

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 11th Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors
For 2014-15 will be held

Thursday, February 12, 2015 6:00 p.m. at Cedar Street Learning Center

5:00 pm Policy Committee Meeting

5:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

~MINUTES~

Present: Darcie Calden, Tammy Frost, Tamara Hoke, Jackie Knight, Tim Madden, Amy McDaniel, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Bert Poisson, Denise Rodzen and Cindy Young.

Absent: Michael Schaedler

1. CALL TO ORDER: Denise Rodzen, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all present.

Denise Rodzen states "With a heavy heart, I declare a vacancy within the Board due to the passing of Diane Gould. I now ask for a moment of silence in her honor."

Mark Holt has been asked to take that vacancy.

Move Agenda item 15.3 to take place after 13. Policy.

ATTENDANCE

11 Members Present

1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA - None

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

January 8, 2015 – Board meeting minutes

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Darcie Calden to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2015 Board meeting as presented.

Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain

1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent

6. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Retirement of Deborah Packard from the position of Jay Elementary School kindergarten teacher at the end of the 2014/2015 school year.

Motion by Cindy Young and seconded by Jackie Knight to accept with regret the retirement of Deborah Packard from the position of JES kindergarten teacher at the end of the 2014/2015 school year.

Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain

1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent

6.2 Retirement of Michael Methvin from the position of SMMS Physical Education teacher at the end of the 2014/2015 school year.

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Darcie Calden to accept with regret the retirement of Michael Methvin from the position of SMMS physical education teacher at the end of the 2014/2015 school year.

**Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

6.3 Retirement of Randy Easter from the position of SMMS Technology Coordinator at the end of the 2014/2015 school year.

Motion by Darcie Calden and seconded by Michael Morrell to accept with regret the retirements of Randy Easter from the position of SMMS Technology Coordinator and of Jennifer Easter from the position of SMMS Grade 6 Language Arts teacher at the end of the 2014/2015 school year.

**Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

6.4 Retirement of Jennifer Easter from the position of SMMS Grade 6 Language Arts teacher at the end of the 2014/2015 school year.

Motion by Darcie Calden and seconded by Michael Morrell to accept with regret the retirements of Randy Easter from the position of SMMS Technology Coordinator and of Jennifer Easter from the position of SMMS Grade 6 Language Arts teacher at the end of the 2014/2015 school year.

**Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

6.5 Resignation of Eileen Miazga from the position of Adult Education Director.

Motion by Tamara Hoke and seconded by Shari Ouellette to accept the resignation of Eileen Miazga from the position of Adult Education Director.

**Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Community members expressed concerns about bullying issues at the Spruce Mountain Middle School.

8. BOARD COMMENTS

Shari Ouellette wanted to congratulate Emily Wilson as the winner of the Franklin County Spelling Bee. She will be competing in the State Spelling Bee on March 21st in Portland. Amy McDaniel said that she had been informed that the high school robotics team bus going out of state for a competition has been pulled. The district does not have insurance to cover busses going out of state. We are checking with our insurance company to see if we can use our busses to go out of state.

Cindy Young visited LES on Friday, it was great, I was so impressed with the hard work and volunteers. The kids were having fun.

Denise Rodzen heard from parents and they loved it!!

Tammy Frost said she received a letter in the mail from the steering committee of the professional development team inviting community members to a meeting on March 10th. These letters are going out to all community members.

Darcie Calden asked if the governor declares a snow day, does that day count as a day to be made up. Mr. Healey said that "yes" those days need to be made up.

Michael Morrell wanted to give a "shout out" to JES about their great sliding party.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

I have been privileged to work on negotiations and we are very close to having a contract for the bus drivers/custodian group, I would like to extend a thank you to all involved. I have also attended several meetings representing the district.

10. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

I will not be here for the next Board meeting on the 26th. Michael Morrell, Assistant Board Chair, will be in charge.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

12.1. Transportation and Grounds – Ken Vining

Everything is going well. We have lots of snow and we will be spending most of the vacation week shoveling the roofs off. Bus 9 and 31 have been having major problems, currently bus 31 is parked. I have also provided a handout with estimates of costs for some projects.

