

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 56**

Frankfort • Searsport • Stockton Springs

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting  
December 14, 2004 – 6:30 P.M.  
Education Center - Searsport

Present:      Kimberly Ashley                      Nedra Bellows                      Bonnie-Jean Brooks  
                    Tom Calderwood                      Harold Grove                      Christopher Krause  
                    Tonia Littlefield                      Glenn McFadden                      John Moran  
                    Mariann Murchie

Absent:        Beverley Smith

Visitors:     17

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairperson Bonnie-Jean Brooks called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. The Superintendent requested that the following items be added to the Superintendent’s Report: evaluation of the Board meetings, enrollment, principals reports, and the MEA. Under Old Business, 7A, delete this second reading, as no quorum was present at the Policy Committee meeting.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by John Moran to approve the November 9, 2004 Board minutes with the following correction: under 7, A, second vote to read “...school year 2005-06...”. An official copy of the revised minutes will be included in the Official Minutes Book at the Central Office.

**VOTE: 9-0-1 (Murchie)**

It was also noted that policy IIBA, High School Course Enrollment, should have been on the December agenda. For the present time, we will uphold the present policy and its implementation. The Policy Committee will look at this policy and it will be on the January 11, 2005 agenda. A report listing the classes having under 10 students, whether they are mandatory or not, with specifics on each class will be in the January Board packet prior to the January 11 meeting. There will also be a report on “Senior Experience.”

3. **PRESENTATIONS.**
  - A. The Board heard a lengthy presentation from high school staff about their recent trips to San Francisco, Boston, and our sister school in Brooklyn. In San Francisco, our staff gave a presentation about our new high school governing structure. Jeff Shula reported about their trip to their sister school, the School of Law and Justice in Brooklyn, New York. Eighteen students will be visiting here from that school, and hopefully our students will be going there as well. Darci Bradstreet shared their presentation, “Fostering Heterogeneity at Searsport District High School”, at the NEASC regional conference in Boston. They talked about heterogeneous grouping

and received an ovation. They commented on the community support, the CSRD grant, personal learning plans, advisory groups, portfolios, inclusion, senior experience, the parent group on heterogeneous school, etc. The high school is now looking at a more rigorous curriculum.

**4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

Mrs. Webster asked why IIBA was not on the agenda. Bonnie-Jean Brooks explained that it was an error, and it will be on the January agenda.

The Superintendent will also report on “Senior Experience” at the next Board meeting.

**5. REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT.**

- A. The Superintendent shared a rough draft of the 2005-06 school calendar. We are trying to match calendars with the Technical Center, MSAD #3, and MSAD #34.
- B. The Superintendent shared that the three districts and Region 7 are beginning to explore the concept of a regional bus/maintenance project.
- C. The Superintendent shared her “Entry Plan” which will include interviews with all Board members, administrators, teacher leaders, staff, community organizations, and parent groups.
- D. A review of the Board retreat minutes shows a need to review the Public Participation policy. After discussion, the Board decided to send this policy back to the Policy Committee for review and recommendations.
- E. A handout about evaluating Board meetings is in the Board folders. The Board of Directors might consider this list of elements in documenting their performance at meetings, and identify areas for potential improvement.
- F. Current enrollment numbers were shared.
- G. Administrators’ reports are in the Board folders.
- H. MEA results are in the Board folders.

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

- A. Finance Committee. Nedra Bellows reported out and noted that the minutes are in the Board folders. John Moran and Glenn McFadden would like copies of the monthly fiscal report. Any questions should be directed to members of the Finance Committee.
- B. Transportation Committee did not meet.
- C. Buildings and Grounds Committee. Tonia Littlefield reported out and noted that the minutes are in the Board folders. She explained that the committee was waiting to find out if the doors and roofs met appropriate codes and regulations. A motion was made by John Moran and seconded by Tom Calderwood to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to accept the bid by Northeast Building and Equipment for this work as long as it meets fire regulations, ADA, etc.

**VOTE: 10-0-0**

- D. Policy Committee. Harold Grove reported on the need for a quorum to be present at committee meetings. Members of the committee will try to find a

date/time when they can all attend the meetings. Minutes of the last meeting are in the Board folders.

