

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 4th Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors
For 2014-15 will be held

Thursday, September 11, 2014 6:00 p.m. at Cedar Street Learning Center

~MINUTES~

Present: Diane Gould, Jackie Knight, Tim Madden, Amy McDaniel, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Denise Rodzen, Michael Schaedler and Cindy Young.

Absent: Darcie Calden, Tammy Frost and Tamara Hoke

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Denise Rodzen, Chair called to order at 6:00 pm
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Chair Rodzen called for a moment of silence for September 11.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.
- 3. ATTENDANCE**
 - 9 Members Present
 - 3 Members Excused
- 4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**
 - Additional Appointments added.
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
 - 5.1 August 21, 2014 – Board meeting minutes
Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Jackie Knight to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2104 Board meeting as presented with changes.
Vote: 9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
 - 5.2 September 4, 2014 – Special Board meeting minutes
Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Jackie Knight to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2104 Board meeting as presented.
Vote: 9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
- 6. COMMUNCIATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE - None**
- 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**
- 8. BOARD COMMENTS**

Shari Ouellette wanted to express condolences to the family of Walter McCue who passed away recently. He was a long time bus driver for Jay. Shari also mentioned that the hand rails at JES by the wheel chair ramp were very hot to touch, could they be painted white (currently black). Ken Vining said he would take care of that.

Amy McDaniel spoke about the open house at the middle school. The teachers did an awesome job. Also, she mentioned that Jason Fuller would be available to speak to the Board about fund raising ideas. Amy will get back to Jason Fuller and ask for a couple of dates that he would be available. Jackie Knight said that she attended the JES open house, it was great and busy.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The first day of school for teachers was August 27. We started in the SMHS cafeteria with refreshments and proceeded to the SMHS gym for the opening day ceremony. I have received positive feedback about opening day. On September 2, I went to LES for the arrival of students, on September 3, I went to JES, on the 4th, I went to the high school and the middle school on the 5th. I have also visited some classrooms and it was very exciting to see all the work that was going on. The enrollment at the end of the 2013/2014 school year was 1565 students, on opening day we had 1593 students, after one week of school we are at 1592, which is a net gain of 26 students. Just wanted to remind everyone that there will be upcoming teacher negotiation meeting on September 17 at SMMS Library at 3 PM. Bus driver/custodian negotiations with the teamsters will be on September 23 at 9:00 AM at the Central office. We have also received a check from the State of Maine for \$250.00 for the road work that will be happening in front of the Jay Spruce Mountain schools.

10. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

Tamara Hoke, Cindy Young and Denise Rodzen will be the members of the scholarship committee. All board members should be able to login to First Class for email and also have a key card. All Board members should be familiar with school policies. The deadline for the Marcia and Louis Brown scholarship will be September 23.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

- 12.1 Spruce Mountain High School – Thomas Plourde
Opening day was extremely smooth, all painting is done. Computers have been dispersed to students. We did get a huge school spirit challenge which is being sponsored by Channel 13, the challenge is to raise as much food as possible for the Good Shepard Food Bank. \$1.00 of donation equals 5 lbs. of food. The challenge deadline is October 9, there will be a pep rally before school that day. Last year the winning school had about 56,000 lbs. of food. Mountain Valley has challenged us. We have some cool activities going on in school and we have an opportunity to send some of our kids to local manufacturers.
- 12.2 Spruce Mountain Middle School – Scott Albert
We have had a good first 8 days, the fall sports season started this week. We had three busy nights with an open house and two mandatory lap top meetings. Doug Saunders did a great presentation on cyber bullying I believe that he opened some eyes. Thank you to TJ Plourde for teaching myself and SMMS staff technology for BYOC. We will be making a big push this year. Thank you to Ken Vining and his bus drivers, this was our best start in 4 years.
- 12.3 Jay Elementary School – Chris Hollingsworth
It has been a very good beginning for us. JES is the fullest it has been in 8 years and it is the best start we have had in a long time. We have 8 practicum students. For our first early release day the teachers of JES and LES will be working on a common writing prompt, all teachers will get together by grade

level with rubrics to score the writing prompts to get a base line, in the spring they will be giving the same prompt.

