

Wednesday, December 5, 2018
Board of Directors Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Hampden Academy

The Regional School Unit No. 22 Board of Directors met at Hampden Academy on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. Board Vice Chair Amanda Sidell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Directors present were: Jim Baines, Scott Cuddy, Jayne Dyer, Lucas Flanagan, Rob Frank, Lester French, Sarah Gass, Allan Gordon, Jr., Jessica Hamilton, John Holmes, Anthony Liberatore, DMD, Heath Miller, Joseph Pickering, Mary Anne Royal and Amanda Sidell.

Excused: Karen Hawkes

II. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 7, 2018

Liberatore moved, Dyer seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 7, 2018.

Abstain: Jim Baines, Scott Cuddy, Jessica Hamilton

III. Adjustment to Agenda

None.

IV. Persons Desiring to Address the Board

None.

V. Board Chair

A. Committee Assignments

A slate of Board Committee assignments was distributed for member review. Attention was drawn to the increase in the membership of the Finance Committee, which causes three members to have to sign warrants. Board member Cuddy shared a concern that he was the only member on the Negotiations Committee.

Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools will now commence following the new policy implementation. Vice Chair Sidell shared the new tool, steps in the process, and call for membership on the Superintendent Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee. Evaluation submissions will be returned in January by each board member. Jayne Dyer and Rob Frank expressed interest in participating on the ad-hoc committee.

VI. Personnel

A. Resignations

Superintendent Lyons announced the resignations of Reeds Brook Teacher, Christine Keeley, and Hampden Academy English Teacher, Jacob Joy.

B. Nominations/Transfers

None.

VII. Superintendent of Schools

A. Reading of Essential Behaviors and Outcomes Proclamation

Board member Jim Baines read the Essential Behaviors and Outcomes Proclamation.

B. Snow Days

An article has been distributed to the Board regarding Camden/Rockport's model for hosting digital online school on snow days. Board member Liberatore inquired what the legal precedence is for school days versus digital days. Board member Royal inquired how this approach would be different than an online course? Superintendent Lyons shared that there are questions regarding teacher preparation, internet connectivity for students and results of the teaching and learning in this model.

C. District Status Report

Superintendent Lyons reviewed the District Status Report. Historical perspective of the creation of RSU #22 was presented leading to current status. Major points in the report included RSU #22's designation of High Performing/High Efficiency, district enrollment (2,446) with growth of 6.3% over a five year period, inclusion of 48 tuition students, a predicted reduction in

enrollment over the next 10 years, how regionalization may be advantageous and incentivizing students to attend through STEAM programming.

RSU #22 has had only three Superintendents over the 57 years; John Skeeahan (14 years), Carlton Dubois (10 years) and Richard Lyons (27 years). Superintendent Lyons emphasized the importance of consistency and longevity in the Superintendency. Seeking and naming the successor Superintendent is recommended for November 1, 2019.

Future of EPS funding architecture and leveraging the connections with our legislators is essential. The federal budget and impact of Title grants will need to be monitored. Negotiations have secured collective bargaining contracts for teacher and support staff through June 2020. The current district budget was passed by 68% in June. A new athletic turf field was installed with a successful bond referendum.

Newburgh Elementary is slated for conveyance to the Town of Newburgh for \$1.00 on January 15, 2022, pending Town of Newburgh voter approval to close the school. This decision will need to be evaluated.

Per pupil costs were reviewed. Board member Royal inquired how declining enrollment would effect per pupil costs. Since 2007, RSU #22 has never been above the per pupil cost of the State of Maine due to the maintenance and stability of enrollment.

- Attention to use of weighted factors in the funding formula to receive the greatest return on the investment is essential. RSU #22's ED 279 components were reviewed by Mr. Lyons. Enrollment and valuation are critical components in the formula composition.
- The Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Tibbets Fund bequest continues to be present at \$424,276.15.
- State Revolving Renovation Funds (SRRF) monies have been pulled down to RSU #22 over the past decade with 67% forgiveness and 0% interest. At this present time, SRRF monies are not available. The pool of money will be increased over time and it is essential that RSU #22 be at the doorstep to apply for the funds.

The RSU #22 Education Foundation partnership is ripe to flourish. Alumni benefactors are an untapped resource. It is recommended for future consideration of a paid executive directorship/leadership position in the future.

Review of the district fund balance was provided; both designated and undesignated components. Mr. Lyons spoke to the use of fund balance toward annual budget designations along with capital reserve and athletic facility dedications.

Curriculum components were reviewed including before and after school programming, integration of EnVision Mathematics, instructional coaching, National Board Certification pipeline growth, United Technologies Center enrollment growth, Jobs for Maine Graduates program growth, computer science and coding program additions and implementation of elementary hybrid report cards and trimester reporting.

Hampden Academy graduate rate has been determined at 86.89%. There was discussion of the cohort components that are measured to make up the graduation rate for 4, 5 and 6 year measurements.

Board member Royal inquired in a graduated class, is it possible to determine how many students graduated at a particular grade point average?

Academic Achievement results were reviewed. Mr. Lyons shared that the mathematics results system-wide need to be an area of necessary focus. Board member Frank shared that investigation of the AP Math competencies are presenting to the University of Maine Engineering program. Discussion was held regarding professional development and a future model that reduces teacher absences from instruction yet redesigns a system for teacher development on non-instructional days.

Goals were summarized.

D. Student Representative

Representatives Flanagan and Gass stated their student survey results would be shared later on the agenda.

E. Monthly Financial Report

Assistant Superintendent Nickels shared the monthly financial report.