- E. Region Seven. Beverley Smith, MSAD #56's representative, was absent. The Superintendent shared the November minutes.
- F. Personnel Committee. Chris Krause reported on November's meeting for the committee.

**7. OLD BUSINESS.**

- A. A second reading of JJIC was postponed.
- B. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Glenn McFadden to approve a field trip to France on February 18-24, 2005.

**VOTE: 10-0-0**

- C. Chris Krause, our MSMA delegate, gave a lengthy report on the recent MSMA Fall Conference. He reported on such items as school funding, Essential Programs and Services, "Sports Done Right", including the pay to play concept, school discipline, and the goal of every student graduating "college ready". Tom Calderwood concurred, and reported information about No Child Left Behind. Bonnie-Jean Brooks commented on a recent article in Scholastic Administrator, "Penny-wise & Pound Foolish", that told of a court decision, which found school fees to be unconstitutional in Indiana. Discussion followed.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

- A. The resignation of Mary Lee Lynch, Educational Technician II at the Searsport Elementary School, was noted.
- B. A motion was made by Harold Grove and seconded by Glenn McFadden to approve a trip to Brooklyn, NY on May 5-8, 2005. Discussion and questions followed. A motion was made by John Moran and seconded by Harold Grove to call the question.

**VOTE: 10-0-0 to call the question**

The Board then voted on the original motion.

**VOTE: 10-0-0**

- C. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Mariann Murchie to approve the number of days worked by the high school secretary and the high school guidance secretary in the 2004-05 school year at 260 days.

**VOTE: 10-0-0**

- D. A motion was made by Glenn McFadden and seconded by Tonia Littlefield to give approval for the high school staff to work on graduation requirements on January 24 and January 25, 2005. The Superintendent explained the implications of Chapter 125 & 127 on the high school and how our present freshmen will need to meet the standards in order to receive a diploma. The Superintendent passed out a list of questions that need to be addressed by the Searsport District High School staff, and later approved by the Board of Directors. We will need to run a two-tier system until 2007. In order to do this, the district is requesting two days for staff to work on the Chapter 127 Graduation Policy questions, which was approved by the Commissioner of Education. The Superintendent was directed to contact Region 7 to see if our

vocational students should have sessions on those days and to report back at the January Board meeting. Most students would not attend school on those days.

**VOTE: 10-0-0**

E. First readings of the following policies:

1. A motion was made by John Moran and seconded by Mariann Murchie to approve a first reading of EF, MSAD #56 Nutrition Policy, with the correction of two grammatical errors.

**VOTE: 9-0-0**

(Kim Ashley was absent for the vote.)

2. A motion was made by John Moran and seconded by Mariann Murchie to approve a first reading of EFE, Competitive Food Sales, with corrections.

**VOTE: 9-0-0**

(Kim Ashley was absent for the vote.)

F. A motion was made by John Moran and seconded by Tom Calderwood to approve going out to bid for the lease/purchase of a bus.

**VOTE: 9-0-1 (Ashley)**

G. A motion was made by John Moran and seconded by Tom Calderwood to discuss and/or review information in confidential records in executive session as required by Title 20-A MRSA § 405(6)(F).

**VOTE: 9-0-1 (Bellows)**

The Board entered executive session at 8:53 P.M. Kim Ashley left the meeting at 9:17 P.M. The Board resumed public session at 9:37 P.M.

H. A motion was made by John Moran and seconded by Harold Grove to extend the meeting beyond 9:37 P.M. and to enter executive session to consider the annual evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools, the term of the Superintendent's contract, and adjustment of salary as required by Title 20-A MRSA § 1051 (2).

**VOTE: 6-3-0**

**(Littlefield, McFadden, Murchie)**

The Board went back into executive session at 9:38 P.M. They resumed public session at 9:50 P.M. No action was taken.

I. A motion was made by John Moran and seconded by Tom Calderwood to enter executive session for the evaluations of officials and an employee pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6)(A).

**VOTE: 9-0-0**

The Board entered executive session at 9:51 P.M. They resumed public session at 9:55 P.M.

9. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting adjourned at 9:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,