- 12.4 Livermore Elementary School – Kevin Harrington
LES has two practicum students from UMF and one from USM. Open House went really well. I want to thank Ken Vining and Shawn for all the work they have done with busing...they are phenomenal. There was discussion around keeping the building cool during hot school days.
- 12.5 Transportation/Building & Grounds – Ken Vining
This has been one of the best years for transportation, everything has gone smooth. I believe that this is due to the training we have done the last couple of years. Everyone showed up for the beginning of school trainings and Paul Henry did a presentation on air brakes that was great. The new buses should be here mid-October. The state reports have gone in, fields look great and the bleachers have been repaired.
- 12.6 Technology - Craig Suttie
Excused
- 12.7 Adult Education – Eileen Miazga
We had a good start there will be a big push this year to weave college and career training. Tomorrow we will be hosting a regional training meeting.

13.POLICY - None

14.OLD BUSINESS - None

15.NEW BUSINESS

- 15.1 Request to reclassify Education Technician III.
Ken Healey said that early on in his tenure he met with Rob Taylor and they had a discussion on how we are using our educational technicians. Apparently at some point all educational technicians were leveled at II. Ken went back to administrators and asked for their input. If we do not make this change we have to either forego good programming or we just ask our educational technician II's to do more than they are certified to do. There are 7 positions for consideration to be elevated to educational technician III. All of the positions are truly educational technician III positions. In the near future there will be a joint training with Tina Collins and a representative from the association on what the roles of educational technicians are. Additional discussion took place.

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to reclassify the following educational technician positions from II to III. Those positions are: SMMS Title 1 Educational Technician II, SMMS/HS Crossroads Educational Technician II, SMMS Alternative Education Program Education Technician II, SMHS Functional Life Skills Program Educational Technician II, Jay Elementary School Librarian Educational Technician II, Spruce Mountain Middle School Librarian Educational Technician II and Spruce Mountain High School Librarian Educational Technician II.

Vote: 9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

- 15.2 Substitute Pay review.

One of the things that has been recently happening is that we have not been able to get adequate subs for teaching, educational technicians, custodians, food service and bus drivers. The current daily rate is pretty outdated and it really does not compare with other local communities. Mt. Blue pays \$85.00/day, in Lewiston Amy McDaniel said that a non-certified sub is paid \$75/day. We are really on the low end. I have brought this review up to the administrative team. Questions and discussion took place. Ken Healey will look into surrounding areas and get an approximate cost of what this increase would cost the district.

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 Shari Ouellette to enter into Executive Session at 7:01 pm to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Vote: 9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Jackie Knight left at 7:01 pm.

Back from Executive Session at 7:05 pm.

16.2 Superintendent nominates Christian Boileau to the position of SMMS Athletic Director 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 Christian Boileau to the position of SMMS Athletic Director for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

**Vote: 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler out of conference room)**

16.3 Superintendent nominates Libby Cronkhite to the position of SMMS Student Council Advisor 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 Libby Cronkhite to the position of SMMS Student Council Advisor for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

**Vote: 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
1 (Michael Schaedler out of conference room)**

16.4 Superintendent nominates Catherine Siggins to the position of SMMS Civil Rights Advisor 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 Catherine Siggins to the position of SMMS Civil Rights Advisor for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Vote: 8 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

16.5 Superintendent nominates Robert Goding to the position of SMMS 8th Grade Boys Soccer 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 Robert Goding to the position of SMMS 8th Grade Boys Soccer for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Vote: 8 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

16.6 Superintendent nominates Matt Giustra to the position of SMMS 7/8 Grade Girls Soccer Co-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 Matt Giustra to the position of SMMS 7/8 Grade Girls Soccer Co-Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Vote: 8 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

16.7 Superintendent nominates Dustin Jones to the position of SMMS 7/8 Grade Girls Soccer Co-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 Dustin Jones to the position of SMMS 7/8 Grade Girls Soccer Coach for the 2014/2015 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprint status.

Vote: 8 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

17. OTHER BUSINESS - None

18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

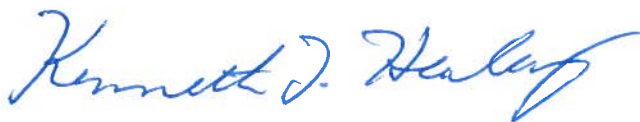
Note: The next regular meeting will be on:
September 25, 2014 – Regular Board Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Learning Center

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Diane Gould to adjourn at 7:09 pm.

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