

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The 3rd Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors
For 2017-18 will be held

Thursday, September 28, 2017 6:00 pm Cedar Street Conference Room

~MINUTES~

Present: Doug DiPasquale, Tammy Frost, Sara Hughes arrived at 6:16 pm, Dale Leblanc, Shannon McDaniel, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Joel Pike, Holly Richards, Denise Rodzen, and Ann Schwab.

Absent: Bob Staples, Laurie Sanborn

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rodzen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present

3. ATTENDANCE

**11 Present (Sara Hughes arrived at 6:16 pm
2 (Bob Staples and Laurie Sanborn) Absent**

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA - None

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5.1 September 14, 2017 – Board Meeting minutes

**Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to approve
the minutes of the September 14, 2017 regular board meeting.**

Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

6. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE - None

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

8. BOARD COMMENTS

**Tammy Frost wanted to thank Julia Parker and Jane DiPompo for stepping up
to coach Field Hockey after the resignation of the Field Hockey coaches**

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

As of September 22, 2017 our student population is 1463 PK-12, SMPS 419, SMES 335, SMMS 298, and SMHS 411. (-5 from the last report).

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You have a list of newly hired positions in front of you.

I had the pleasure of golfing with members of the SMHS Gold Team on Wednesday, September 20, 2017. I really enjoyed the afternoon and the spirited company of Spruce Mountain Staff and Golf Team. I hope they will invite me next year.

I had the distinct privilege of judge the Homecoming Floats on September 21, 2017. It was wonderful to witness all the school and community spirit.

I will be conducting a NEASC Pre-visit to Charlestown High School in Boston tomorrow, September 29, 2017 in preparation for my coming Accreditation Visit from November 5-8, 2017.

I will be on vacation from November 15, 2017 to November 24, 2017. Scott Albert will be acting Superintendent in my absence.

Email about school board conference in October, please let me know as soon as you can, I would like to settle it as soon as possible.

Joel Pike asked if we had the preliminary financial results from FY 17

Chair Rodzen replied that we have a number but it has not been audited.

Joel Pike asked if it was something you could share

Shari Ouellette, Finance Committee Chair, said she would share that information at the next meeting.

10. BOARD CHAIR'S

Chair Rodzen said to the board that if they have the opportunity to go to the MSMA Fall Conference, by all means go, even if you can only make it for one day. There are a lot of topics to choose from, including clinics from Drummond Woodsum, the districts attorneys. This also gives you a chance to meet other board members from other school districts and make new friends.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

12.1 Amanda Hersey – Curriculum Coordinator

I would like to thank the technicians for their efforts with laptop deployment.

After two successful parent nights we are close to full laptop deployment for 6-12 grades. The fifth grade is successfully using one to one chrome books during the day.

We also began NWEA assessments this past week for 1st-10th grade students. So far that has been a very successful process.

The October 6 workshop day next Friday is offering staff scheduled times at their individual schools and we are also training or re-training all primary, elementary,

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and middle school teachers on BYOC or Build Your Own Curriculum. This is the software program we use so staff can align content and standards.

Chair Rodzen commented that she attended the Tuesday Curriculum Meeting and it went very well.

12.2 Scott Albert – SMMS

Our Fall Sports Season is underway. Despite only having varsity teams, no students were cut from any squad. With that being said, the winter season may see some cuts because of the numbers that the teams will have in order to be successful.

All of our 6th graders attended the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in Portland to study Marine life. This is an annual trip that is at no cost to the district. It also includes free travel on a coach bus sponsored by Poland Spring Water.

All of our 8th graders were involved with a Science Project up at the Jay Rec Field in association with Mr. Taylor and the American Chestnut Association. On September 5th they went up and planted 160 American Chestnuts trees. These trees are a new species consisting of 15/16 American Chestnut and 1/16 Chinese Chesnut. The study is to find out if by having 1/16 Chinese Chestnut will it prevent the blight that has killed off the American Chestnut Tree.

The 8th graders went back up on September 20th to gather data on the trees. This data will be used in Science class and also Math class to give them a real world situation when working on math problems. They will continue to go up throughout the year to collect data.

On our early dismissal day we had Doug Saunders from the Franklin County Children’s Task Force come in and he showed us the documentary “Resilience” which talks about the great negative affect that ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) have on individuals. Loss of parent by divorce, death, incarceration, sexual abuse, physical abuse, parents who are addicted to drugs and alcohol are all factors.

The middle school has committed to one late arrival day a month to have Doug come back in to help us delve into this topic and see what we can do to help students who are affected by these factors.

Northwest Evaluation Association Testing (NWEA) started this week for Math, next week will be ELA and the following week Science.

NEWA is a research based, not-for-profit organization that supports students and educators worldwide by creating assessment solutions that precisely measure growth and proficiency – and provide insights to help tailor instruction.

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There is a Yankee Candle Fundraiser going on from September 19th to October 12th, all proceeds go to the end of trimester incentive trips.

12.3. TJ Plourde – SMHS

The school year has started really well, we had Homecoming last week and the senior's won the float contest with the sophomores and the juniors tied. The kids had a lot of school spirit. It was nice to hear a new perspective about our Homecoming activities from our new AD.

The Red Cross came in to try and get kids to come out and give blood, the students need to be 16 or older with a signature from their parent. We had so many students sign up we will be having 3 Red Cross Blood Drive opportunities. We will have those dates later.

NWEA at the high school is different than middle school, we leave a big window open for that testing.

Phoenix Time this year is extended advisory time giving students time during the day for support. If the student does not need support, they can participate in various seminars.

We are getting ready for our NEASC visit in March.

Chair Rodzen said she will be attending some of those seminars

Sara Hughes arrived at 6:16 pm.

12.4 Kevin Harrington – SMPS

Currently at SMPS we have 419 students, 206 boys and 213 girls. I have provided a list of October and November up-coming events.

Fire Prevention Week is October 9 – 13th; Assembly with Meteorologist Malloy

Brooke October 10; Life Touch Pictures – October 13 and October 16;

Grandparent's Day – October 20th; Full Scale Fire Drill – October 24th; Veteran's Day Lunch – November 7th- Pre-K and November 9 - entire school;

Parent/Teacher Conferences – November 14 and 15.

12.5 Chris Hollingsworth – SMES

We have had a very smooth opening this year and it has gone well. We did have our first Good Shepard food bank produce pick up on Monday for approximately 35 families. Jen Stone works really hard to connect with families. We did have Grandparent's Day today, it is the first time we actually could not fit all the grandparents in the gym, and it was a great turnout.

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We are almost through with NEWA testing, this year I thought I would give you an example of the information we get from NEWA. The information we receive from this test is unlike any other test. The information we get actually tells you where the child sits at the testing time showing strengths and weaknesses and a growth model. I can get this information instantaneously. We had a training at the beginning of the year and there is so much in this test that teachers can actually use to help master their strengths. This is a great way to start having kids see the growth they are making and to start making themselves more engaged.

Shannon McDaniel said her grandmother attended Grandparent's Day and she said it was amazing!

13. POLICY - None

14. OLD BUSINESS - None

15. NEW BUSINESS - None

16. APPOINTMENTS - None

17. OTHER BUSINESS - None

18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 12, 2017 – Regular Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Conference Room

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Holly Richards to Adjourn at 6:34 pm.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Respectfully submitted:



Kenneth J. Healey
Superintendent of Schools