

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The 4TH Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors
For 2016-17 will be held

Thursday, September 22, 2016 6:00 pm Cedar Street Conference Room
5:15 pm - Finance Committee Meeting

We officially offered the LFMS to the Town of Livermore Falls they addressed the offer at their meeting on Tuesday night and vote 3-2 to table the issue to their next meeting in order to explore what cost would be involved in taking the building over. They have until October 9th to act on the offer. We will proceed after the town takes action on the offer.

We have training scheduled for the School Board's Negotiation Committee on September 27, 2016 in the Central Office Conference Room to learn about "Interest Based Bargaining".

The 43rd Annual MSMA Conference will be held October 27 & 28, 2016 at the Augusta Civic Center. This Conference is designed for School Board Members and Superintendents. The keynote speakers will be Miranda Beard, President of the National School Board Association and Retired Attorney, Harry Pringle. There will be almost 50 different clinics offer throughout the conference. If you want to go please let me know no later than October 13, 2016 so I can register all RSU #73 attendees. Additionally, a School Board Delegate must be selected to represent RSU #73 during the MSBA Delegate Assembly at the conference.

Chair Rodzen said that there was a workshop for student representatives and that Trevor Doiron might be interested. Jackie Knight indicated that she would be interested in attending the Conference.

I received a very nice thank-you letter from Emily Taylor, thanking the School Board Scholarship Committee for choosing her for the 2016 Marcia and Louis Brown Scholarship. She was "thrilled to receive this for the second time and cannot thank-all of you enough for your generous support".

At the School Board's suggestion the School Board Meeting Calendar was sent home by the building Principal and all three school marques now have the upcoming School Board Meeting Date posted on each of them.

We have also heard back from all three towns and none of them are interested in doing the school district's plowing this year. You will hear more from Ken Vining about plowing the schools during his report.

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10. BOARD CHAIR'S –

Chair Rodzen stated that for the upcoming MSBA Delegate Assembly we will need to vote on a delegate to represent our Board at the next School Board meeting in October. Also, as for the Policy Committee, I have talked to Superintendent Healey about a social media policy for board members and school employees. Superintendent Healey said that he had been exploring options for a policy. Joel Pike, chair of the Policy Committee, will look into that.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Finance Committee –

Michael Morrell, Chair of Board Curriculum Committee reported that the committee is in need another volunteer from the school board. Laurie Sanborn volunteered to be on the committee. The members are: Pre-K – 2 - Holly Richards, 3-5 - Joel Pike, 6-8 - Denise Rodzen, 9-12 - Michael Morrell, ELA - Holly Richards, Math - Joel Pike, History – Laurie Sanborn, Science – Michael Morrell and Allied Arts – Denise Rodzen.

Shari Ouellette, Chair of the Board Finance Committee reported that expenses came in under budget by \$249,516.37, revenues came in over by \$152,970. This total \$402,486.37 remaining from the 2016/2016 school year. This is \$495,813.63 less than the \$798,300 that we had projected. The main reason is that payroll and benefits were under-budgeted by approximately \$200,000 in regular instruction and were much closer than in the prior year for all other areas. Tuition from Fayette came in at approximately \$41,500 less than budgeted because the student moved into the district. The district will have \$395,813.63 less than originally projected as a carryover.

Cindy Young asked if this was average after the hires were known. Superintendent Healey said no, the plan is to go into a budget freeze in the near future. We will try to reserve that shortage. What this means is that next year there will be no reserve. People need to understand that if we want to continue education levels as they are now and the services we now have, what we will end up with next year is that it will be a true increase in the budget. Chair Rodzen said that we knew it was going to be tight this year. We will know more once the auditors have finished. Joel Pike asked if there was anything we learned, Superintendent Healey replied that this shows

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trying to budget exact amounts where there is no wiggle room and no cushion is difficult.

