

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 3rd Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors
For 2015-16 will be held

Thursday, September 10, 2015 6:00 pm Cedar Street Conference Room

~MINUTES~

Present: Tammy Frost, Mark Holt, Amy McDaniel, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Holly Richards, Denise Rodzen, Laurie Sanborn, Michael Schaedler and Cindy Young.

Absent: Jackie Knight and Joel Pike

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Denise Rodzen, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

3. **ATTENDANCE**

10 Members Present

2 (Jackie Knight and Joel Pike) Members Absent

4. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

August 27, 2015 – Board Meeting minutes

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2015 regular Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

6. **COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 Resignation of Wendy Moreau from the position of Assistant Principal Livermore Elementary School and Assistant Special Services Director effective December 31, 2015.

Motion by Tammy Frost and seconded by Cindy Young to accept with regret the resignation of Wendy Moreau from the position of Assistant Principal Livermore Elementary School and Assistant Special Services Director effective December 31, 2015.

Vote: 8 Yes 2 No (Shari Ouellette and Tammy Frost) 0 Abstain

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**

8. **BOARD COMMENTS**

Cindy Young had high praise for James Black, the new Athletic Director at the high school. She is very impressed with the sports schedule.

Tammy Frost said that this is the first year since consolidation have not heard rumblings in community about busing.

Board members have had questions concerning the late start Wednesday's. Mr. Healey will put an explanation of those late start days on the web site along with a reminder that September 23rd is an early release day.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- **This has been a sad week having lost our Business Manager but we will persevere and move on. We will be advertising in the Sun Journal on Saturday, Sunday and Monday to expand our reach for the Business Manager. Also, I am looking for one school board member to be on the hiring committee. Names have already been put into a hat and drawn for one administrator and one director to be on the committee. If you are interested please let Fiona know by tomorrow if you wish to be considered to be a part of the Business Managers Screening and Interview Committee (Policy GCFB-R – Superintendent will appoint appropriate members for this particular vacancy).**
- **I will be attending a DWM conference on school safety tomorrow in Augusta with Ken Vining and other Safety Committee members.**
- **In regards to an update on Livermore Falls High School, I have arranged to have the Livermore Falls Tax Assessor to do an appraisal on the Livermore Falls High School. This should happen soon. Our options for the building are that we could turn it over to the town and then town could turn it over to an interested party in same meeting; we could advertise it in the paper for 14 days requesting offers. I will be double checking with lawyers regarding if the property needs to be offered to the town of Livermore Falls again. We want to do what is in the best interest of tax payers and the community. When an offer is received I will bring back that offer to all of you for your action.**
- **The A-team will be conducting some strategic planning next week to project both educational, building and grounds needs for the district over the next 5-10 years. We will present to the Buildings and Grounds Committee and School Board at future meetings. We will also be considering a plan for filling the "soon to be" vacant administrative position. Wendy Moreau has been an enormous ally for me and the school community. I cannot emphasize how well respected she is, her quality of work and her caring for the community. She will be sorely missed but I wish her well. Thank you Wendy for everything you have done.**
- **As a reminder for board members, if you have questions concerning employees you need to ask me. I will provide you with what I can legally provide to you.**
- **The MEA has asked me today to have you consider voluntarily recognizing them as the new bargaining agent for the Managers and Directors. With Stacie having left she is still legally the bargaining agent for them. It would be a more efficient process through the Maine Labor Board if both sides agree voluntarily to a new bargaining agent. I am not asking you to decide one way or another, this is voluntarily, you have a choice. If you decide no, I will let them know your decision. The MEA would represent all of the members of the Managers and Directors. This is not with anyone removed from the organization.**
- **The start of the school year went pretty well. I was witness to wonderfully orchestrated fire drills at the elementary schools.**
- **The Annual MSMA Fall Conference is coming up and you are all eligible to go. Let me know if you would like to go, if you can only attend one day that is great. I will be attending. Denise, Amy and Jackie attended last year. We need to vote on a delegate at our next Board meeting. Just let me know (October 9 is the deadline) and we will get you signed up.**

Mike Schaefer asked if we had a preference about who would purchase the high school, non-profit or profit. It comes down to what you accept as a board.

10. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

The Board Chair reported that she cannot be the delegate this year at the MSMA conference.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

12.1 Special Services – Tina Collins

The start of the school year has been great, we have had a lot of children coming in, everyone is working hard. Currently the focus has been on grant writing, year-end reporting, FY 16 local entitlement application and the annual GT report (now due in September)

12.2 Technology – Craig Suttie – Attending Parent Meeting at SMMS

12.3 Adult Education – Robyn Raymond

Robyn Raymond passed out three handouts for the Board members. The first one is a flyer of the enrichment program, the second one is information about what is happening in Adult Education and the last is an advertisement for our open house. We are off to a great start, September 8 was our first day with orientation on the 14th. We have 25 new people coming in. ITV is through the roof! We are about double the number of students from last year at this time. We are doing a table at the Apple Pumpkin Festival on September 26th. We have been going to the open houses at district schools and we have been well received. Enrollment keeps going up. Our own open house September 28 from 5-7pm here, enrichment teachers will be there. We are being very proactive with regard to the Verso lost jobs, I am part of that transition program and we have someone going to the work ready program. On November 10 we also be doing a Resource Fair. We are a very bare bones program trying to rebuild.

12.4 Facilities/Transportation – Ken Vining

This has been one of the busiest I have had in 11 years. A lot was accomplished, a lot of painting, the library at high school was completely painted. The greenhouse at middle school has been torn down and a new railing has been added. The middle school has had new tiles put in, new carpets and carpets stretched. Two new doors were installed at LES. Construction is going very slowly on the elevator project. I have spoken to Roger Soucie. One of the biggest hold ups is that the elevator will not be here until the first week on November. They are starting to build the pitch roof and the lobby. We will be meeting next Tuesday with Craig Boone and Roger Soucie. The bleachers have been installed and are 95% complete, waiting for two seats on home side and the 4 back boards on visiting side. Capacity 825 home and 348 on visitor side. Busing started out well this year, the road construction has been our major slow down. We have had a few breakdowns. The parking lot for teachers at the back of the high school has been expanded and I think it came out really well. We are also coming along real well on parking lot at transportation garage thanks to Mark Holt's connections.

12.5 Food Services – Dora York

The kitchens have been very hot, but the staff have been great. We are working with two less staff from last year. We received the veggie grant for our two elementary schools and the middle school. We have also received an equipment grant for LES, I purchased a steamer which is on back order. This is the 7th day of school and 1/3 of the school population have responded with the free and reduced lunch applications. We served an average of 70 students in Jay and 50 students in Livermore for "hot" breakfast with a total district wide of 585 students for breakfast and 815 for lunch. I plan on being proactive this year as in last with parents about paying bills. I only have two families who have not lived up to their payment arrangements from last year.

13. POLICY

14. OLD BUSINESS

15. NEW BUSINESS

- 15.1 Alternative Education presentation – Christina Bamford
Christina Bamford made a presentation about the Alternative Education program at Spruce Mountain High School. The Board members will review the proposal that Christina handed out and will bring this proposal back for consideration at the September 28th Board meeting.
- 15.2 Name the Superintendent as plan administrator for the RSU 73 403(b) plan.
Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to name the Superintendent as plan administrator for the RSU 73 403(b) plan.
Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
- 15.3 A motion to authorize the Superintendent to put Livermore Falls High School with 10.16 acre property up for sale.
Motion by Mark Holt and seconded by Michael Morrell to authorize the Superintendent to put Livermore Falls High School with 10.16 acre property up for sale.
Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
- 15.4 MEA proposal to voluntarily acknowledge MEA
Motion by Amy McDaniel and seconded by Michael Morrell to voluntarily recognize the MEA as the new bargaining agent for the Managers/Directors.
Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

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 Holly Richards at 7:17 pm to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).
Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
- Return from Executive Session at 7:21 pm.**
- 16.2 Superintendent nominates Bobby Jo Blodgett to the position of SMMS Cross Country Coach for the 2015/2016 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.
Motion by Shari Ouelette and seconded by Amy McDaniel to approve Bobby Jo Blodgett to the position of SMMS Cross Country Coach for the 2015/2016 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.
Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

17. OTHER BUSINESS

18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting will be on:

September 28, 2015 – Regular Board Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Conference Room

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Cindy Young and seconded by Amy McDaniel to adjourn at 7: 35 pm.

Vote:

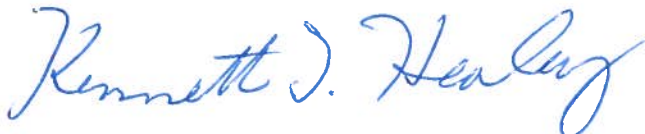
10 Yes

0 No

0 Abstain

Any individual who needs special accommodations to enter the building or assistance to attend this public meeting, must contact the Superintendent's Office at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting (A.D.A.)

Respectfully submitted:



Kenneth J. Healey
Superintendent of Schools