

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The 6th Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain Board of Directors
For 2018-19 was held

Thursday, December 13, 2018 6:00 pm Cedar Street Conference Center
Policy Committee Meeting 5:00 pm
Finance Committee Meeting 5:30 pm

~MINUTES~

Present: Doug DiPasquale, Tammy Frost, Sara Hughes, Steven Langlin, Dale Leblanc, Shannon McDaniel, Michael Morrell, Shari Ouellette, Joel Pike, Phoebe Pike (left at 9:35 PM), Denise Rodzen, Ann Schwab and Robert Staples

Absent:

Absent: 2 Student Representatives: Scott Jackson, Orion Schwab

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rodzen called to order at 6:06 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

3. ATTENDANCE

13 Present

0 Absent

2 Student Representatives Absent

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

6.1, 17.1, 17.2

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5.1 November 8, 2018 – Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Michael Morrell to approve the minutes of November 8, 2018 regular board meeting.

Vote: 13 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

2 Student Representatives Absent

6. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Resignation of Myrna Robinson, 7th/8th Grade Science Teacher effective June 30, 2019.

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Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Phoebe Pike to accept the resignation of Myrna Robinson, 7th/8th Grade Science Teacher effective June 30, 2019.

Vote: 13 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
2 Student Representatives Absent

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

8. STUDENT PRESENTATION - NONE

9. BOARD COMMENTS

NHS Induction Ceremony was attended by Steve Langlin- terrific event, stated that he felt that it makes what they do on the board worthwhile.

Doug DiPasquale wanted to speak about snow days, and the "alert" system used to notify parents, students, etc. Stated that a few parents had contacted him regarding the fact that they wanted a text message instead of a phone call. There was discussion about the current alert system, and Superintendent LeRoy stated that he would explore the capability and options of the current system to see if it could be "tweaked" to more specific options for parents. Sara Hughes and Tammy Frost stated that their children's accounts could be used for further investigation into the system if that would be helpful. Decision is made early because teacher contract states that they need to be notified by 5:00 AM per Superintendent LeRoy.

Chair Rodzen talked about an anonymous letter that was received by board members regarding "executive session" to discuss contract extension for Superintendent, she read the letter aloud during the meeting and there was some discussion regarding the letter received.

Joel Pike stated that he attended the Robotics League meet last Saturday, was very impressed by the entire event. There were multiple teams and probably 500-600 people in attendance. Wanted to thank everyone who works with these students for their hard-work and give kudos to all involved. There was discussion regarding how great of an event this was.

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10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Snow Days - SMSD has used 3 snow days thus far. There was discussion about when we would begin making up days, Superintendent LeRoy stated that the current plan was after 6 were used we would begin to make up days by adding 1 hour to three days per week (T, W, T), 5 student hours are required to make up ONE day. There was some discussion about the "Pilot Program" that one school district is using. There was also some discussion on next year's calendar and snow days. Discussion continued on snow days regarding, why we have to follow MBHS calendar closely, board members feel it's good to have a plan set up early for making up the snow days, and Superintendent LeRoy stated that in order to make up snow days, school districts must follow the laws set up.

School Safety Plans - Superintendent LeRoy is working to find funding sources and options to fund a School Resource Officer for the district. Estimated cost for SRO would be \$100,000. Superintendent LeRoy is speaking with local police departments, and looking for grants, or other ways to help support and fund a SRO. Discussion followed with board members.

Robotics Event & NHS Induction - Superintendent LeRoy stated that he also attended these events and thought they were both great events and that the school district was well represented.

WMEC - meeting was held last week, the committee is working on a Regional Service Center, the first proposal has been submitted, the hope is for additional funding to help support the program.

FY 20 - school calendar is being worked on and in the completion stages.

Superintendent LeRoy has been working with other Superintendents to align the calendars with other districts in our area.

Superintendent's Advisory Team - Superintendent LeRoy stated that setting this up is taking longer than he'd hoped, but he's looking to begin the student interview process after the holiday break. Team will consist of 2 students from each 6th through 12th grade level. Discussion followed with board members, Superintendent LeRoy stressed that he wanted ANY student to feel like they could "apply" to be a representative.

