

SPRUCE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 17th Regular Meeting of the Spruce Mountain Board of Directors

For 2018-19 will be held

Thursday, May 23, 2019 6:00 pm
Spruce Mountain Primary School

APPROVED

Finance Committee Meeting 5:00 PM

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The May 23rd, 2019 School Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Robert Staples at 6:00 PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all those present.

3. ATTENDANCE

1. Doug DiPasquale, re-elected/appointed 4/23/19	Present	
2. Tammy Frost	Present	
3. Sara Hughes	Present	Arrived 6:02 PM
4. Scott Jackson, Student Representative	Present	
5. Steven Langlin	Excused	
6. Dale LeBlanc	Present	
7. Shannon McDaniel	Excused	
8. Michael Morrell, Board Vice Chair	Present	
9. Lynn Ouellette, elected 4/23/19	Excused	
10. Joel Pike	Excused	
11. Phoebe Pike	Present	
12. Denise Rodzen	Excused	
13. Ann Schwab	Present	
14. Orion Schwab, Student Representative	Present	
15. Robert Staples, Board Chair	Present	

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

16.4 Executive Session to discuss personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(A)

Adjustment was approved as read.

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5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

5.1 May 9th, 2019 – Board Meeting Minutes

*Motion made by **MIKE MORRELL**, seconded by **DOUG DIPASQUALE** to accept the meeting minutes for School Board Meetings held on May 9th, 2019.*

Discussion: None

Vote to accept meeting minutes for May 9th, 2019

Yes (5) Doug DiPasquale Tammy Frost Dale LeBlanc Mike Morrell Ann Schwab	No (0)	Abstain (1) Phoebe Pike	Students Reps (2) Scott Jackson – yes Orion Schwab – yes
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5.2 May 13th, 2019 – Special Board Meeting Minutes

*Motion made by **DOUG DIPASQUALE**, seconded by **TAMMY FROST** to accept the meeting minutes for School Board Meetings held on May 13th, 2019.*

Discussion: None

Vote to accept meeting meetings for May 13th, 2019.

Yes (7) Doug DiPasquale Tammy Frost Sara Hughes Dale LeBlanc Mike Morrell Phoebe Pike Ann Schwab	No (0)	Abstain (0)	Students Reps (2) Scott Jackson – yes Orion Schwab - yes
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6. STUDENT PRESENTATION

6.1 Spruce Mountain Middle School students' presentation of video created for "World of 7 Billion" contest on the issue surrounding feeding an ever growing population using aquaponics.

Rob Taylor spoke briefly about how he received a postcard in the mail which outlined the contest rules. Students had to create a 1-minute video which identified a problem with the worlds ever-growing population, sort of like a TV Commercial. Not only did the students have to identify the problem, they also had to create a solution.

Rob stated that his students became interested in the contest and chose "How are we going to feed everyone?" as an issue to tackle. He spoke of the students' diligent research, and also gave a huge thank you to Mrs. Bryant for filming the video and Mr. Bailey for helping the students with the editing of the video.

The students' presentation notes are attached to these board minutes. For more detailed information, please see those. Students presenting were: Skylar Condon, Lily Bailey, Alex Ladd, Robby Reed, and Cecilia Pike

The video was a National Finalist, and was selected as the Best Video in Maine. Mr. Taylor had received awards and gift cards for Amazon for the participating students and handed them out after the presentation was completed.

Thank you to the students and Mr. Taylor for joining us. Everyone did a terrific job.

7. COMMUNICATIONS / CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Webster mentioned that we had received a notice and a check from the MSMA Unemployment Compensation regarding our overpayment. The refund check was in the amount of \$9,240. Receiving refunds is always good news.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

9. BOARD COMMENTS

Sara Hughes stated that she had attended the Elementary School drama show, and wanted to congratulate Rebecca Spencer for doing an amazing job with the students. Sara stated that the production was excellent.

Mike Morrell stated that he had attended the fourth / fifth band concert at the high school, and congratulated everyone involved in the show as it was also amazing. Hhe also encouraged others to attend any events that might be coming up in our district.

