

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 56**

Frankfort • Searsport • Stockton Springs

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

August 28, 2007 – 6:30 P.M.

Central Office - Searsport

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

Absent: None.

Visitors: 9

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairperson Bob Danks called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.
2. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA.** None.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Mike Hamilton to approve the August 14, 2007 minutes. There was discussion on some items. A motion was made by Veronica Magnan to amend the minutes by deleting parts of B under Old Business: the three bulleted items, and the sentence beginning “The superintendent reported that it is the duty.....” Denise Dakin seconded this motion but asked if in fact this is what happened. There was further discussion as to what actually took place at the meeting. Denise Dakin withdrew her second after being assured that the minutes were an accurate reflection of the meeting. The Board then voted on the original motion to approve the minutes.

**VOTE: 10-1-0 (Magnan)**

4. **CONSENT AGENDA. Any Board member may request that any item be removed from this consent agenda and moved to the regular agenda.” – Policy File BEDBA, Consent Agenda, approved July 10, 2007.**
  - A. Donations from Dunbar & Braun Construction: 8000’ of 2 X 2 ceiling tile (\$5000 value) and several bathroom partitions/dividers (\$5000 value).
  - B. Donation of an exercise bike from Joyce O’Rourke, Sandy Point, ME.
  - C. Inhouse transfer of Anna Nickerson to the Head Cook’s position at the Searsport Elementary School.
  - D. Resignation of Lawrence Viel, Educational Technician II.
  - E. Appointments:
    1. Valerie Small, cook.
    2. Leslie Parsons, Educational Technician III for Project Success at the High School.
    3. Christine Guerette, ¼ time secretary for the Co-Curricular Coordinator.With no objections, the consent agenda was allowed to stand as is.
5. **PRESENTATIONS.**
  - A. The superintendent shared that the Board had been notified on May 22 that Maura DiPrete and Morgan Elkins were accepted to the Secondary Science Teachers and Student Neuroscience Lab Workshop at Bowdoin College. Both were present to

share their experiences. The training was an outreach program for teachers and students, giving them tools for research in the classroom. They worked along with professors; it was definitely a hands-on experience using top-notch equipment. Morgan shared some of the experiments she worked on. She also shared her experiences in New York where she did some job shadowing in the human rights area.

6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None.

7. **REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT.**

- A. Mitchell Institute Report. This was in the Board packets. It is the result of a year-long study exploring the growing gap in Maine between college intentions and actual enrollment. The Mitchell report showed community encouragement for college has improved, many Maine high schools have changed academic tracking practices, more high school students are getting exposure to college, more parents are getting involved with helping students plan for the future, and schools are embedding career and college planning activities. Veronica Magnan asked to see statistics for our high school. Gregg Palmer shared that the state average is 60% students going to post-secondary institutions, with 10% falling away during the summer. SDHS had 70-71% going to post-secondary institutions, with 90% still planning on attending at this point. Not all calls are complete. He will get the actual statistics for the Board.
- B. Maths ME Report. The superintendent shared that the grade 6 – 12 teachers have just completed a three-year grant in mathematics. One criterion was for each person to obtain 100 hours of staff development over the three-year period. Our first year we had 529.98 hours, 637.3 hours in year two, and 705.75 in year three, for a total of 1873 hours. The team wants to continue their work in mathematics through book studies. One book is Quality Questions.
- C. Update on meeting with Selectpeople and Town Managers on August 23, 2007. The superintendent said the Board had the minutes of this meeting and all of the other meetings since the district starting talking about consolidation. We had an excellent turnout for the meeting, and the superintendent answered questions and shared the next steps to form the Reorganization Planning Committee (RPC). She also stated each town's officials would select one member, the Board would select their members tonight, and we needed to decide how to select the citizen representatives. The Board of Directors could meet with town officials to select one person from each town, the Board Chairperson could meet with town officials to select one person from each town, and/or the town's Board members could meet and select one person from each town with the town officials. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Jim Cunningham that the Board members from each town meet with their town officials to select a citizen representative for the RPC. There was discussion.

**VOTE: 11-0-0**

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

- A. Buildings and Grounds Committee. In response to a question, it was noted that this committee has been meeting two times per month due to the roof projects.
- B. Policy Committee. This committee met tonight and will have the revised homework policy come before the Board in September.
- C. Region Seven. Harold Grove reported that their meeting focused on the reorganization meeting. There was a robotics presentation which is now part of

the Region Seven program. Hopefully they will go to the national competition. One student placed seventh in the National Technology Competition.

- D. Curriculum Steering Committee. Veronica Magnan reported that the minutes were in the Board packets, and she commended Gregg Palmer and his staff on their work. The committee is waiting to see revised report cards from the Middle School before giving their approval.

9. **OLD BUSINESS.**

- A. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Mike Hamilton to approve BEDB, Agenda Format, for its second reading.

**VOTE: 11-0-0**

10. **NEW BUSINESS.**

- A. Election of Board members to the RPC (Reorganization Planning Committee). A motion was made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Twyler Webster to elect the following delegates/alternates:

- Stockton Springs: Veronica Magnan, alternate Denise Dakin
- Searsport: Nedra Bellows, alternate Joe Altilio
- Frankfort: Harold Grove, alternate Twyler Webster

**VOTE: 11-0-0**

- B. Consideration of approval of the following nominations/appointments:

1. Amy Dyer-Kelley, Varsity Girls Basketball Coach
2. Ryan Otis, JV Girls Basketball Coach
3. Joy Baker, co-coach for the Middle School Cross Country team
4. Jennifer Jackson, co-coach for the Middle School Cross Country team
5. Nancy Benner-Gifford, nominated for a probationary contract as the half-time Middle School Art teacher. (The superintendent mentioned that Mrs. Gifford has changed her name from Benner.)

A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Harold Grove to approve the five above nominations/appointments as a group.

**VOTE: 11-0-0**

A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Harold Grove to approve the five nominations/appointments listed above.

**VOTE: 11-0-0**

- C. A motion was made by Nedra Bellows and seconded by Denise Dakin to nominate Chris Krause as the local delegate to the MSBA Annual Delegate Assembly on October 25, 2007, with Tom Calderwood as the alternate. There was discussion.

**VOTE: 9-0-2 (Calderwood, Krause)**

Chris Krause shared the importance of this conference to all Board members.

A motion was made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Twyler Webster that the Board write a letter of commendation to Maura DiPrete for her work outside the classroom with students.

**VOTE: 11-0-0**

11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** None.

12. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.  
Respectfully submitted,