

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The 11th Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain School District Board of Directors
For 2017-18 will be held

Thursday, February 22, 2018 6:00 pm Cedar Street Conference Room
Finance Committee Meeting 5:30 pm

Present: Doug DiPasquale, Tammy Frost, Sara Hughes, Dale Leblanc, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Joel Pike, Denise Rodzen, Holly Richards, and Ann Schwab and Robert Staples.

Absent: Shannon McDaniel

2 (Scott Jackson) (Orion Schwab) Student Representative Present

~MINUTES~

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rodzen called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

3. ATTENDANCE

11 Present

1 (Shannon McDaniel) Absent

2 (Scott Jackson and Orion Schwab) Student Representatives Present

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA - None

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5.1 February 8, 2018 – Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Doug DiPasquale to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2018 regular board meeting.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

1 Student (Scott Jackson) Representative Yes

1 Student (Orion Schwab) Representative Abstain

5.2 February 14, 2018 – Special Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by Robert Staples and seconded by Dale Leblanc to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2018 regular board meeting.

Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 1 (Holly Richards) Abstain

2 Student Representatives Abstain

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5.3 February 15, 2018 – Budget Meeting Minutes

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Doug DiPasquale to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2018 regular board meeting with changes.

Vote: 10 Yes 0 No 1 (Sara Hughes) Abstain
1 Student (Scott Jackson) Representative Yes
1 Student (Orion Schwab) Representative Abstain

6. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE - None

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

8. BOARD COMMENTS

Shari Ouellette said that it is with deep regret that I give my condolences to family Jean Breton and Brenda Merrill's family on the loss of her father.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

As of February 16, 2018 our student population is 1458 PK – 12, SMPS 422, SMES 330, SMMS 302, and SMHS 404. (+12 from the last report)

You have the list of new hires and retirements.

Ed Tech and Secretaries proposed contract will be considered tonight.

Teacher Negotiations are scheduled on Monday and Tuesday February 26 and 27, 2018 @ 5:30 PM in the Central Office.

Directors and Managers Negotiations are scheduled for March 15, 2018 @ 5:00 PM in the Central Office.

Central Office Staff Negotiations are scheduled for March 12, 2018 @ 5:30 PM in the Central Office.

Teamsters have filed for Fact Finding and we are waiting for dates, assigned fact finders, and information inquiries.

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I have also given to you a sample schedule of a NEASC visit. Highlighted in yellow are areas I would like you to participate in, Sunday and Wednesday. What will end up happening is the chair of the visiting team will be here on March 1st and hopefully we will get the final schedule then. The visit starts March 25 and ends March 28. Essentially midday on March 25 the visiting team will be here between 12:45 pm and 1:00 pm. At the end of the visit on March 28, at the end of the school day, the visiting chair will present an overview with closing remarks. If you have a chance to go to this it would be beneficial. This is not open to the public. As soon as we get the visit schedule we will get it out to you.

On March 9th Kristal Flagg and I will be attending a MSSA school funding in Maine conference.

Today I listened to testimony in Augusta for LD1689 which is the rescinding of administrative penalty. It passed by a very narrow margin and now will be brought out of committee to be considered by Maine Legislature.

10. BOARD CHAIR'S - None

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Building and Grounds Committee – Siemens Energy Audit project update. Doug DiPasquale presented an update of the Siemens Energy Audit project. Doug said that the entire Buildings and Grounds committee has been working on this for the last 8 or 9 months with Siemens. That committee is Tammy Frost, Joel Pike, myself, Denise Rodzen. We have had a lot of input from Ken Vining and Superintendent Healey. This does not need to go before taxpayers for approval. The total cost of the project is \$5,874,764. We anticipated having an annual energy savings of \$110,532. At Spruce Mountain Elementary School some of the work will include, lighting retrofit, building envelope, steam to hot water conversion, automation system up-grades, boiler room upgrade, roofing, and kitchen remodel. At Spruce Mountain Middle School some of the work will include lighting retrofit, building envelope, automation system up-grades, hot water pump VFD's, exterior façade, and roofing. At Spruce Mountain High School some of the work will include lighting retrofit, building envelope, automation system up-grades, hot water VFD, boiler room upgrades, and door and window replacements/improvements. At Spruce Mountain Primary School some of the work will include lighting retrofit, building envelope, automation system upgrades, air handlers and heating hot water pumps and roofing improvements. At central office lighting retrofit, building envelope and automation updates and at the bus garage lighting retrofit and building envelope.