Doug DiPasquale and Dale LeBlanc congratulated Rob Taylor on receiving the Franklin County "Teacher of the Year" award.

Final Draft
Sprinkles Presentation (YAY)

Video available at:
tinyurl.com/smmsprinkles

1. Sprinkle Math CP- The population in 1800 was 1 billion now it has grown to 7.7 billion and is expected to grow to 9-10 billion. We determined that we could represent one billion people with one pound of sprinkles, so 7 pounds of sprinkles represents 7 billion people. Then for the 0.7 billion we just did seven tenths of a pound. In your life times we have added 4 billion people to the planet which has more than doubled the population.
2. Healthy Diet - SC- We used the website, eatingwell.com, to figure out what a 2,000 calorie diet looks like. The average person eats 2,000 calories a day and that helped us visualize how much food is getting eaten a day. It was a lot of food once you saw it and multiplied it by 7 billion. In addition to that the population will keep growing as time goes on. We will need to feed 10 billion people in my lifetime and that is going to be a lot of food.
3. Aquaponics - AL (First handout paper) With aquaponics we have found that fish's waste contains ammonia which bacteria changes to nitrite and then to nitrate and the plants absorb nitrate for fertilizer. We did lots of work with Mr. Taylor's 200 gallon fish tank and learned how aquaponics produces food.
4. Sources - LB We used reliable articles such as, Discover Magazine, Newspapers, and college websites to find information on: diet, population, and aquaponics.
5. Fun - RR: We had fun learning about ecosystems and aquaponics and how one thing affects another, it gave me something to look forward to every Tuesday. And we got to eat sprinkles.

What We Learned:

1. Video Editing -LB We worked on the Video Editing using the program iMovie. We learned how to shorten and cut video clips. We also learned how a high definition camera works. Thank you Mr. Bailey for helping us with the Video Editing and thank you Mrs. Bryant for filming this video.
2. Public Speaking/Acting CP- Mr. Taylor taught us that when we spoke to a bunch of people to make eye contact with everyone. We also learned while recording the audio for our video, Thank you Mr. Bailey, to speak clearly and put emphasis on certain words.
3. Aquarium Care - AL We learned that to keep a fish tank healthy about every month you need to do a water change that is about half the tank and then fill back up with clean water with no chlorine in it.

PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET

DATE	NAME	TOWN OF RESIDENCE	AGENDA ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED
May 23, 2019			

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Bob Staples stated that he had attended an event where the 8th grade students went to the high school for a "sports preview" and stated that it was nice to see students excited about going to high school to participate in athletics.

Bob Staples also stated that he was lucky enough to attend the "Rock of Ages" concert and encouraged anyone that could go to do so. He mentioned the reunion and spoke of how terrific the show was.

10. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Bob Webster reported that we had received a letter from the Department of Education regarding our Nutrition review which took place earlier this year. He stated that all items needing corrective action had been done, the DOE was satisfied with our remedies, and that all is good in the food service world.

Bob Webster apologized to Tammy Frost for not having a bouquet of flowers for her as this may be her last board meeting. He stated that the flower shop was closed when he arrived to pick up her bouquet and offered her a gift certificate for dining if she would like, but that he would catch up with her.

Mike Morrell thanked Tammy for her years of service as a board member. Mike mentioned her 8 years of service, and that she had been a board member during the consolidation process and that it was nice having her on the board, and watching Spruce Mountain grow.

11. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

11.1 Amanda Hersey – Curriculum Coordinator and Technology

Amanda was excused by Mr. Webster.

11.2 Dora York – Food Services

Dora was excused by Mr. Webster

11.3 Tina Collins – Special Services

Tina was excused by Mr. Webster

11.4 Ken Vining – Facilities & Maintenance

In the world of transportation things are going well. Extremely busy with end of year field trips and sporting events. The weather hasn't helped. Events have been cancelled and re-scheduled which makes it hard to cover all the trips.

Mechanically there are no major issues to speak of but we still have 15 days left. Ken did mention that the food service truck won't pass inspection, so we'll need to look at purchasing another vehicle for

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this but he may have a lead on an ambulance that will be taken out of service and available for purchase.

