

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37
October 28, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of RSU/MSAD #37 was held at the Daniel W. Merritt Elementary School, Addison, Maine, on Wednesday, October 28, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon the following items of business:

Board Members Present: Angela Alley, Everett Grant, Ronald Kennedy, Brandi Lovejoy, Debra Murphy, Charles Peterson, Jr, Michael W. Strout, Sally Thompson, and Sarah Willson

Board Members Absent: Beth Hartford, Drusilla Ray, and Mark Wright

Other persons present: Ronald Ramsay, Denise Vose, Lorna Greene, Susan Meserve, Maria White, Lucille Willey, John Daley, Alfred Moore, Sr., Lori Mathews, David Mathews, Ron Green, Dawn Fickett, and other citizens

MINUTES

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

1. **The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Everett Grant.** He noted that Directors Hartford, Ray, and Wright are excused tonight due to other commitments.
2. **RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**
ACTION: Motion by Debra Murphy, second by Sally Thompson, and voted (613-yes, 142-abstentions) to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2015 meeting as printed. (Alley and Lovejoy abstained as they were absent on 9/30.)
3. **RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**
INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay reported that he attended the Fall Conference last week, along with Directors Grant and Willson. Overall it was a good conference with many informative sessions. The superintendents met on Wednesday, prior to the conference. He held a conference call today with other superintendents from around the country that are a part of the National Superintendents Group that he went to San Francisco with. It is a good networking opportunity. He is also looking into collaborating on professional development with a couple of other superintendent regions in the state. On October 20th, he went on the Baseline Walk with Nancy Willey and the 7th and 8th graders. It was a great trip. The county-wide Professional Development team will meet on November 2nd to plan more professional development for those in Washington County.

Everett Grant noted that the conference was good with high attendance this year. The keynote speaker was Astronaut Chris Cassidy, from York, Maine. He was a Navy Seal for ten years before becoming an astronaut. Everett's take-away from the speech was that we need to provide the background for our kids so that they have choices available after high school/college.
4. **RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR OCTOBER 2015**
INFORMATION: Supt. Ramsay noted it is still early in the year, but we are doing well financially. We have 75% of the fiscal year remaining and 82% of the budget left.
5. **RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**
INFORMATION: There have been no subcommittee meetings this month. The Policy Subcommittee

will be meeting soon to look at some new and revised policies.

6. RE: ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS INCLUDING NCLB/ESEA

INFORMATION: Susan Meserve reported that Harrington has 141 currently enrolled, with 12 in the PreK program. School and sport pictures have been taken recently. Prevention Works has been at the school for teeth cleaning and checkups. Approximately 40 students are participating in EdGE after school. The EdGE Family Night is tomorrow night. Students in grades 5 and 6 travelled to the Cole Transportation Museum on a field trip.

Lorna Greene noted that DW Merritt has 116 enrolled, with 14 in PreK. Progress Reports went out a couple of weeks ago. She has around 40 also participating in EdGE, and had 32 runners in cross-country. DW Merritt held Safety Week with bus evacuation drills, fire safety, drug safety, technology safety and community safety as topics. The staff has been busy analyzing data from the SBACs. At the October 13th workshop, district staff were at Harrington learning about IXL and Discovery Education. Special Education staff did CPI training, and 14 staff were in Machias for Proficiency-Based Education training. In Title I, we have 41 students at DW Merritt receiving support, 42 at Harrington, 46 at Milbridge, and 19 in the Jr. High at Narraguagus. The Gifted/Talented budget has been approved, with a focus on differentiated instruction for G/T students, as well as some field trips for them.

Maria White reported that Milbridge has 111 students, with 13 in PreK. Students participated in Red Ribbon Week with an anti-bullying/anti-drug theme. Grades K-4 will have a costume parade to the Nursing Home on Friday. The Parent/Teacher group will hold a Trunk-a-Treating event on Saturday with other fun games for kids. Money raised will go to the playground fund. Thirty-five students participated in Cross Country this fall. The soccer team placed second in the league. Staff are looking over test results to see where they need to focus attention. EdGE is piloting a PreK – 6 program this year with 60 to 70 students staying each day.

Lucille Willey noted that Narraguagus has an enrollment of 287, with 82 in junior high and 205 in high school. G/T students went on a field trip to the Grand on October 2nd. Eight students participated in the Math Meet at WA on October 6th. Students in grades 9-12 participated in Spirit Day on October 20th, focusing on team building activities. On October 23rd, 23 girls from Guagus attended the Totally Trades Day at WCCC, exploring careers typically considered for men.

7. RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

ACTION: Motion by Debra Murphy, second by Michael W. Strout, and voted (unanimously) to adjust the agenda to consider an overnight Gear-Up trip.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENT: Brittany Ray requested permission to take a group of juniors and seniors to southern Maine on November 12 & 13 for college visits. She anticipates about 40 students going on the trip, which will be paid for with Gear-Up funds. Students will visit the University of New England, Southern Maine Community College Midcoast, and the University of Southern Maine campuses at Gorham and Portland, before returning home on the 13th.