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12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS - None

13. POLICY - None

14. OLD BUSINESS

14.1 Executive Session to discuss a legal matter in accordance with
1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (E).

**Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to enter into
Executive Session at 6:54 pm to discuss a legal matter in accordance with 1
M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (E).**

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Return from Executive Session at 7:27 pm.

15. NEW BUSINESS

15.1 Presentation by Jonathan Ruterbories regarding Research Project.
Jonathan Ruterbories attended the Board meeting via video phone. Jonathan thanked everyone for having him here. He went on to say, I am senior under grad currently at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri and I am enrolling at the University of Maine School of Law. I am here to answer questions and give you additional information about my proposed research project and to request approval for my project. I also have one of my faculty advisors here with me. I am here to field any questions about why I want to do research on rural education in Maine. I want to shine a spot light on rural education in Maine. What are the challenges facing rural communities. Why this school district? I believe it is the perfect district demographically and culturally and is close to me in South Portland.
Amanda Hersey said you had hoped to visit during your break from March 12-16. I would like to spend a day in each school and one day with administration. I would like to interview administrators, teachers and community members. This study is not using any student specific data. I am just focusing on the school district itself. What are the strengths of the district, and with consolidation there is no sufficient body of knowledge about consolidation.
Chair Rodzen asked when you talk about interviews, where will you get names, are you looking for volunteers?
Jonathan replied not looking for any necessarily. As far as community goes, I am going to the local community businesses, like Dunkin Donuts, and have

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conversations with the community members there. This will be a transparent partnership, I want to shine s spotlight on whatever you are doing. My goal is not to disrupt daily instruction within the schools. I want to be like a fly on the wall to find out what successful strategies are happening and highlight that good work and strategies. You will be able to see all the information before it goes anywhere and maybe it can continue as a further body of research. Orion Schwab said you mentioned you decided not to interview students, is there any way you can just talk to them to get their feedback.

Jonathan said students were omitted from the process because of the short amount of time since the project was approved by the university and my requested visit. I could not get everything done. If students want to talk to me, I would totally want to have that happen, I cannot record them but I can gather the information.

Chair Rodzen asked if it would be helpful if the high school were able to obtain a blanket approval for the students.

The faculty advisor replied that is a lovely offer but our university will not allow us even with consent to speak to students. It gets a little bit tricky. It would be a good idea to send out a blast to parents and let them know about Jonathan.

Motion by Robert Staples and seconded by Michael Morrel for the board to approve the research study: Strengths and Challenges of Rural Education in Maine: A Qualitative Case Study by Jonathan Ruterbories to take place from March 12-16, 2018.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
2 Student Representatives Yes

15.2 Draft 2018/2019 School Year Calendar

Superintendent Healey provided input from the association and from 3 of our administrators concerning the 2018/2019 school year calendar. Please look at it and read the feedback and at the next board meeting we can discuss the calendar.

15.3 Executive Session to discuss contract/negotiations in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (A).

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded Sara Hughes to enter into Executive Session at 8:02 pm to discuss contract/negotiations in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (A).

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Return from Executive Session at 8:17pm.

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Robert Staples to ratify the contract between RSU 73 Board of Directors and RSU 73 Education Association Educational Technicians/Secretaries effective July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

16. APPOINTMENTS - None

17. OTHER BUSINESS - None

18. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

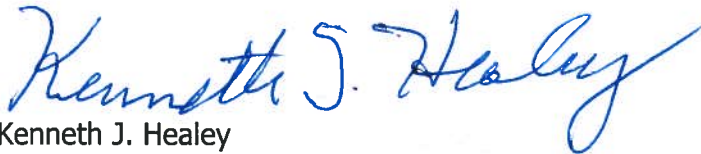
March 1, 2018 – Budget Meeting – 6:00 PM Spruce Mountain Elementary School Gym
March 8, 2018 – Regular Meeting – 6:00 PM Spruce Mountain Primary School Gym
March 13, 2018 – Budget Meeting – 6:00 PM Spruce Mountain Middle School Café
*March 20, 2018 – Budget Meeting snow date if needed – Location to be determined
March 22, 2018 – Regular Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Conference Room

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Ann Schwab to adjourn at 8:19 pm.

Vote: 11 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Respectfully submitted:



Kenneth J. Healey
Superintendent of Schools