

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 6th Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors

For 2015-16 will be held

Thursday, October 22, 2015 6:30 pm Cedar Street Conference Room

~MINUTES~

Present: Doug DiPasquale, Tammy Frost, Mark Holt, Jackie Knight, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Holly Richards, Denise Rodzen, Laurie Sanborn, Michael Schaedler and Cindy Young.

Trevor Doiron – Student Representative

Absent: Joel Pike, Amy McDaniel

1. CALL TO ORDER: Denise Rodzen, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

3. ATTENDANCE

11 Members Present

2 (Joel Pike and Amy McDaniel) Members Absent

1 Student Representative Present

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Finance Committee meeting canceled.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

October 8, 2015 – Board Meeting minutes

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Cindy Young to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2015 regular Board Meeting minutes with changes.

Vote:

12 Yes

0 No

2 (Jackie Knight and

Trevor Doiron) Abstain

6. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

The Administrators Association have asked to start negotiations.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

8. BOARD COMMENTS

Denise Rodzen is attending the MSMA Fall Conference today and tomorrow, there are 700 people participating.

Mike Schaedler mention that if schools want to contact na.org they will do presentations in schools at no charge.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

I am also at that MSMA Fall Conference. The guest speaker this morning was Chris Cassidy, a NASA astronaut and Navy Seal who graduated from York High School, York, Maine. He was absolutely phenomenal.

I would like to welcome Michele Coates who is our new business manager. I am thrilled to have her here, she is a very warm and kind person who will be a great asset to our district. I would like welcome Trevor Doiron as the nominee for Student Representative to the Board of Directors. I met with him earlier this week, he is a very bright young man with a great interest in learning about what we do here.

I also have a thank you letter from Emily Taylor who was one of the recipients of the Marcia & Louis Brown scholarship.

I had the privilege of participating in Johnny Appleseed at JES. It was great, the teachers are doing a great job at JES.

The governor has now appointed Dr. William Beardsley as the new Acting DOE Commissioner, Tom Desjardin will serve as the Acting Deputy Commissioner. At our last meeting I was asked for a list support staff that have been hired since July 2015, I have handed out that list to each of you.

On Tuesday the selectmen of the town of Livermore Falls, acting on a request from me to accept the offer of Livermore Falls High School once again, and as predicted, they rejected the offer. The next step is to put an ad in the paper offering the property for sale. The ad will run in the Sun Journal for 14 days at a cost of approximately \$2200.00 and in the Advertiser for the next two weeks at a cost of \$56 for each week. The ad will also be placed on the district's web site. Once all offers are in, you will decide to accept or deny the offer. If we are not successful in getting offers, we may decide to get a realtor involved who will market the property. With your approval I would like to put ads in both the Sun Journal and Advertiser. Approval given. The attorneys would recommend that if an offer is received that it should go up for a vote by the citizens.

Also, the administrative team conducted strategic planning sessions to project both educational and building and grounds needs for the district over the next 5-10 years. All of these things could be adjusted, I will be presenting an overview of our recommendation later this evening.

The Maine Labor Board has sent us correspondence concerning the Managers and Directors which has been posted for 15 days. This gives employees time to object to the voluntary recognition. After this period if there has not been any objection, the Maine Labor Board should agree to have request for MEA serve as the bargaining agent for the Directors/Managers.

Further discussion on the Livermore Falls High School building. I will carry out your wishes.

10. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT - None

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

12.1 Spruce Mountain High School – Thomas Plourde

Things going well. NEWA testing is going on for students, it is all on the web this year and going a lot better than with the server. SMHS Golf Team won the Good Sportsmanship Award. Fall sports are winding down and Winter sports will be starting pretty soon. Students are doing very well, PSAT scores will be back in a couple of months. We are not doing Smarter Balanced testing, we will be doing the SAT for state assessment. As a staff note, evaluation seminars on late arrival Wednesday's have been going very well with curriculum talk - it is a good atmosphere. The seniors are doing a fundraiser "Cow patty bingo", the prize is a ¼ side of beef.

12.2 Spruce Mountain Middle School – Scott Albert

We are at the half way point of the first trimester. Progress reports went out last Friday, parent conferences were this week and they were well attended.