12.2. Technology – Craig Suttie

For the past 6 weeks we've been consumed with the new Maine Educational Assessment. On the backend of technology tests to ensure network bandwidth is ample for the testing devices and the test itself-and it is; backend configurations for loading the secure browser necessary for the test has been completed; and on the data end of things 3 databases have been completed with one final roster to be done in 2 weeks. Collectively as district, we have attended webinars, seminars and training. Currently, Carol and Randy have been putting together training packets to be ready for the training dates, special ed teachers have been preparing accommodations, principals have been stressing about how to fit another testing window into the school year, and some teachers have been attending online training to be certified test administrators. By the time the test dates arrive, all teachers will be certified test administrators and will use technology to implement the online portions of the assessment. Testing information has been posted on the district website students are encouraged to take a practice test and parents if you dare can take the test as well.....I have heard that some adults have spent 20 minutes on a single question from a fourth grade test...that would be me....if one is not accustomed to this type of exam familiarity will take you a long ways....this is unprecedented. It is going to be a tough for all of us but if we can be agents of change for the next time around we will all be the better for it. Please visit www.maine.gov/doe/assessments to learn more.

12.3. Special Services – Tina Collins

I have passed out two handouts, the first is a letter from Jan Breton, Maine DOE Director of Special Services noting the successful completion of our Corrective Action Plan. The second handout is the district report card which indicates that we meet requirements of the State Performance Plan.

There will be a benefit spaghetti supper on February 28 for Ryan Riley and also a benefit supper on March 7 for Cathy Nichols.

13 POLICY

14 OLD BUSINESS

14.1 Discussion and possible action on the future of unoccupied RSU 73 buildings.

Motion by Bert Poisson and seconded by Amy McDaniel to formally shut down Livermore Falls High School building and authorize the superintendent to offer Livermore Falls High School and Livermore Falls Middle School to the select persons of Livermore Falls.

**Vote: 9 Yes 2 (Jackie Knight and Cindy Young) No
0 Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

5. NEW BUSINESS

- 15.1 Presentation by Barbara Jewett and students, Jobs for Maine Graduates. Mrs. Jewett and students spoke to the happenings of JMG and how it has helped.
- 15.2 Professional Development Committee presentation by Donna Labbe. The Professional Development Committee would like to propose a calendar change. The Committee would like approval to move teacher workshop day currently on the 25th of March to the 13th of March.

Motion by Bert Poisson and seconded by Michael Morrell to approve the request by the Professional Development Committee to move the March workshop day from March 25 to March 13, 2015.

**Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

Tammy Frost and Tim Madden were selected from the Board to serve on the search committee for a new Assistant Principal/Athletic Director.
Jackie Knight and Tamara Hoke were selected from the Board to serve on the search committee for a new Adult Education Director.

- 15.3 (moved to after Policy) Executive Session to receive legal advice on grievance filed at Level III of the Grievance Process pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Darci Calden to enter into Executive Session at 6:53pm to receive legal advice on grievance filed at Level III of the Grievance Process pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

**Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

Back from executive session at 7:13 pm.

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Jackie Knight to enter into Executive Session at 7:17pm to hear grievance filed at Level III of the Grievance Process pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

**Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

Back from executive session at 7:42 pm.

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Jackie Knight to enter into Executive Session at 7:45pm to discuss grievance filed at Level III of the Grievance Process pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

**Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

Back from executive session at 8:58 pm.

Motion by Amy McDaniel and seconded by Bert Poisson to deny the Level III grievance and to direct our legal counsel to come up with the legal reasons why it was denied.

**Vote: 7 Yes 4 (Tamara Hoke, Jackie Knight, Denise Rodzen and Cindy Young) No 0 Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

16. APPOINTMENTS

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

Motion by Bert Poisson and seconded by Jackie Knight to enter into Executive Session to personnel appointments at 9:52pm pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

**Vote: 11 Yes 0No 0Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

Back at 10:14 PM

16.2 Superintendent nominates Lindsey Jacques to the position of SMHS Varsity Alpine Ski Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Motion by Tammy Frost and seconded by Tim Madden to approve the nomination of Lindsey Jacques to the position of SMHS Varsity Alpine Ski Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

**Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

16.3 Superintendent nominates David Frey to the position of SMHS JV Baseball Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Bert Poisson to table the nominations of the SMHS JV Baseball Coach and the SMHS JV Softball Coach position to such time as the board can interview Mr. Hixon about the KVAC conference.

**Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

16.5 Superintendent nominates Alison Littlefield to the position of Crossroads Ed Tech II for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Motion by Jackie Knight and seconded by Bert Poisson to approve the nomination of Alison Littlefield to the position of Crossroads Ed Tech II for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

**Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

16.6 Superintendent nominates Jocelyn Mosher-Collins to the position of SMHS JV Softball Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Bert Poisson to table the nominations of the SMHS JV Baseball Coach and the SMHS JV Softball Coach position to such time as the board can interview Mr. Hixon about the KVAC conference.

**Vote: 11Yes 0No 0Abstain
2 (Michael Schaedler) Member Absent**

17. OTHER BUSINESS

18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Note: The next regular meeting will be on:

February 26, 2015 – Regular Board Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Learning Center