Since the 3/28/19 visit from the Maine Department of Labor, he has been working with other staff members, including, school nurses, custodians, maintenance and Mr. Webster on repairing, replacing, adding, or doing away with issues that we were cited on.

Ken has also been working with MSMA on updating several of the training plans, and has scheduled a chain saw training course which will take place on June 17th.

Ken and Karen are working with the local police and other area schools on a COPS grant that is available. The application process has begun and is actually due at the end of the month. Ken stated that the grant will be written asking for \$200,000, half of which will be ours and the other half will be RSU 9's. Ken also recognized James Black Mt. Blue MS Principal, Matt Casavant of the State Police and Jack Peck, the Farmington Police Chief as they have all been helping with the grant. Ken reluctantly got involved since most of what we are asking for in the grant is to enhance the safety of our buildings.

There is a matching piece to this grant, the district has to match 25% of what we receive, so if the grant is approved and we receive \$100,000 the district would have to match \$25,000. The Board would have to accept the grant before receipt and matching monies were necessary. Ken stated that there is a waiver that can be completed for the matching piece, but thinks this may hold up the grant application which is due at the end of the month.

Ken ended his report by recognizing Rhonda Couture. Rhonda lovingly made, decorated, and wrapped cookies for the custodians and bus drivers. The cookies were buses and tools, and were delicious. With each cookie came a thank you note or a note of kind words expressing appreciation for all that our bus drivers and custodians do for our district. Ken noted that blessings come when they are needed, and felt that this was a very kind gesture and appreciated by all of his staff. Thank you Rhonda.

11.5 Robyn Raymond – Adult Education

Robyn reminded those present that the Adult Education Graduation is slated for Thursday, May 30th. The event will take place at the Middle School Cafeteria, she asked that if anyone planned to attend, please let her know as the Culinary class would be making food for the event. Graduation will honor those students who have completed the HISET/Diploma students, CMA's, Culinary, College Transition cohorts, scholarship recipients, and those inducted into the National AE Honor Society.

The second culinary cohort is up and running. There were 17 applicants, and 6 were accepted into the program, which is the maximum for the kitchen available. Robyn has partnered with five local restaurants and so far three of the owners have visited the class, or were part of the applicant's

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interview process. Two of the six students have jobs lined up at the Homestead, and the goal is to have all the students lined up with jobs by the end of the 10-week course.

The CMA course is coming to an end, eleven of the thirteen students sat for their National Boards last Thursday, and Robyn is happy to report that all eleven passed.

Due to the high demand and need, Adult Ed has decided to run both a summer and fall CMA course to help meet the needs at Franklin Memorial Hospital. An Open House will be hosted at the Bass Room at Franklin Memorial Hospital on July 10th, 2019 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. At this point it looks like the summer program will have six students and the fall program will have fifteen.

Robyn stated that she had attended a conference at UMF the past week which was put on by USM's public policy program. The conference "Place Matters" which focused on identifying barriers to building and supporting communities, specifically for youth and young adults. At the conference the attendees worked on a county wide plan of action for "continuum of care". Please contact Robyn if you'd like to receive more information on the conference data she received.

Robyn mentioned she had a field trip with the 8th grade students. They went to Franklin Memorial Hospital and toured the facilities. She highlighted that the students were interested, and she spoke of telling the students that the hospital wasn't just for doctors and nurses, it also housed opportunities for HVAC, landscaping, etc... Students were given pre and post assessments as well.

12. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

Bob Staples stated that Ann Schwab would be the school board representative attending graduation this year. Thank you Ann, and congratulations to Orion.

Bob thanked Orion Schwab for his service as a student representative on the school board. Orion will be missed, and Bob recognized that Orion had brought a lot to the meetings with his attendance, and taught all of the board members valuable information. Bob finished with wishing Orion the best of luck at UMO!

Orion was presented with a card and gift card for his service on the board.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ann Schwab stated that she had attended the latest curriculum committee meeting, and she found it to be validating. She recognized that the committee had been working hard to ensure the standards align with the state, and was pleased to see that their hard work had paid off with the release of the new state standards for social studies.