F. Assistant Superintendent Update

Finance and Budget and Community Relations:

- FY '20 Budget Development Timeline
- RSU #22 Staff Budget Presentations: *Making Maine Work* (MDF/Educate Maine)
- FY '19 Audit in progress

Building & Facilities Projects:

- Submittal of Department of Labor report
- Hampden Academy leak
- Hampden Campus Electrical Grid project update

School Safety:

- Tabletop Drills

Transportation:

- Transportation Bid Waiver application
- Meeting with Cyr Transportation Director: bus driver pool update

Working with the Media:

- Snow Day Decision Process
- LINK 22 edition distributed

Building Relationships with Other Districts/Regionalization:

- RSC/SMLC Paper and Supply Buying Group
- RSC/SMLC Federal Efficient Delivery of Educational Services Grant/Regional Instructional Coaching

VIII. Questions of Board Members

Board member Pickering asked what the background check procedure is in RSU #22 for volunteers, and through what agencies is the background check flowing? Volunteers are required to submit to basic background check conducted through a state agency though not directly through DHS. Clarification of the process will be sent to Board member Pickering.

A question was posed if fast food drop off was allowed at our schools and, if so, how this tied into the district Wellness Policy? Principal Tracy addressed the fact that there are parents who, at times, do drop off food for students lunches. Fast food is discouraged though coffee beverages are sometimes brought to school by students.

Board member Royal asked asked pursuant to JIC-R, F. have you received/provided approval for requests for assistance from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or Customs Border Patrol (CBP) agents? Superintendent Lyons answered no.

Have you received any requests from ICE or CBP or a law enforcement agent acting on their behalf for information about or access to any of our students? Superintendent Lyons answered no.

Board member Frank asked if the repeated question could be handled in a different format?

Board member Baines asked for clarification on if how the students feel defeated in math is sometimes because the parents feel defeated? Principal Tracy shared that there are many instances in which students echo their struggle was shared by their parents.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

No report.

B. Budget Committee

Chair Frank shared that the schedule of budget article discussions was released. A focus on earlier discussions that highlight building requests and needs is prioritized in article by article meetings. Three listening sessions will be held in the district communities. Organizations, times and locations have yet to be decided.

C. Athletic Committee

Chair Miller shared that the Ad-Hoc Signage Campaign has been meeting routinely.

D. Building Committee

No report.

E. Negotiations Committee

No report.

F. Education Committee

Chair Sidell shared that Educational Core Values were discussed and school documents will be collated and reviewed for trends. District Instruction Coach Sue O'Brien presented on Instructional Coaching implementation in RSU #22 and a simulation study in mathematics that is occurring in RSU #22. Four times this year, a study team will record results from both control and simulation schools (Reeds Brook and Wagner Middle Schools, respectively).

G. Policy Committee

Chair Pickering shared that there was discussion of school transportation.

H. United Technologies Center Board

No report.

I. Behavioral Review Committee

No report.

J. Education Foundation

No report.

K. SPRPCE Board

Board member Sidell reported that there were updates on a no-cost lease from the City of Bangor on the SPRPCE program building, regionalized spending programs such as instructional supplies and food service is being sought.

L. Wellness Committee

No report.

M. Community Relations Committee

No report.

X. Policy Consideration

A. Discuss and act on second reading and adoption of Policy BG, School Board Policy Process

Upon recommendation of the Chair, Pickering moved, Dyer, seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy BG, School Board Policy Process.

B. Discuss and act on second reading and adoption of Policy KCD, Public Gifts/Donations to the Schools

Upon recommendation of the Chair, Pickering moved, Dyer seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy KCD, Public Gifts/Donations to the Schools.

XI. Old Business

A. Hampden Academy Student Survey

Student Representatives Lucas Flanagan and Sarah Gass shared results of a student survey. 200 responses were received in regard to seven questions.

Do you know what the Board of Directors is and what it is responsible for? 34 % said yes, 67% replied no. Not many students were aware that there are student representatives on the Board of Directors.

Have you ever attended a Board meeting? 10% yes, 90% no. The music program attends annually and likely represents the 10%.

What is your favorite thing about RSU #22; Hampden Academy? Staff and extra curricular activities that are available.

What academic class or program would you like to see Hampden Academy offer that we do not already have? American Sign Language (ASL) and Life Skill classes (practical personal and financial development).

If you could change one thing about Hampden Academy for the better, what would it be? The vast majority shared that there was little they would change about Hampden Academy. Weighted grade calculations, class ranking.

Do you feel well represented as a student? 70% yes, 30% no

Do you feel adequately prepared for the future? 76% yes, 14% no, and 10% expressed it was too early to tell. The vast number of students are confident about their preparation and experience at Hampden Academy.

Conclusions included the need for and ideas to inform the student body on the role and presence of the Board of Directors. Suggestions for class introduction of ASL and life skill (practical personal and financial development) classes are interesting.

The results will be emailed to board members.

XII. New Business

None.

XIII. Communication and Correspondence

A. Set meeting dates:

- Board Self Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee, next three months at 5:00 p.m. before each board meeting
- Superintendent Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee, 4:00 p.m. Dec 20, 2018
- Behavioral Review Committee, 3:30 p.m. December 18, 2018
- Athletic Committee Dec 12th at 6:00 p.m.,
- Finance Committee December 19th at 5:00 p.m.,
- Community Relations on January 3rd at 5:00 p.m.

XIV. Executive Session to Discuss a Legal Matter, According to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(E)

At 9:16 p.m. Royal moved, Frank seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to enter executive session to discuss a legal matter, according to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(E).

The Board entered back into regular session at 9:30 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

Liberatore moved, Sidell seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Lyons, Superintendent of Schools