Congratulations to the September Students of the Month:

**Grade 6 Owen Bryant and Courtney Hogan
Grade 7 Felicia Rodriguez and Kayla Rivers
Grade 8 Levi St. Pierre and Lila Ortega**

The 2015/2016 SMMS Student Counsel is:

6th Grade- Alyssa Beaulieu, Haley Jackson, Jenna Badeau, Annalise Redman and Jordyn Mitchell as the alternate

7th Grade- Owen Wilkins, Jack Gilbert, Julia Grant, Elise Spencer and Drew Delaney as the alternate

8th Grade- Annabelle Collins, Riley Gray, Thomas Hebert, Kayla Adams, and Acacia Fournier as the alternate

We are beginning a new program on Monday October 26 and every Monday after school – Spruce Mountain A & M, like Texas A & M. A & M stands Agriculture and Mechanical. It is a hands on program for students of all abilities. This program will be run by Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Bonnevie. Students will be working on computer programs, robotics, agriculture and aquarium science, gardening, etc. This program is offered through funding from the 21st Century Grant.

12.3 Livermore Elementary School – Kevin Harrington

The Foster Grandparent Program has begun. We have one foster grandparent in kindergarten and one in grade 3 helping students in the classroom.

We currently have UMF students doing practicums, we have a student teacher starting in grade 2 and two in kindergarten who will be finishing up.

We had full scale fire drill on October 13 with firetrucks and emergency personnel.

We are working on a grant through The William Newkirk and Cheryl Tschanz Family Foundation. One grant request is for the Eagle Pantry and the other is for speakers for the gym/music rooms.

Chicken pox has shown up here at Livermore Elementary School and we are following the CDC's guidelines. Eight students were not immunized, 3 or the 8 students are back in school.

There will be a Veteran's Day luncheon on the November 12th and 13th.

Conferences are coming up on November 17th and 18th.

Our student numbers were are up to 420, 204 boys and 216 girls, kindergarten is our largest class with 72 students.

12.4 Jay Elementary School – Chris Hollingsworth

We recently had Grandparents Day which was overwhelming attended this year.

I have handed out information on an upcoming community focus group.

I would like to give thanks to Jen Talbot. She is doing a great job teaching the class on late arrival Wednesday's to staff. I would also like to thank Donna Labbe, Denise Cloutier and Terry LeClerc. The communication this year has been wonderful. If they have any questions they come directly to me and if I have questions I go directly to them.

13 POLICY - None

14 OLD BUSINESS – None

15 NEW BUSINESS

15.1 Strategic Plan

The Administrative Team has met over two blocks of time and worked to identify what is most important for the district. I asked them to prioritize the list, this is a draft. Facilities would have to be discussed with the Buildings and Grounds Committee. The most dire need overwhelmingly voted on by Administrative Team members was the need for a Curriculum Coordinator. I am looking for authorization to hire a Curriculum Coordinator by 1/1/16. No additional money would be required.

Denise Rodzen said that Mr. Healey could make his request for a Curriculum Coordinator at the next Board meeting on November 12, 2015.

Cindy Young wanted to make sure all were in agreement to do away with the Livermore Elementary School Assistant Principal.

15.2 Superintendent recommends approval of Trevor Doiron as the Student Board of Directors Representative for the RSU 73 School Board.

Motion by Jackie Knight and seconded by Michael Morrell to approve Trevor Doiron as the Student Board of Directors Representative for the RSU 73 School Board.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

15.3 Superintendent recommends approval of the FY 17 Budget Timeline.
Timeline was reviewed, not additional input provided.

15.4 School Board discussion on names on nomination forms.
Discussion.

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 at 7:58 pm to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Return from Executive Session at 8:08 pm.

16.2 Superintendent nominates Bill Acritelli to the position of SMHS Alpine Ski Coach for the 2015/2016 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Motion by Jackie Knight and seconded by Holly Richards to approve Bill Acritelli to the position of SMHS Alpine Ski Coach for the 2015/2016 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

16.3 Superintendent nominates Scott Bessey to the position of SMHS Boys Varsity Basketball Coach for the 2015/2016 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status

Motion by Jackie Knight and seconded by Cindy Young to approve Scott Bessey to the position of SMHS Boys Varsity Basketball Coach for the 2015/2016 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 1 Abstain (Shari Ouellette)

17 OTHER BUSINESS

18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting will be on:

November 12, 2015 – Regular Board Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Conference Room

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jackie Knight and seconded by Michael Morrell to adjourn at 8:10 pm.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Respectfully submitted:



Kenneth J. Healey
Superintendent of Schools