Rob Taylor also spoke of the Science curriculum and recognized that when the district decided seven years ago to go with the NGSS standards, that was a great choice because the new standards just

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released from the state closely align with the NGSS Standards, and had they not gone with those we would be starting all over again.

14. POLICY - None

15. OLD BUSINESS

15.1 Action on awarding of Audit Bid Services

Bob Webster spoke of the audit bids received and referred to the summary sent to the board members in their packets. He recommended awarding a three-year contract for audit services to RHR Smith & Company from Buxton, Maine. He further stated that this firm also services the three municipal towns for our district with financial audits, and they were the lowest bid received.

*Motion made by **DALE LEBLANC**, seconded by **SARA HUGHES** to award the Audit Bid Services to **RHR SMITH & COMPANY** for the next **THREE (3)** year(s).*

Discussion:

Doug asked if they also audited other school districts. Bob Webster answered that yes they do indeed audit other school districts.

Ann Schwab asked how many bids were received. Bob Webster stated that we received a total of four bids for audit services.

Vote to award Audit Bid Services:

Yes (7)	No (0)	Abstain (0)	Students Reps (2)
Doug DiPasquale			Scott Jackson – yes
Tammy Frost			Orion Schwab - yes
Sara Hughes			
Dale LeBlanc			
Mike Morrell			
Phoebe Pike			
Ann Schwab			

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15.2 Executive session to discuss personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)

*Motion made by **MIKE MORRELL**, seconded by **PHOEBE PIKE** to enter executive session to discuss personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)*

Vote to enter into executive session:

<i>Yes (7)</i>	<i>No (0)</i>	<i>Abstain (0)</i>	<i>Students Reps (2)</i>
<i>Doug DiPasquale</i>			<i>Scott Jackson – yes</i>
<i>Tammy Frost</i>			<i>Orion Schwab - yes</i>
<i>Sara Hughes</i>			
<i>Dale LeBlanc</i>			
<i>Mike Morrell</i>			
<i>Phoebe Pike</i>			
<i>Ann Schwab</i>			

Executive session entered at 6:37 PM

Executive session ended at 6:52 PM

Meeting was called back to order at 6:54 PM by Board Chair, Bob Staples

16. NEW BUSINESS

16.1 Approve Assessment Warrants and Installment Schedules

*Motion made by **MIKE MORRELL**, seconded by **PHOEBE PIKE** to
I move that the Warrant for Assessment of Tax and the Assessment Schedule and Notice of Installments for each member municipality prepared by the Treasurer for fiscal year 2019-2020 be approved and be issued in form presented to this meeting; and that the Treasurer be authorized and directed to deliver to each member municipality its Warrant for Assessment of Tax and its Assessment Schedule and Notice of Installments.*

Discussion: None

Vote to approved Assessment Warrants and Installment Schedules:

<i>Yes (7)</i>	<i>No (0)</i>	<i>Abstain (0)</i>	<i>Students Reps (2)</i>
<i>Doug DiPasquale</i>			<i>Scott Jackson – yes</i>
<i>Tammy Frost</i>			<i>Orion Schwab - yes</i>
<i>Sara Hughes</i>			

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Dale LeBlanc Mike Morrell Phoebe Pike Ann Schwab			
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16.2 School Board Meeting Dates Schedule for 2019-2020

<i>Discussion:</i>
<i>Bob Staples recognized and thanked Laura for taking the initiative to set this up. He had reviewed and only found a couple of errors, but they were corrected before sent out in board packets.</i>
<i>Dale LeBlanc stated he had reviewed the schedule, and it looked terrific. The dates lined up perfectly.</i>
<i>Bob Webster stated that the schedule didn't need to be approved or require action by the board. It was more of an FYI, but that if it looked good to everyone we would move forward with sending final drafts in the next board packet.</i>