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

12.1 Food Service – Dora York

I went to the Franklin County 5210 Let's Go Workgroup. Our presentations will be in November. Livermore Elementary received a silver award and Jay Elementary School and the High School each were awarded bronze. These awards are based on the 2015/2016 school year. I have been working on free and reduced lunch forms. Currently the Primary school is at 60%, the Elementary 61%, the Middle School at 57.5% and the High School at 48.5% free and reduced lunch. For the Community Eligibility Program we are under by about 4% at the elementary and primary school. Amy McDaniel asked if lunch numbers were higher would all children be eligible for free lunch. Dora York replied that there is a formula that is used. It is an 80/20 formula with the district directly paying 20%. Superintendent Healey said that the 20% comes out of district money. Dora York said that she has been watching the numbers but we are not there yet

12.2 Tina Collins – Special Services

At our last board meeting I outlined what the speech tele therapy concept was going to be. We have had a couple of weeks to work with it. I am excited to show you a little of it. We have put computer stations in the middle school, high school and primary school and we currently have 37 students targeted to receive services this way. We have found that the older kids really like it as well as the little kids. When the kids get to the computer station Laura Connor, therapist will call in. Laura said that she had a full week and saw almost everyone last week. It has been outstanding and the staff have been wonderful. Laura Connor did a presentation for the school board to see. I have been able to meet with teachers and education technicians and that has gone well. Amy McDaniel asked what her case load was currently and Laura Connor said 40, when she was here in district it was just under 50. Doug DiPasquale asked how IEP's were covered and Laura replied via the same Platform. Amy McDaniel asked if this was being used for articulation, and Laura said yes. Dou DiPasquale said that it is early in the process, what are some of the challenges, is it going better

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than you expected? Laura said that from her end it is going a lot better than she thought it was going to be. She is able to chat with staff, it is much better than she had anticipated. The kids are great. Laura said that they did a demo with the staff and the staff got very excited with the idea that they could have instant contact with her. Joel Pike asked about the contract. Tina Collins replied that it is an hourly rate just like we used to have when Laura worked in the district. Amy McDaniel asked if this was Maine Care eligible. Tina Collins replied that not at this time but it is being worked on and in some states it can be billed. Doug DiPasquale asked about the IEP Coordinator position at the elementary school. Tina Collins replied that we have not had any applicants for that position.

12.3 Facilities/Transportation – Ken Vining

In the first 16 days of school have not seen any serious maintenance issues. The sports fields have bounced back pretty well. The diesel tank was removed last Thursday, we had a site assessment from DEP which showed no contamination.

In transportation, overall I feel things have gone very well. We are still working on a couple of issues. Crowding on bus #20 which I believe as of Monday will be resolved. 12-20 kids will be going to bus #22. Bus #29 arrived at the Primary school at 2:35 pm which is very good.

Monday the driver will start the run in the morning 5 minutes earlier. Once all construction is done we will save a few more minutes.

I have a hand out and you will see information for the last 5 winters.

On the last two pages you will see information on last year's winter and factors that determine the amount of plowing and sanding needed.

I talked to Jean Castonguay and asked if he could come up with how many times he plowed. The best he could do was there were 18 storms and on average he plowed twice per storm equaling 36 times. I have worked in public works for 27 years and understand what is involved in snow plowing. I spoke to all the director's in the towns and maybe in the future we can collaborate. I know that this year they are not interested. Parking lot plowing is one of the hardest, there is a lot of wear and tear on the vehicles. I would like to ask that you accept the bid for this year. We need to move on and accept this bid. In the bid it mentioned that if the fuel price increased an additional charge would be made. Jean Castonguay said that if the price went above \$3.00 per

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gallon there would be a fee. We are currently at \$2.24 per gallon. He has never charged us an additional fee.

We will be getting our new buses on Monday.

Doug DiPasquale asked if we could get a 3 year bid. Superintendent Healey said that we have not typically done this because we budget one year to another. We could ask them.

Tammy Frost asked if we do go above \$3.00 per gallon do we have in writing what it would cost us. Ken Vining replied that he has never asked for more money.

