

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 10th Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors

For 2014-15 will be held

Thursday, January 8, 2015 6:00 p.m. at Cedar Street Learning Center

~Minutes~

Present: Darcie Calden, Tammy Frost, Diane Gould, Tamara Hoke, Jackie Knight, Tim Madden, Amy McDaniel, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Bert Poisson, Denise Rodzen, Michael Schaedler (arrived at 6:40pm) and Cindy Young.

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.

3. **ATTENDANCE**

12 Members Present

1 Member Absent (Michael Schaedler arrived at 6:40pm)

4. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA - New Business, Appointments and Other Business**

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

December 11, 2014 – Board meeting minutes

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2014 Board meeting as presented.

Vote:

10 Yes

0 No

2 Abstain (Amy McDaniel and Bert Poisson)

1 Member Absent (Michael Schaedler arrived at 6:40pm)

6. **COMMUNCIATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 Resignation of Matthew Giustra from the position of SMHS Spanish Teacher, effective January 16, 2015.

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Jackie Knight to accept the resignation of Matthew Giustra from the position of SMHS Spanish Teacher, effective January 16, 2015.

Vote:

12 Yes

0 No

0 Abstain

1 Member Absent (Michael Schaedler arrived at 6:40pm)

6.2 Resignation of Lee Hixon from the position of SMHS Assistant Principal and Athletic Administrator effective June 30, 2015.

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to accept the resignation of Lee Hixon with regret from the position of SMHS Assistant Principal and Athletic Administrator effective June 30, 2015.

Vote:

12 Yes

0 No

0 Abstain

1 Member Absent (Michael Schaedler arrived at 6:40pm)

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A parent addressed concerns he had about his child's needs being met.

Kristy Labonte read a prepared statement regarding policy KF – Public Use of Facilities.

Deb Finley also spoke of her concerns with the changes to the new policy. Chair Rodzen said that the Board has to be able to protect the district's assets. Superintendent Healey stated that the Board makes policy and he enforces it, therefore he will carry out any policy that the Board approves. After some discussion Chair Rodzen tabled the final reading of 13.3 Policy KF – Public Use of Facilities. Superintendent Healey will meet with all building administrators to determine what groups are currently using the buildings and report back to the Policy Committee.

Motion by Tim Madden and seconded by Cindy Young to allow status quo with building use right now until the policy is finalized.

Michael Schaedler arrived at 6:40pm.

Vote:	11 Yes	1 No (Amy McDaniel)
	1 Abstain (Shari Ouellette)	

8. BOARD COMMENTS

Amy McDaniel went to the Lego League competition in Augusta and said that our students did very well, it was a pretty amazing day.

Bert Poisson mentioned that his son just transferred from Mt. Blue. His son is very happy here, he loves the school spirit. It has nothing to do with a campus, it has to do with a mentality.

Michael Schaedler distributed an email he received from Martin Swinger to the elementary school principals. Mr. Swinger is a song writer that works with children utilizing the brain's natural inclination to remember words connected to music, helping children remember the facts of any curriculum lesson.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Healey stated that he hoped everyone had a fun filled and relaxing vacation. He recently had a meeting with Siemens Energy and they have requested that we do an energy audit with them. The Building and Grounds Committee needs to look at this request. They also need to look at what our future plans are. Superintendent Healey handed out an amended Budget timeline. We will be having 1 day where presentations will take place. Superintendent Healey assured everyone that he will not be overloading everyone with a lot of information. The Board will hear directly from the administrators. The Board will be receiving their Budget Books on February 26. Superintendent Healey will be attending the Maine School Superintendents Association Winter Convocation on January 14 and 15th

10. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Rodzen announced that the Negotiations Team would be meeting after this Board meeting.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

12.1 Spruce Mountain High School – Thomas Plourde

The majority of the senior class has completed the college application process. Financial Aid nights have gone very well. Scholarships are online and available. Winter athletics are well underway. Failure rates continue to go down. Semester 1 ends January 23. Mid-year exams will be January 20th – 23rd. Testing will be done during second semester – NAEP testing will be 52 random seniors, SAT, NWEA and Smarter Balanced testing. Robotics team is doing great things. The PBE Extension has been approved, BYOC continues and Winter Carnival will be starting up. We

also have a PTO at the high school now. We have been awarded a big GEAR-UP grant, \$75,000 per year for the next 7 years. There will be an informational meeting on January 29 at UMF North Dining Hall from 8:30 am – 3:00pm)