16.3 Action on Administrators Contract Renewal for 2019/2020 school year

<i>Bob Webster recommended that the Administrator's contract be renewed for the 2019-2020 school year. Referred to information that had been sent to the board members in their packets.</i>
<i>Motion made by <u>MIKE MORRELL</u>, seconded by <u>DOUG DIPASQUALE</u> to approve the Administrators Contracts.</i>
<i>Discussion: None</i>

Vote to approve the Administrators Contracts:

Yes (7) Doug DiPasquale Tammy Frost Sara Hughes Dale LeBlanc Mike Morrell Phoebe Pike Ann Schwab	No (0)	Abstain (0)	Students Reps (2) Scott Jackson – yes Orion Schwab - yes
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16.4 Executive session to discuss personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(A)

*Motion made by **MIKE MORRELL**, seconded by **PHOEBE PIKE** to enter executive session to discuss personnel matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)*

Discussion: None

Vote to enter into executive session:

<i>Yes (7)</i>	<i>No (0)</i>	<i>Abstain (0)</i>	<i>Students Reps (2)</i>
<i>Doug DiPasquale</i>			<i>Scott Jackson – yes</i>
<i>Tammy Frost</i>			<i>Orion Schwab - yes</i>
<i>Sara Hughes</i>			
<i>Dale LeBlanc</i>			
<i>Mike Morrell</i>			
<i>Phoebe Pike</i>			
<i>Ann Schwab</i>			

Executive session entered at 6:59 PM

Executive session ended at 7:09 PM

Meeting was called back to order at 7:09 PM by Board Chair, Bob Staples

17. APPOINTMENTS

17.1 Board appointment of Superintendent of Schools

Bob Staples recommended the board appoint Scott Albert to the position of Superintendent of Schools for RSU #73 beginning July 1st, 2019.

*Motion made by **DALE LEBLANC**, seconded by **SARA HUGHES** to appoint **SCOTT ALBERT** to the position of Superintendent of Schools beginning **July 1st, 2019**.*

Discussion:

Rob Taylor asked when Scott would begin as Superintendent, as he was his current building principal. Bob Staples stated he would finish the school year as Principal and take over the Superintendent position on July 1st.

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Vote to approve Superintendent nomination:

<i>Yes (7)</i>	<i>No (0)</i>	<i>Abstain (0)</i>	<i>Students Reps (2)</i>
<i>Doug DiPasquale Tammy Frost Sara Hughes Dale LeBlanc Mike Morrell Phoebe Pike Ann Schwab</i>			<i>Scott Jackson – yes Orion Schwab - yes</i>

18. OTHER BUSINESS

18.1 Executive session to discuss student matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(B)

*Motion made by **MIKE MORRELL**, seconded by **SARA HUGHES** to enter executive session to discuss student matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(B)*

Discussion: None

Vote to enter into executive session:

<i>Yes (7)</i>	<i>No (0)</i>	<i>Abstain (0)</i>	<i>Students Reps (2)</i>
<i>Doug DiPasquale Tammy Frost Sara Hughes Dale LeBlanc Mike Morrell Phoebe Pike Ann Schwab</i>			<i>Scott Jackson – yes Orion Schwab - yes</i>

Executive session entered at 7:12 PM

Executive session ended at 7:18 PM

Meeting was called back to order at 7:19 PM by Board Chair, Bob Staples

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19. CALENDAR / ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 13th, 2019 – School Board Meeting at Spruce Mountain High School
 - Policy Committee will meet at 5:00 PM
- June 27th, 2019 – School Board Meeting at Spruce Mountain Primary School
 - Finance Committee will meet at 5:30 PM

20. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by **SCOTT JACKSON**, seconded by **ORION SCHWAB** to adjourn the May 23rd, 2019 School Board Meeting:

Discussion: None

Vote to adjourn May 23rd, 2019 School Board Meeting:

Yes (7)	No (0)	Abstain (0)	Students Reps (2)
Doug DiPasquale Tammy Frost Sara Hughes Dale LeBlanc Mike Morrell Phoebe Pike Ann Schwab			Scott Jackson – yes Orion Schwab - yes

Meeting adjourned at: 7:20 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,



Robert Webster
Interim Superintendent of Schools