- Backup material on the lockdown was in your packets.
- Janice Toomey is resigning as the Searsport Elementary School principal, effective June 30, 2007. The superintendent honored her for her professionalism, commitment to education, her organization, and for being a valued member of the Admin Team. She will be missed but we wish her the best.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

- A. Policy Committee. The committee met tonight. There is a policy for approval on the agenda tonight.
- B. Region Seven. Veronica shared that there had been a presentation of the math program. There have been new hires, and a five-year review of Region 7 and what has been accomplished (building programs, technology, etc.).
- C. Curriculum Steering Committee. The minutes are in the Board folders. We will be taking action tonight on several items.
- D. Legislative report. The superintendent shared the latest information on CDS and that the legislature will be making their final decision.

8. **OLD BUSINESS.**

- A. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Jim Cunningham to approve policy JJIBC, Relations with Booster Groups, for a second reading. Discussion followed.

VOTE: 8-0-1 (Webster)

- B. Ad Hoc Restructuring Committee results – discussion. This item was tabled since members did not have their information with them. This will be on the June 26 agenda for discussion of the recommendations. The Board was asked to bring their materials with them.

9. **NEW BUSINESS.**

- A. May 16 consolidation public hearing – results, reflections, etc. We cannot afford to opt out. The superintendent was asked to explore forming Region 9 with Bucksport. A motion was made by Jim Cunningham and seconded by Veronica Magnan to have the superintendent contact the Bucksport superintendent to set up a meeting with a sub-committee of our Board. Discussion followed.

VOTE: 9-0-0

The Board of Directors would also like to continue talking with Region 7.

- B. Consideration of approval of the K-12 Health and Physical Education curriculums. The superintendent reviewed the curriculum while Janice Toomey showed sections of

it. She reviewed questions and answers asked by the District Curriculum Steering Committee:

- Health is required for three semesters – two semesters as a sophomore and one as a senior.
- PE is a full year for freshmen and one semester in the junior year.
- “Redesigning the high school” may allow students to obtain their credits in other ways: sports, other activities.
- Electives in health include Advanced Health and Reconnecting Youth.
- Electives in PE include Fitness and Weight Training, and PE Leadership.

A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Veronica Magnan to approve the K-12 Health and Physical Education curriculums as presented.

VOTE: 9-0-0

- C. Consideration of approval of Social Studies electives. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Harold Grove to approve the Grade 11 World History, and Sociology electives to be included in the K-12 Social Studies Curriculum.

VOTE: 8-1-0 (Magnan)

Veronica Magnan recommended that we use Adolph Hitler in Unit 3 rather than Martin Luther. A lively discussion followed.

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

- A. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Mike Hamilton to enter executive session for the evaluations of officials and an employee pursuant to 1 MRS § 405 (6) (A).

VOTE: 9-0-0

The Board entered executive session at 7:48 pm and resumed public session at 8:18 pm.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,