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11. BOARD CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Rodzen wanted to congratulate Principal Plourde and SMHS as they were voted and awarded a continuing certification through NEASC, she didn't want to steal Principal Plourde's thunder, but wanted him to know that this was exciting news. Principal Plourde spoke briefly about the 10-year process.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Comment by Doug DiPasquale that he needed to have one more meeting with Tom Seekins from Seimens.

13. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

13.1 Amanda Hersey – Curriculum Coordinator

Technology - discussed the transition from MacBook's to ChromeBooks, have worked the issues out and are happy with the switch. The plan is indeed to still have graduating seniors be able to take their Chromebook with them.
Curriculum - Discussed recent meetings and future meetings, continued work and a focus on BYOC software and documenting grade level units, topics and learning goals.

Added that Title 1 was in the building today for a review, and that for the most part all was good. A couple of things need to be worked on, but received a "silver and gold star". They also visited schools that were involved in the Title 1 grants.

13.2 TJ Plourde – SMHS Principal

Discussed events taking place at high school, including theatre, music, fundraising, etc. Also spoke on current and future student testing, scholarships, etc. Out of the 92 current seniors all but 8 have applied to college, this is very exciting.

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13.3 Marc Keller – SMHS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

Marc Keller discussed and had confiscated items on display regarding the current vaping issue at the high school. Stated that they have already had 31 suspensions this year, and 3 have been repeat offenders. Discussed all aspects of how they are doing it, educated the board members on the different items and substances that are / can be used. This was a very informative presentation. The board and administrators had an open discussion about the ongoing issue and what can be done to help educate and prevent further abuse.

13.4 Scott Albert – SMMS Principal

Congratulations to the November Students of the Month.

Grade 6	Cecilia Pike	Alyssa Greeley
Grade 7	Emma Crafts	Salem Hughes
Grade 8	Garrett Hunt	Ava Moffett

The Lego League kids did a wonderful job last Saturday. The Astronutz took 1st in Programming and SMASA was a close second in the category and each got a trophy.

Robot finishes went to Infinity and Beyond – 5th place, Astronutz – 10th Place, Neptune Knights – 11th place, and SMASA was 14th. All 4 teams finished in the top 3rd of the 45 teams who qualified for States!

The Middle School Band concert took place last night in our gym. It was excellent. We really have some talented musicians who were able to show off their talents last night. Mrs. Fenlason does a terrific job with them.

The end of the trimester rewards trip students will be going to the Narrow Gauge Cinema tomorrow to watch either The Grinch Movie or the new Spiderman Movie.

to On October 31st late arrival our staff had a vaping presentation from Katherine Lemieux from the Healthy Community Coalition. We have set up for January 7th have individual grade level presentation on vaping/juuling. On January 8th at

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6 pm in SMMS cafeteria we will be having a vaping/juuling informational presentation for all parents in the district who are interested.

13.5 Chris Hollingsworth, SMES Principal

Mr. Hollingsworth spoke about Elementary School events, including providing community baskets.

Mr. Hollingsworth announced the Elementary School Band & Music Concert would take place on December 20th, they are going to try to hold the concert in the new gym at the Elementary School, and Mr. Hollingsworth said he hoped that would go well but was unsure about enough seating.

Mr. Hollingsworth Presented a "Student Goal Setting Worksheet" which all the teachers are using now, he hopes that this will help promote awareness of student scores, and encourage students to set new goals as well as get them thinking about their accountability in academics.

There was also a brief discussion about the pipe bursting at the elementary school, Mr. Hollingsworth went over what has transpired since the break, and what the current plan is for repairs and student settings. He has met with contractors and insurance adjusters regarding this issue.

13.6 Kevin Harrington, SMPS Principal

Mr. Harrington discussed events for the Primary School, including their Ornament Night on December 6 which was a huge success and had a lot of great reviews from parents. Also mentioned the upcoming concerts which will take place next week during school.

Lockdown Drills - the Primary school has had two, both of which were successes. The second one there was one door which did not lock, staff was reminded that it is important to make sure the door fully locks. Also some discussion on the School Vulnerability Assessment which is a work in progress, but they are in a good place.

Report cards have gone home and Kevin is pleased to report that they have been well received by parents.

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13.7 Tina Collins – Special Services

On Dec 5, the building based coordinators and I attended a professional conference by Drummond Woodsum on special education law and topics. It was a full day, but extremely interesting and informative. Thank you for the opportunity to support our coordinators with staying up to date with important legal topics. We will all take this information back and apply it to our daily work.