ACTION: Motion by Debra Murphy, second by Michael W. Strout, and voted (unanimously) to approve the Gear-Up overnight trip on November 12 and 13 as presented.

8. RE: PRESENTATION BY DW MERRITT STUDENTS

INFORMATION: Students in grade 6 presented a video on testing in schools and why it is important.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. RE: CONSIDERATION TO JOIN THE PVC FOR HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

ACTION: John Daley noted that he and Supt. Ramsay attended a meeting in Machias on Tuesday, which was attended by PVC rep Bunki Dow. Other DAC schools from the area attended as well. They had a great conversation, explaining our position that we want to keep our ties to DAC because of history, proximity to schools, etc., but that we need more schools to play. Mr. Dow felt it might be possible for us to be a part of the PVC, as well as the DAC. If approved, there would most likely be a two-year wait. A two-thirds vote of approval by the PVC board will be needed in order for us to join.

This would allow us to play in the PVC to get the schedule we need, and still be in the DAC and play our games with the teams around here we usually play. There is a meeting in Bangor on November 12th for the PVC board, and John and Mr. Ramsay plan to attend to request that we be allowed to join in this limited fashion. Mr. Dow has given his support, but also explained he is only one vote.

Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Debra Murphy, and voted to allow the Superintendent and the Athletic Director to pursue joining the PVC with hopes that we can still be a part of the DAC.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. RE: APPROVAL OF THE FY 2015 FISCAL AUDIT

ACTION: Charemon Davis, of the accounting firm RHR Smith, provided an overview of the audit. She noted that the district is in very good shape financially. She summarized balance sheets, fund assets, fund liabilities, unassigned balances, etc.

Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Sally Thompson, and voted (unanimously) to approve the FY 2015 audit as presented.

2. RE: HIRING JR. HIGH BASKETBALL/CHEERING COACHES

ACTION: Motion by Debra Murphy, second by Sarah Willson, and voted (unanimously) to approve the following jr. high basketball and cheering coaches for the 2015-2016 season:

DW Merritt: Dan Kane, boys'; R. Michael Beal, girls'; Cecilia Robbins, cheering

Harrington: David Fraser/Tyler Tenney, boys'; Karen Kennedy, girls'; Jodi Hedberg, cheering

Milbridge: Richard Parker, boys'; Donald Parker, girls'; Crystal Doucette, cheering

3. RE: HIRING COACHES FOR GRADE 3 & 4 BASKETBALL PROGRAM

ACTION: Motion by Ronald Kennedy, second by Debra Murphy, and voted (unanimously) to approve the following coaches for the grade 3 & 4 basketball program:

DW Merritt: Dan Kane

Harrington: Jeffrey Chick

Milbridge: vacant (Maria has a couple of potential coaches; will bring a name to November meeting)

4. RE: HIRING NHS CUSTODIAN

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Michael W. Strout, and voted (unanimously) to approve the hiring of Andrew Sprague as day custodian at Narraguagus as recommended by the Superintendent.

5. **RE: APPROVAL OF NAME CHANGE TO NARRAGUAGUS JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH**
ACTION: Chairman Grant noted that because we moved 7th & 8th grades to the high school, it is appropriate for this name change to occur. The high school has already begun to refer to itself as the junior/senior high school. In case of any legal ramifications, the board should approve the change.

Motion by Sally Thompson, second by Debra Murphy, and voted (unanimously) to approve the name change from Narraguagus High School to Narraguagus Junior/Senior High School.

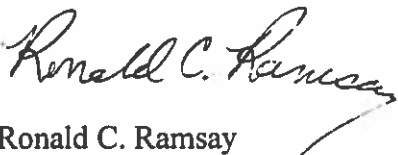
6. **RE: HIRING SUBSTITUTES**
a. **Carol Davis**
b. **Debra Dinsmore**
c. **Cheryl Phillips**

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Debra Murphy, and voted (unanimously) to approve Carol Davis, Debra Dinsmore, and Cheryl Phillips as substitute teachers as recommended by the Superintendent.

7. **RE: ADJOURNMENT**

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., and voted (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald C. Ramsay
Secretary to the Board

MEETING SUMMARY—October 28, 2015

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

2. **APPROVED** the minutes of the 9/30/15 regular meeting;
- 7 **APPROVED** agenda adjustment; **APPROVED** Gear-Up overnight trip;

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. **APPROVED** pursuing joining the PVC;

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. **APPROVED** the FY 2015 audit;
2. **HIRED** Jr. high basketball and cheering coaches;
3. **HIRED** coaches for the grade 3 & 4 basketball program;
4. **HIRED** Andrew Sprague as day custodian at Narraguagus;
5. **APPROVED** name change to Narraguagus Junior/Senior High School;
6. **HIRED** Carol Davis, Debra Dinsmore, and Cheryl Phillips as sub teachers