

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The 2nd Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors
For 2016-17 will be held

Thursday, August 25, 2016 6:00 pm Cedar Street Conference Room
Finance Committee Meeting 5:30 pm

~MINUTES~

Present:, Darcie Calden, Doug DiPasquale, Tammy Frost, Amy McDaniel, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Joel Pike, Cea Jay Pitcher, Holly Richards, Denise Rodzen, Laurie Sanborn and Cindy Young.

Absent: Jackie Knight

Present: Trevor Doiron, Student Representative.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER Denise Rodzen, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.
- 3. ATTENDANCE**
12 Present
1 Absent (Jackie Knight)
1 Student Representative Present
- 4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**
16.1 and 16.2
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
5.1 August 11, 2016 – Board Meeting minutes
Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Michael Morrell to approve the minutes of August 11, 2016 regular Board meeting as read.
Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 3 (Joel Pike, Amy McDaniel and Denise Rodzen) Abstain
- 6. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE - None**
- 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**
- 8. BOARD COMMENTS – Chair Rodzen thanked Trevor Doiron for supporting our community at the Democratic National Convention.**
- 9. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
As of August 25, 2016 our student population is 1475 PK – 12. SMPS 442, SMES 313, SMMS 299 and SMHS 421. I have passed out a list of personnel recently hired in non-teaching and administrative positions. You also have a list of personnel by school. Tammy

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Gordon, secretary in Adult Education, will be doing the sub calling for this school year.
Thank you Robyn.

The Administrative Team held a retreat on August 17 and 18. It was a very productive two days that not only allowed for professional collaboration but a little personal relaxation for the A Team.

Last week I had a visit from a community member who has expressed an interest in purchasing the LFMS. I have our lawyers researching the legal and proper way to put the building up for sale. I will be meeting with the town manager tomorrow. We need to cover our cost of the sale at a minimum. I will let you know as it progresses.

We have signed the joint Town of Jay and RSU 73 Fuel Storage Agreement effective August 12, 2016

I have been asked to serve as the Chair of a Visiting Committee for an upcoming NEASC visit in Maine from October 29, 2016 to November 2, 2016.

I plan on taking vacation over the Christmas and New Year breaks to visit my family in the Philippines. I should be gone from approximately December 20, 2016 to January 10, 2017 depending on flight availability. During my time away there are not any School Board meetings scheduled.

Cindy Young asked a question about the parking lot at LFMS. Superintendent Healey said that the interested party would need the parking lot, the little lot at Griffin Field is ours but the parking lot would be a part of the middle school property. We would ask for easements so that the parking lot could be used during sports activities. The interested party is a community member who is aware of what happens up there. Cindy Young also asked about secretarial staff at the primary school.

Doug DiPasquale asked if the quote to tear down the middle school was now not valid, Superintendent Healey said that it is indeed valid but if we can put this property to good use that would be very good for the community.

10. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT - NONE

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - NONE

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

12.1 Special Services - Tina Collins

Tina Collins handed out to Board members a pamphlet on Telepractice for Speech and Hearing Services. She stated that she has been unable to hire a speech and language pathologist for the district which has been open since last spring. With the help of the technology department we are pushing forward with teletherapy practice using video communication with a speech/language pathologist. This is a

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new leap forward. I have spoken to everyone in the state and teletherapy is becoming quite the practice in rural areas because of the shortage of practitioners. We have been researching and talking with Orono and it does work efficiently with the right students. We will be carefully selecting the right students. Craig Suttie is setting up the space for this to work effectively. The students get to log onto the computer and the speech pathologist is on the screen. This practice is HIPAA compliant and does not use a lot of broadband. We are doing test run on Monday with our practitioner, Laura Connor who was our pathologist here until she moved to Virginia where she established her own practice, she will maintain her Maine license. She will either work with individuals or in small groups. Once we have it all set up I would be happy to do a quick demo for you. It all looks pretty exciting. Laura will be allocating 3 days per week, it will all depend on the caseload. RSU 10 has been doing teletherapy for 2 years with Orono.

Doug DiPasquale asked if there was room at the primary school and Tina replied that there is space set up at the primary and middle school and space will be set up at the elementary school if need be. Amy McDaniel asked if we are going to continue advertising for a speech therapist. Tina Collins said we do have a contract for one year and will be assessing at Christmas time. Joel Pike asked if the contract was with an individual or with an agency and Tina replied that the contract is with Laura Connor.

12.2 Food Service – Dora York

I just received notification that 3 of our 4 schools have qualified for Lets Go recognition. The elementary school received a bronze, the primary school a silver and the high school received a bronze. This program honors school lunchrooms best practice. The middle school did not fill out the necessary paperwork for the recognition but they will be doing so this year. Free and reduced lunch forms will be going home with the students the first day of school. Holly Richards asked if parents should complete the form even if they are not eligible and Dora said yes, everyone should complete the form and return it to the school. Joel Pike asked if there would be a giveaway like last year and Dora said no. Chair Rodzen said that maybe we could get you something.

