

Wednesday, May 2, 2018
Board of Directors Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Reeds Brook Middle School

The Regional School Unit No. 22 Board of Directors met at Reeds Brook Middle School on Wednesday, May 2, 2018.

Board Chair Karen Hawkes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Directors present were: Scott Cuddy, Jayne Dyer, Lucas Flanagan, Rob Frank, Wally Fraser, Jessica Giles, Allan Gordon, Jr., Karen Hawkes, John Holmes, Jessica King, Heath Miller, Joseph Pickering and Amanda Sidell.

Anthony Liberatore, DMD, was excused.

James Baines arrived at 7:02 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 4 and Special Meeting of April 24, 2018

Frank moved, Holmes seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 4 and Special Meeting of April 24, 2018.

Abstain: Joe Pickering abstained from voting on April 24th Special Board Meeting, due to absence.

III. Adjustment to Agenda

Chair Hawkes announced that Recommendation for Trimester Reporting K-5 would be added to the agenda under Article XI-C.

IV. Persons Desiring to Address the Board

None.

V. Board Chair

None.

VI. Personnel

A. Resignations

Superintendent Lyons announced the resignations of Wagner Middle School teacher, Gail Rowe Hampden Academy teacher, Jasmine Mitchell, and Weatherbee teacher Philip Bergin.

B. Nominations

Upon recommendation of Superintendent Lyons, Fraser moved Holmes seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve:

Cassandra Palmer, Special Education Teacher, Earl C. McGraw School

BA in History and BS in Political Science, SUNY at Geneseo
Juris Doctor, University of Buffalo School of Law
Long-term substitute in this position since August, 2017
8 years, Educational Technician III at Leroy H. Smith School

Salary: \$33,150

Superintendent Lyons announced the transfer of McGraw teachers Sharon DeBeck to grade 2, and Tricia Forsman to Kindergarten; the transfer of Kimberly Mitchell from Special Education teacher at Smith School to Life Skills teacher at Hampden Academy.

VII. Superintendent of Schools

A. Reading of Essential Behaviors and Outcomes Proclamation

Board Chair Karen Hawkes read the Essential Behaviors and Outcomes Proclamation.

B. Presentation of Destination Imagination

Principal Glencross expressed pride in the Destination Imagination participation and accomplishments. He introduced managers of the Destination Imagination teams. Cassy Palmer shared information about the pillars of Destination Imagination and the success of the six teams in RSU #22; three teams at Smith School, a Weatherbee School team and two teams from Wagner Middle School. The Smith School team *Say Cheese* placed first in their division. The

two Wagner Middle School teams also placed first. They have chosen to move forward to raise funds to attend Destination Imagination Global Finals, May 23rd through 26th.

A request was made for a Board donation of \$1500 for registration fees. Consideration of Title IV funds to help fund future Destination Imagination efforts was discussed.

C. Middle School Accreditation

Reeds Brook Middle School Principal Roux and Wagner Middle School Principal Glencross were introduced to share the recent receipt of accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). Team members and committee chairs were introduced.

Recommendations were reviewed:

Wagner Middle School

Recommendations: continued review and update of written curriculum, reinvent school mission and beliefs, special education programming.

Commendations: Mission and Vision, Habits of Work rubric, acknowledgement of the district support for curriculum development, traditional and standards reporting, welcoming school culture, teachers support of students both in and outside of the classroom.

Board Member Pickering asked if the recommendation to add a special education teacher was one of the positions that was not funded in the proposed budget? Correct, the position was requested though not funded in the present budget proposal.

Revisiting and reorganizing resources is a priority for the NEASC commission.

Reeds Brook Middle School

Recommendations: to establish a formal process to review data and report out to parents, ensure that all students have consistent access to the school nurse.

The next step will be to create a special progress report to share with the commission.

Commendations: The commitment and integration of core values into the day to day business of the school, extensive support services offered to students.

Mr. Lyons expressed his appreciation to the staff members at both schools for their hard work in participating in this review process. There are 75 accredited schools in Maine, the majority of which are at the high school level. Very few middle schools are accredited. This is an outside entity that benchmarks our schools toward a degree of excellence.

Board Vice Chair Sidell shared that some of the recommendations in the past reports have not been supported.

The degree of the work that goes in to NEASC visits is important to balance against the value that the process results.

Board Member Miller shared that we need to be attentive to what the reports suggest for improvements.

The special education teacher request at Wagner Middle School was revisited by Board Member Pickering. A special education teacher was requested by Wagner Middle School but is not currently funded in the 2018-2019 budget.

D. Reeds Brook Middle School Writing Theme

Principal Roux introduced three members of the 7th grade English Language team: Julie Michaud, Paula Sloane and Kelsey Stoyanova. Students choose books that interest them and challenge them. The students are responding about the books they read. Letters About Literature is a writing contest sponsored by the Library of Congress and the Maine Humanities Council. Letters were written to authors of the book they chose. From tens of thousands of students, 833 letters were submitted in Maine and 53 letters were finalists. Ten of the finalists were from Reeds Brook Middle School. Finalists were named and presented to the Board.

E. Samuel L. Wagner Middle School Math Team

Dr. Glencross introduced Math teacher and Math coach Amanda Grove. 45 students are part of the Wagner Middle School Math team and are the 2018 Eastern Maine Math League Champions in the Small School division. The 6th grade team placed second for the year and 8th grade teams placed in the top five - both fifth place and first place. The top ten finishers were named and presented to the Board.