- 12.2 Spruce Mountain Middle School – Scott Albert
Congratulations to the SMMS students of the month. They are: Grade 6 – Julianna Adams and Chandler Pike; Grade 7 - Lila Ortega and Connor Beaulieu and Grade 8 - Moreland Brochu and Caleb Blanche. Also, congratulations to Abigail Thurston who won the local Patriots Pen Writing Contest and she received a third place in the regional competition. Doug Saunders with the Franklin County Children’s Task Force came to SMMS to speak to the children about cyber bullying, he will be back in the spring. Congratulations to the Lego Teams who participated in the 15th annual competition.
- 12.3 Jay Elementary School – Chris Hollingsworth
The JES PTO was awarded 800 Community Coffee Mugs from Dunkin Donuts. They are given to the PTO free of charge by Dunkin Donuts and are sold by the PTO as a fundraiser for \$20.00. The teacher evaluation stakeholders will be meeting on January 15 at 3 pm in central office.
- 12.4 Livermore Elementary School – Kevin Harrington
The budget process is coming along well. The holiday concerts were great. Many gift cards were donated and our Giving Tree was a great success. We also have Coats for Kids campaign going on and we received many donations. If anyone is in need, please contact our office. We have had a sharp decrease in issues with our students. Also, 150 families were able to get a free 5x7 photograph of their child at no cost to the parents. On January 23 we will be having an “Evening on the Hill” at our sliding hill, there will be sliding, ice skating and a bon fire. Tomorrow the ice skating rink is going in.

13. POLICY

- 13.1 Final Reading Policy CFAA – Acting Principal
13.2 Final Reading Policy EBAA – Chemical Hazards
13.3 Final Reading Policy KF – Public Use of Facilities - **Tabled**
Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Tim Madden to approve as the final readings of policies CFAA – Acting Principal and EBAA – Chemical Hazards.
Vote: 13 Yes 0No 0Abstain

14. OLD BUSINESS - None

15. NEW BUSINESS

- 15.1 Presentation by Spruce Mountain School District nurse Deanna Hamblin on head lice.
The district nurses presented a power point about head lice.
- 15.2 Presentation by Spruce Mountain School District physician on chicken pox and whopping cough.
Dr. Michele Knapp spoke of the epidemic of whopping cough in the Farmington area. We have had some cases of chicken pox here in RSU 73. Dr. Knapp went over the signs, treatment and precautions of both whopping cough and chicken pox.
- 15.3 Update on Transitional Grades (Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd) at Jay Elementary School by Chris Hollingsworth and Wendy Deming.
Principal Hollingsworth provided a handout that outlined the progress of the transitional classrooms. Wendy Deming spoke about the progress. There has been great success in the transitional classrooms to date.

- 15.4 Authorize the search committee for Assistant Principal and Athletic Administrator for SMHS.
Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Amy McDaniel to create a search committee for the purpose of hiring an Assistant Principal/Athletic Administrator for SMHS.
Vote: 13 Yes 0No 0Abstain

16. APPOINTMENTS

- 16.1 Executive Session to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).
**Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Jackie Knight to enter into Executive Session at 8:20 pm to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).
Out of Executive Session at 8:28 pm.**
- 16.2 Superintendent nominates Sarah Wardell to the position of SMHS Spanish Teacher 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 Sarah Wardell to the position of SMHS Spanish Teacher for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.
Vote: 13Yes 0No 0Abstain
- 16.3 Superintendent nominates Clint Brooks to the position of SMHS Varsity Softball Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.
Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Diane Gould to approve the nomination of Clint Brooks to the position of SMHS Varsity Softball Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.
Vote: 13 Yes 0No 0Abstain
- 16.4 Superintendent nominates Brian Dube to the position of SMHS Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.
Motion by Jackie Knight and seconded by Shari Ouellette to approve the nomination of Brian Dube to the position of SMHS Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.
Vote: 12Yes 1 (Denise Rodzen)No 0Abstain

17. OTHER BUSINESS

- 17.1 Discussion about the future use of Livermore Falls High School and Livermore Falls Middle School.
Superintendent Healey will meet with Stacie Field to find out what our potential savings will be if the building is closed. This item will be placed on the January 22, 2015 agenda.

Jackie Knight mentioned that Coats for Kids raised \$3000.00 this year.
- 17.2 Executive session to discuss a personnel matter in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).
Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Bert Poisson to enter into Executive Session at 8:47pm to discuss a personnel matter in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).
Vote: 13Yes 0No 0Abstain
Out of Executive Session at 9:11 pm.
No Action Taken

18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Note: The next regular meeting will be on:

January 22, 2015 – Regular Board Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Learning Center

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Diane Gould and seconded by Mike Morell to adjourn at 9:12 pm.

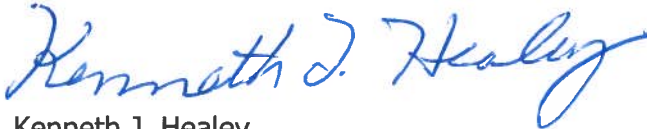
Vote:

13Yes

0No

0Abstain

Respectfully submitted:



Kenneth J. Healey

Superintendent of Schools