

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 56

Frankfort • Searsport • Stockton Springs

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

March 11, 2008 – 6:30 P.M.

Stockton Springs Elementary School

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

Absent: Lisa Hudson, Julia Martin

Visitors: 36

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairperson Bob 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 Joe Altilio to approve the minutes for the February 26, 2008 Board of Directors meeting. Mike Hamilton asked the Board members if they wanted the minutes by synopsis or word by word? He asked each member to respond individually. It was unanimous to have a synopsis of the meeting, but with motions being recorded word by word.

VOTE: 10-0-1 (Bellows)

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. March 3, 2008 Enrollment Report.
 - B. Admin Team reports.
 - C. Policy Committee minutes for 2/26/08.

Hearing no objections, the Chairperson declared the Consent Agenda accepted as is.

5. **PRESENTATIONS.**
 - A. The Superintendent introduced Ruth Fitzpatrick and Rebecca Callahan, a sophomore student, to speak about the high school interventions in place at the school. Since the high school has moved to standards, they have had to incorporate interventions for those students not meeting the standards.
 - B. PSAT results. Gregg Palmer spoke about the PSAT results and how the high school has closed the gap from the 2008, 2009, and 2010 classes. This progress is due to the work of the high school staff and administration. Discussion followed. Chris Krause spoke on the caring that is in place regarding the education of our children and it was present in tonight’s presentation.

6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None.

7. **REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT.**

- A. Food Service Program Review – results. The Superintendent asked Agnes Nelson, Food Service Supervisor, to stand. We had our State Nutrition Review on January 22/23, 2008. They reviewed the application process, menus, financial records, record keeping, etc. We received a glowing report, with only one area to be corrected: menu analysis. This was done and submitted to the State. We were notified today that all documentation was complete, and that the review was successfully completed. Agnes Nelson was recognized for her excellent work with a round of applause.
- B. The Superintendent pointed out the revised National Honor Society trip request.
- C. SDHS Accreditation Report. This report was mailed to the Board. The Superintendent recognized the work of Darci Bradstreet, Leanne Groening, and Gregg Palmer for the excellent job. There were no questions from the Board.
- D. 2016 – The 30 Fastest Growing Occupations. This article was in the Board members’ folders. Of the 30 occupations listed, 8 were in health fields, 4 in science (showing the need for math and science offerings), 5 in technology, 5 as various types of therapists, 2 in financing, and 3 in the beauty area.
- E. Other. The Superintendent shared the importance of having this item on the agenda. This enables the Superintendent to share important information from the Commissioner and/or the state that arrives after the agenda is mailed, as well as information from conferences that affects the Board’s work.

The Superintendent, Brian MacFarland, and Jim Cunningham attended a conference on March 10 that dealt with the Budget Validation Process. The Superintendent reviewed this new process with all its changes, as well as anticipated changes in the budget book and its presentation. All of this may change as the Legislature continues its deliberations.

The district also received revised 281’s. The Board has the latest updates on the Governor’s Change Package (LD 2173).

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

- A. Finance Committee. A meeting was cancelled due to a snow storm, but Nedra Bellows shared their work on the budget. Supervisors/principals presented their proposed budgets to the committee. The committee asked questions and made revisions, and even brought people in for a second time with more questions. The budget that will be presented does not include restructuring. We are continuing to build the budget as we have always done.
- B. Personnel Committee. The Committee took no action after listening to two personnel matters tonight.

9. **OLD BUSINESS.** Mike Hamilton requested that a sub-committee of Board members answer questions from the February 27, 2008 Public Hearing. Mike Hamilton, Denise Dakin, Twyler Webster, and Veronica Magnan volunteered to be on the sub-committee, and to have a work session on Thursday, March 13 at 6 pm at the Central Office. There was discussion on restructuring, and when the public will have a public meeting on restructuring. Discussions continued. A motion was made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Denise Dakin to remove the topic of restructuring grade levels off the table for discussion for the year 2008-09.

**VOTE: 4-7-0 (Altilio, Bellows, Calderwood,
Cunningham, Danks, Hamilton, Krause)**

Discussion followed. Chris Krause apologized for his comment. Discussion continued.

Mike Hamilton asked the Superintendent for an RSU update. The RPC will meet on Wednesday, March 12, 2008 to make the necessary changes to meet the state's guidelines. The Superintendent mentioned other people who also serve on the committee. Our revised report is due at the end of March.

Public comments:

- We need to be careful with changes at the high school, and that we do not undo good things already in place.
- Look at a reasonable budget, and challenge members of the audience to go out and pass that budget.
- One elementary school in the district would be fine (budget concerns) as long students stay in that building for the elementary years.
- We are trying to save money without using the word "restructuring".
- Communicate with us – we want to be heard. If you don't have an answer, please say so. Let us be a part of the process.

10. **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. Field trip approvals:

1. A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Chris Krause to approve the rafting trip to Millinocket on May 21-22 by the English/Language Arts Department.

VOTE: 11-0-0

Questions and answers followed.

2. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Twyler Webster to approve the trip to Camp Kieve by the 8th grade class on May 29-30, 2008.

VOTE: 11-0-0

There was a question about the cost of the trip. Part of the cost is covered through a Title IV grant written by the Superintendent. The rest is covered by fund-raising by students and parent groups.

B. First readings of the following policies:

1. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Veronica Magnan to approve DJH, Purchasing and Contracting: Procurement Staff Code of Conduct, for a first reading. The Superintendent said this policy was required by any district that receives Federal funds.

VOTE: 11-0-0

2. A motion was made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Denise Dakin to approve JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages, for a first reading. The Superintendent said this revised policy reflects changes in the law.

VOTE: 11-0-0

3. JHB, Truancy. The Superintendent said this revised policy reflects changes in the law. Two grammatical corrections were noted. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Twyler Webster to approve JHB, Truancy, for a first reading with the two corrections.

VOTE: 11-0-0

4. JLF, Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect. The Superintendent said this

revised policy reflects changes in the law. One grammatical correction was noted. A motion was made by Veronica Magnan and seconded by Mike Hamilton to approve JLF, Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect, for a first reading with one grammatical correction.

VOTE: 11-0-0

11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

A. Evaluations of officials and an employee pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A). Not held.

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