In discussion, both Board Member Pickering and Superintendent Lyons shared that school funding for 2018-19 fiscal year was not brought forth for ratification in the last legislative session. A guidance document was shared with Superintendent Lyons by Representative David

Haggan indicating a scenario of subsidy checks being released due to sufficient action having been taken in last year's session under Public Law 2017 Chapter 284 Part C.

F. Student Representative Report

Student Board Representative Lucas Flanagan shared that Hampden Academy student Philip Bogatyrev, a student in Hampden Academy course Modern Governmental Perspectives (MGP), recently initiated a project for the Against Malaria Foundation (againstmalaria.com) to purchase malaria nets. Philip will attend a future meeting.

G. Monthly Financial Report

Assistant Superintendent Nickels reviewed the Warrant Article Expenditure Report and the Revenue Report.

H. Assistant Superintendent Update

Assistant Superintendent Nickels reviewed the following items:

Finance and Budget:

- Bond Anticipation Note bid released
- Budget Development Workshop meetings continue

Building Improvements/Bond Issues:

- McGraw School Lift project complete

School Safety:

- Active Shooter Workshop Attendance
- District-wide safety training, August 2018
- Partnership with Hampden Public Safety

VIII. Questions of Board Members

Board member Holmes asked about patterns of concerning substance use at Hampden Academy. Mr. Lyons shared that he would follow up on this matter.

Board member Cuddy asked if exit interviews have been conducted with those staff members who have resigned?

Board member Miller asked if there would ever be a consideration of another position conducting the exit interviews?

IX. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

Chair Miller shared minutes from the meeting including recommendation of contracts for the synthetic athletic turf and stadium lighting projects.

B. Budget Committee

No report.

C. Athletic Committee

Chair Miller shared minutes from the meeting including discussion of a co-op team request from John Bapst hockey, Winterport Baseball/Softball field re-conditioning and maintenance, future 2019 lacrosse club, 2018 fall volleyball club and the cost of defunded Hampden Academy Freshman basketball.

D. Building Committee

No report.

E. Negotiations Committee

No report.

F. Education Committee

Chair Sidell shared that trimester reporting, the status of proficiency based education in RSU #22, and assessments at each grade level were discussed at the latest meeting.

G. Policy Committee

No report.

H. United Technologies Center Board

No report.

I. Behavioral Review Committee

No report.

J. Education Foundation

No report. Board Representative being sought.

K. SPRPCE Board

No report.

L. Wellness Committee

No report.

M. Community Relations Committee

Board member Sidell shared that the Straxis App was presented, as one of three to be considered as a platform for streamlining information dissemination and access.

X. Policy Consideration

None.

XI. Old Business

A. Update on FY 19 Budget Development

Chair Frank shared that the Budget Committee has had four public budget sessions in a workshop format. The state mil rate has increased to 8.91 and thus the local share in each town of the RSU will see an increase. Article 9, Facilities Maintenance, has a considerable variance from prior years due to a priority to address deferred maintenance. Articles 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11 have been discussed and recommendations made thus far in workshop sessions. The local assessment budget figures this year will be a departure from our typical levels due to the expectation for additional local share. The shift in the

state budgeting landscape will be an important messaging aspect. Overall gross increase is currently 3.62% yet the local net increase is at 11.38%.

B. Discuss and Act on Amended Inter-local Agreement

Upon recommendation of Superintendent Lyons, Holmes moved, Frank seconded and the Board voted unanimously that the School Board on behalf of the voters of RSU #22 hereby approves the Interlocal Agreement for the Southern Penobscot Regional Program for Children with Exceptionalities as described in the regional service center application approved by the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Education, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to sign the Interlocal Agreement and related documents on behalf of RSU #22.

C. Discuss and act on PreK - 5 trimester format.

Upon recommendation of Superintendent Lyons, Holmes moved, Dyer seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the PreK - 5 trimester format.

XII. New Business

A. Discuss and act to authorize expenditure of Capital Reserve Funds for disabled lift at Earl C. McGraw Elementary School.

WHEREAS, the voters of Regional School Unit No. 22 (the "RSU") at the June 8, 2017 Budget Meeting authorized the School Board of the RSU to expend up to \$150,000.00 from the RSU's Capital Reserve Fund to fund capital projects in the RSU;

NOW THEREFORE, the School Board of the RSU votes as follows: Holmes moved, Fraser seconded, and the Board voted unanimously that the School Board be and is hereby authorized to expend up to \$23,000.00 of amounts available in the RSU's Capital Reserve Fund to fund costs associated with installing a disabled lift at Earl C. McGraw Elementary School.

B. Discuss and act on donation.

Upon recommendation of Superintendent Lyons, Holmes moved, Fraser seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to accept donation in the amount of \$1,850 from the Hampden Broncos Basketball Club for a gymnasium improvement project at Samuel L. Wagner Middle School.

XIII. Communication and Correspondence

A. Set Meeting Dates

Building Committee, Friday, May 18 at 9:00 a.m., Superintendent's Office

Finance Committee, Tuesday, May 15 at 6:00 p.m., Hampden Academy Library

XIV. Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations Between the RSU #22 Board of Directors and EA22 Education Association, According to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(D); Executive Session to Discuss Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools, According to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)

At 8:49 p.m. Cuddy moved, Fraser seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to enter Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations Between the RSU #22 Board of Directors and EA22 Education Association, According to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(D).

The Board entered back into regular session at 9:10 p.m.

At 9:10 p.m. Cuddy moved, Fraser seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to enter Executive Session to Discuss Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools, According to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)

The Board entered back into regular session at 9:25 p.m.

XV. Other Business

A. To see what action, if any, the Board wishes to take on business required by items that are part of this agenda.

None.

XVI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Richard A. Lyons, Superintendent of Schools