Joel Pike asked what time the first student was being picked up in the morning. Ken Vining replied that it was around 6:15 am. Doug DiPasquale asked how the bus road traffic was. Ken Vining replied that he thought it was fantastic. Superintendent Healey said that a community member had set up a game camera. The issue is speeding, but once they are off our property it is not our responsibility. I would like to keep that road accessible for emergency. I am going to try and keep it open and pray that once Route 4 opens it will reduce traffic.

Chair Rodzen said that at this point she would like to entertain a motion to accept the \$85,000 bid from Jean Castonguay for snow plowing for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Jackie Knight to accept the bid for \$85,000 from Jean Castonguay for snow plowing for the 2016/2017 school year.

Vote: 9 Yes 4 (Laurie Sanborn, Doug DiPasquale, Holly Richards and Darcie Calden) No 1 (Tammy Frost) abstain

Motion passes.

12.4 Technology – Craig Suttie

The laptops have been officially deployed as of Monday and laptop insurance is all set. Tammy Frost asked about 6th grade and Craig replied that they are trickling in. There will be a parent meeting on the 27th. Amy McDaniel asked about the elementary schools and Craig Suttie replied yes. Joel Pike asked if he was running into any glitches. Craig Suttie replied that yes we have run into a few around filtering

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issues with new software. Doug DiPasquale asked what the laptop insurance covered, Craig Suttie said he would get a breakdown of coverage and sent it to all the board members.

- 12.5 Adult Education- Robyn Raymond
We have 12 enrolled for our Fall College program; that has doubled since last fall. Michelle Guillaume is settling in nicely to her new position and hitting the ground running with recruitment and retention plans. I will be at the Apple Pumpkin Festival and will be selling Linda Chretien's baked goods for \$2.50 a pop. We will have a table and marketing materials to further promote our program. We will be offering a ServSafe certification for folks interested in working in the restaurant/hospitality industry. Chef Austin from CMCC will be facilitating this course, this is one of the lowest priced ServSafe classes in the state through Adult Education, not many are offered. We are currently working with a local college student on their internship, he will be designing a unique logo for Spruce Mountain Adult Education for our marketing materials. I have been asked to serve on the Literacy Volunteer Board of Directors as well as the board for Franklin County Community College Network. Both opportunities allow for program growth and networking so we can keep a pulse on the needs and wants of the community.

13. **POLICY - None**

14. **OLD BUSINESS - None**

15. **NEW BUSINESS**

- 15.1 Executive Session to consider the request for early graduation of a Spruce Mountain High School student in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(F)

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to enter into Executive Session at 7:11 pm to consider the request for early graduation of a Spruce Mountain High School student in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(F).

Vote: 13 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

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Return from Executive Session at 7:22 pm.

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Jackie Knight to allow student X to graduate early from Spruce Mountain High School

Vote: 13 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 Shari Ouellette to enter into Executive Session at 7:24 pm to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Return from Executive Session at 7:27 pm.

Vote: 13 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

- 16.2 Superintendent nominates Michael Golden to the position of SMES Special Services Teacher for the 2016/2017 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprinting status.

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Cindy Young to approve the nomination of Michael Golden to the position of SMES Special Services Teacher for the 2016/2017 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprinting status.

Vote: 13 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

17. OTHER BUSINESS - None

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18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

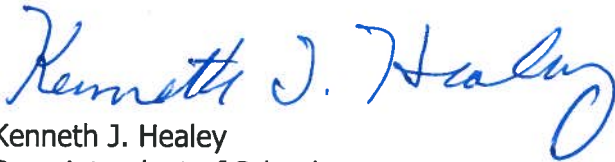
Regular Board Meeting on:
October 13, 2016 – Regular Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Conference Room

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Holly Richards to adjourn at 7:30 pm.

Vote: 14 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Respectfully submitted:



Kenneth J. Healey
Superintendent of Schools