12.3 Technology – Craig Suttie

We have had a big summer. We have assessed and maintained the infrastructure for the middle school and elementary school. We upgraded the wireless at the Spruce Mountain Elementary School. The entire grade 5 will be piloting Chromebooks. We have undergone the MLTI refresh experience and devices

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probably will not get to students and staff for at least 2 – 6 weeks. The process has been held up due to the state missing deadlines for giving us the software and other necessary inventory. I will know more tomorrow. Joel Pike asked if we have the actual image. Craig replied that there are 3 parts and the imaging is the last and easiest. We are waiting for all kinds of information from the state before we can proceed.

12.4 Adult Education – Robyn Raymond

Our new catalogue was mailed out last week. Over the summer, we piloted a credit recovery program using a new learning management system, Odysseyware. Odysseyware provides common-core aligned curriculum and each student pre-tests to assess their current level of knowledge within a content area and it creates a student-specific class to meet their needs. All students that started the 6 week pilot with us finished, and finished strong. They also reported that this program was much more user friendly and provided multiple ways to learn the material taking into consideration their learning style. Thanks TJ Plourde and Amanda Hersey for supporting this new initiative. We're hoping to continue increasing high school completion rates through this method.

We recently partnered with Ed2Go; an online company that caters to adult learners looking to expand their skill sets.

Just a sneak peek as to what we'll be offering in the spring semester: Grant proposal writing; Accounting; Human Resource and leadership; Marketing/Business software; Entrepreneurial courses; Real Estate Investing.

We are looking for volunteers to read and write with some of our learners who are looking to maintain their basic skills. Chairman Rodzen asked if we have books here and Robyn replied that yes we do. Holly Richards asked if we will train volunteers and again Robyn replied yes.

12.5 Facilities/Transportation – Ken Vining

I have passed out some information for your review. It has been a very busy summer. Team worked very well together. Moving worked out better than I had anticipated. We finished up last week the gym in the middle school and the primary school. It has gone great this year. A good thing that happened this summer was that the superintendent and I would take a road trip to all the buildings every two or three weeks to check on progress and see how things were going. Everything went so much better this year. We have had training for the last day and a half and it has gone exceptionally well. In August Jackie Kilbreth and Deanna Hamblin put on a CPR AED training and 16 of our group have been certified. We also viewed a

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video on bullying, it was fabulous. It is geared towards middle and high school students. If anyone is interested in seeing this video just let me know. One of our buses did not pass inspection this summer, our new buses will be here next week. I had a wonderful opportunity to attend a class on soils and ground maintenance which was very helpful and has really helped out with maintaining our fields. We are at full strength with staff but have two people currently out on medical leave. You will also find that you have the snow plowing bid for this year and we have an option for two years. The cost is the same as the last few years. I hope you will consider this bid this evening and vote on it.

Shari Ouellette asked if we had spare drivers, Ken Vining replied No.

Cindy Young asked how many years we have had Castonguay plow and Ken Vining replied at least 5 or 6 years, since consolidation. Tammy Frost asked what they plow in Livermore Falls and Ken Vining replied that just the Superintendent's office is the only place plowed

13. POLICY - None

14. OLD BUSINESS

14.1 Consideration for approval of the 2016/2017 SMPS Handbook.

Motion by Darcie Calden and seconded by Shari Ouellette to approve the 2016/2017 SMPS Handbook.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 2 (Joel Pike and Amy McDaniel)

15. NEW BUSINESS

15.1 Bid for snow plowing for snow

Motion by Cindy Young and seconded by Shari Ouellette to accept the snow plow bid from Castonguay's.

Discussion

Michael Morrell asked if they could have the amount of times they came to plow last year, Ken Vining will provide at next meeting. Ken Vining was directed to ask Castonguay's if they could be more specific about the statement "If gas prices spike there will be an additional charge". Speak to towns and see if they would be interested in plowing.

Motion withdrawn.

16. APPOINTMENTS

16.1 Executive Session to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

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Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Darcie Calden to enter into Executive Session at 7:18 pm to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Vote: 13 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Return from Executive Session 7:23 pm.

16.2 Superintendent nominates Bernadette Bessey to the position of SMMS 6th Grade Teacher for the 2016/2017 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprinting status.

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to approve Bernadette Bessey to the position of SMMS 6th Grade Teacher for the 2016/2017 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Vote: 12 Yes 0 No 1 (Trevor Doiron) Abstain

17. OTHER BUSINESS - None

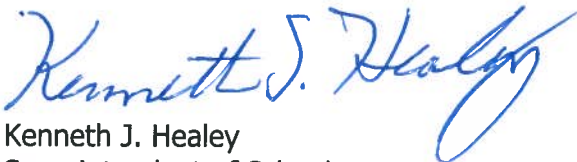
18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brown Scholarship meeting after this Board Meeting.
Regular Board Meeting on:
September 8, 2016 – Regular Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Conference Room

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Darcie Calden to adjourn at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Kenneth J. Healey
Superintendent of Schools