In November, two our teaching staff participated in professional development training course to become certified as Safety Care trainers for the RSU. We now have a Safety Care trainer in 3 out of the 4 buildings.

Behavior Program update:

Update on the Turning Points program at SMES:

The staff worked in July and August to develop the foundational tenants of the program and create a Program Manual. First referral was made on September 24. Staff participated in professional development to get ready for students, as well as observing students in the school. Ed tech worked in life skills setting to assist there.

The Turning Points team (teacher, BCBA, consulting psychologist, director, principal, and social worker) meets 2xmonth to review any new referrals and continue with programmatic support/refinement. This is an important part of supporting a brand new teacher in the development of sound behavioral interventions.

The team has reviewed and accepted four student referral packets

~ referral 9/24 accepted 10/3 with request for additional input for meeting on 10/17

~ referral 10/2 accepted 10/3 for immediate start

~ referral 10/29 accepted on 10/31 for start on 11/5 to begin transition

~ referral on 11/20 accepted on 11/28 for immediate transition

14. POLICY

14.1 Second reading of the following policies:

IHBAC – Child Find

IHBAA – Referral and General Education Interventions

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IHBAA-R – Referral Procedures and General Education Intervention
JKAA – Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion
JKAA-R – Procedures on Physical Restraint and Seclusion

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to approve the second reading of Policy IHBAC – Child Find; IHBAA – Referral and General Education Interventions; IHBAA-R – Referral Procedures and General Education Intervention; JKAA – Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion; JKAA-R – Procedures on Physical Restraint and Seclusion.

Vote: 13 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
2 Student Representative Absent

15. OLD BUSINESS - None

16. NEW BUSINESS

16.1 Review of Budget Timeline FY 20

Superintendent LeRoy briefly reviewed the timeline for the budget FY 20, there was some discussion about the locations of the presentation meetings. Board members wanted those meetings to be held in the schools to allow for larger spaces in hopes that community members would attend those meetings.

Motion was made by Michael Morrell and Seconded by Shari Ouellette to host the budget presentations as follows, Jan. 31st at the Primary Building, Feb. 14th at the Elementary Building, Feb. 28th at the Middle School and March 14th at the High School, ** before we could get to a vote it was mentioned by Joel Pike that these dates should be confirmed with the schools before setting them in stone as the schools may have events happening on these days that would interfere with the budget presentations. The Motion was then amended that to Approve the Budget Timeline with the understanding that the presentation meetings would be held at the four district schools which would be determined by Superintendent LeRoy. Amended motion was made by Michael Morrell and Seconded by Sara Hughes.

VOTE 13 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAIN

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16.2 Executive Session to discuss approval of Superintendent's contract extension in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Motion by Robert Staples and seconded by Michael Morrell to enter into Executive Session at 8:08 pm to discuss approval of Superintendent's contract extension in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Vote: 13 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
2 Student Representative Absent

Returned from Executive Session at 9:55pm

Action

Motion by Michael Morrell and seconded by Shari Ouellette to acknowledge and recognize that Superintendent LeRoy has a contract which expires FY2020.

Vote: 12 Yes (Phoebe Pike left at 9:35 pm) 0 No
0 Abstain
2 Student Representative Absent

Discussion - Board members would like the Superintendent Contract published on the website along with the teacher, secretary, ed tech and teamster's contracts.

17. APPOINTMENTS

17.1 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 9:55 pm to discuss personnel appointments in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Vote: 12 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
2 Student Representative Absent

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17.2 Superintendent nominates Michelle Moffett to the position of SMMS Special Education Teacher for the 2018/2019 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprinting status.

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by Sara Hughes to approve Michelle Moffett to the position of SMMS Special Education Teacher for the 2018/2019 school year, contingent on proper certification and MDOE fingerprinting status.

**Vote: 12 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
 2 Student Representative Absent**

18. OTHER BUSINESS - None

19. CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

19.1 January 10, 2019 – Regular Meeting – 6:00 PM Cedar Street Conference Room

20. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Shari Ouellette and seconded by to approve

**Vote: 12 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain
 2 Student Representative Absent**

Respectfully submitted:



Todd E. LeRoy
Superintendent of Schools