

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37
February 25, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of RSU/MSAD #37 was held at Narraguagus High School, Harrington, Maine, on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon the following items of business:

Board Members Present: Ronald Kennedy, Brandi Lovejoy, Debra Murphy, Charles Peterson, Jr., Drusilla Ray, Michael W. Strout, Sally Thompson, and Mark Wright

Board Members Absent: Angela Alley, Everett Grant, Beth Hartford, and Vance Pineo, Jr.

Other persons present: Ronald Ramsay, Lorna Greene, Susan Meserve, Maria White, Lucille Willey, Ron Green, Bob McIntyre, Jane Blackwood, Susan Bennett, and Dawn Fickett

MINUTES

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Murphy.**
- 2. RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES-January 29, 2015**
ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Sally Thompson, and voted (418-yes, 246-abstentions) to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2015 Regular Meeting with one amendment—Article C.-VI. indicated a unanimous vote; however, Ronald Kennedy abstained from this vote. (Ray, Strout, and Wright abstained from this vote as they were absent on 1/29/15.)
- 3. RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**
INFORMATION: Superintendent Ramsay reported that an Informational Meeting has been scheduled for March 12th regarding moving 7th and 8th grades to the high school this fall. The transition committee met yesterday and tweaked plans. A notice is being sent home to all parents, as well as being posted in the paper and on our web site.~~He noted that he is still gathering information for the Pre-K program. The board will get to vote on whether or not we want to proceed once he gets his questions answered. A Memorandum of Understanding will then be available. He's hoping to have more answers after a meeting next Friday in Augusta.~~The first budget workshop is scheduled for March 18th.~~We have received a preliminary ED 279 from the state for next year. Even though it is still in the preliminary stage, it will be helpful for budgeting. There is both bad news and good news...the bad news is that the mill rate has gone up due to increased costs. This means that we need to raise more money locally (estimated at around \$158,000). The good news is that it looks like we are getting more subsidy. This could still change, but if it stays the same, it will be good! (Peterson and Ray arrived at 7:08 and 7:12 respectively.)
- 4. RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR JANUARY 2015**
INFORMATION: We are doing very well for this time of year—much better than last year when we had several large expenses to make up that had not been added to the budget.
- 5. RE: ADULT EDUCATION REPORT—Bob McIntyre, Maine Department of Education**
INFORMATION: Bob McIntyre, from the MDOE, noted that there have been many changes to Adult Education over the past few years. The requirements are more closely aligned with K-12 education and Common Core, and teachers have to be certified to teach diploma classes now. The program follows more closely the national Career Pathways model, working individually with adults to develop individual learning plans to help them.

6. RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS INFORMATION:

- Athletics/Student Activities—no meetings.
- Curriculum & Instruction—no meetings.
- Negotiations & Grievance—Michael W. Strout noted that the committee had met, but has nothing to report at this time.
- Policy & By-laws—no meetings.
- Facilities, Maintenance, Safety, & Transportation—Meeting scheduled for March 10th.

7. RE: ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS INCLUDING NCLB/ESEA

INFORMATION: Elementary principals reported that staff are training to administer the state's ASBEC tests to students in March. Pee wee season is underway. The grades 3 & 4 basketball program wrapped up, and the students who participated had a wonderful time learning basic skills. The County Spelling Bee was hosted at Harrington, and both the winner and runner-up were from Harrington Elementary. Workshop days were used for ASBEC training. Title I staff are now allowed to administer the tests as long as they have received the training, too. New staff will participate in another Best Practices session on the 27th. G/T students will be going to the Grand on March 27th to see a performance by Chinese Acrobats.

The high school had students participating in the District VI Honors Festival, held at Ellsworth High School on February 6th. College Goal Sunday, held on Feb. 8, had approximately 35 parents and students there for help filing financial aid forms (FAFSA). Heather Thompson was voted Coach of the Year for Class C East Girls Basketball, and will coach the McDonald's Senior All-star Team at Husson. Senior Class parts have been announced, with Caryl Ann Young the Valedictorian, and Jonella Esposito as Salutatorian.

8. RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to table this article as there are no adjustments to the agenda needed.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. RE: CONSIDERATION OF 2nd READINGS OF POLICIES/PROCEDURES

- a. EFC Free and Reduced Price Food Services
- b. EFC-R Meal Charging Procedures
- c. EFE Competitive Food Sales
- d. IKF Graduation Requirements
- e. JL Student Wellness

ACTION: Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Drusilla Ray, and voted (556-yes, 108-abstentions) to approve the 2nd reading of the above policies/procedures. They now become District Policy. (Kennedy abstained.)

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. RE: HIRING JR. HIGH TRAVEL TEAM COACHES—Heather Thompson, Girls; Ordman Alley, Jr., and Ryan Fletcher, Boys

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to approve the travel team coaches above as recommended by Supt. Ramsay.

2. RE: APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT BOYS' PEE-WEE BASKETBALL COACH AT DW MERRITT—Sonny Beal

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., second by Drusilla Ray, and voted (unanimously) to approve Sonny Beal as a volunteer assistant coach at D.W. Merritt as recommended by Supt. Ramsay.

3. RE: EXTENSION OF ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTS

- a. Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to extend the contract of **Lorna Greene, Elementary Supervisory Principal** to June 30, 2017.
- b. Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Mark Wright, and voted (604-yes, 60-abstentions) to extend the contract of **Susan Hodgkins, Special Ed Director** to June 30, 2017. (Thompson abstained.)
- c. Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to extend the contract of **Susan Meserve, Teaching Principal** at Harrington to August 31, 2016.
- d. Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to extend the contract of **Brittany Ray, Guidance Director at Narraguagus** to August 31, 2017.
- e. Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to extend the contract of **Ann Roach, K-8 Guidance Counselor/Psychological Examiner** to August 31, 2017.
- f. Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Mark Wright, and voted (unanimously) to extend the contract of **Maria White, Teaching Principal at Milbridge** to August 31, 2016.

4. RE: CONSIDERATION OF CONTINUED SHARING OF STAFF WITH CHERRYFIELD SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

ACTION: Supt. Ramsay noted that the Withdrawal Agreement between RSU #37 and the Cherryfield School Department allows either party to decide to no longer share staff, but the notification date is late for budgeting purposes. If we want to consider not continuing to share staff, we should make that decision now. He shared some reasons why he feels it would be prudent to discontinue the sharing agreement:

- Cherryfield has not kept all of the shared staff we started with. They have chosen to keep some, but not all of the shared staff.
- If 7th and 8th grade move to the high school, it would give us more time that we can use our itinerants to help provide services to them at the high school and also increase time for K-6 for art, phys ed, and music.
- We are hoping to expand the CNA program to include CRMA, and eliminating the need for Samantha Beal, School Nurse, to go to Cherryfield gives us more time for her to do the CRMA.
- It would decrease the revenue we receive from Cherryfield (approx.. \$50,000) but would not increase the budget since we already budget for these staff members as full-time employees, and then get reimbursed by Cherryfield for the portion of time they utilize their services.

Supt. Ramsay noted that if the board agreed to discontinue sharing services, he and the administrative team will put together a plan for how to utilize these people full-time in the district.

Motion by Michael W. Strout, second by Drusilla Ray, and voted (unanimously) to not continue sharing staff with Cherryfield Elementary School as of September 1, 2015.

5. RE: ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Motion by Charles Peterson, Jr., and voted (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald C. Ramsay

Ronald C. Ramsay
Secretary to the Board

MEETING SUMMARY—February 25, 2015

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

2. Approved the minutes of the 1/29/15 Regular Meeting;
8. TABLED agenda adjustment;

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVED 2nd reading of policies/procedures EFC, EFC-R, EFE, IKF, JL;

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. HIRED jr. high travel team coaches—H. Thompson (girls), O. Alley, Jr., and R. Fletcher (boys);
2. APPROVED S. Beal as volunteer assistant for DWM pee wee boys;
3. EXTENDED contracts of administrators—Greene, Hodgkins, Meserve, Ray, Roach, White;
4. APPROVED NOT sharing staff with Cherryfield beginning Sept. 1, 2015.