

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 19
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES**

September 19, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Corinna Caron, Christopher Easton, Fred Hickey, Susie Hopkins, Don Mendell, Robin McNeil, Jody Mullis, Ryan Parker, Kenneth Sands, Jason Scholten, Chad Stratton, Jennifer Watson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Samantha Brown, Paul Carter, Joanne Elwell, William MacDonald, Winn Price (Excused); Christopher Pepin , Erik Stitham (Unexcused)

TOTAL MEMBERS PRESENT: 650

TOTAL MEMBERS ABSENT: 348

Others Present: District staff and members of the community

I. Opening of Meeting

A. Flag Salute was rendered.

B. Adjustments to Agenda – Add to VI. Old Business, B. Award of the BAN - informational.

C. Approval of Board Minutes of August 15, 2017 and August 29, 2107

A **motion** was made by Fred Hickey to accept the Board Meeting minutes from August 15, 2017, **seconded** by Ken Sands and **voted** unanimously.

A **motion** was made by Fred Hickey to accept the Emergency Board Meeting minutes from August 29, 2017, **seconded** by Ken Sands and **voted** unanimously.

II. Public Comment - None

III. Reading of Communications

A. Administrative Communications - None

B. Superintendent/Board Communications - Communications were presented.

IV. Reports

A. Superintendent

Superintendent Hammer says things are fairly quiet as school gets into routine. Construction project keeps everyone very busy though. Very exciting.

Great POW ceremony at Nokomis last week. All of the classes that the Superintendent has observed are doing a terrific job.

Volunteers are need to be on the Board side of negotiations of the Etna/Dixmont withdrawal. Right now they are meeting every Wednesday. If you're interested, send Chris and Mike an email. Mike has been through this in Ellsworth from the outside. He was on the edge of it in Monticello which went through the whole process. RSU 50 had negotiations about this same thing. Etna/Dixmont separation is a process and there is an information gathering procedure, then the voters get to decide cost benefit. Susie is on the negotiating team from the Dixmont side. Robin McNeil would be interested. Christopher Easton is Board Chair and anticipates the appearance of conflict of interest. The State dictates what the membership of the separation and negotiation committees will be. Jody Mullis has also volunteered. Jason may be interested.

There was information asked about the cost of Warrior Broadcasting. At this point, if we adjust Matt's schedule so he can have flex time on the days of recording for Board meetings, there would be no cost unless there is a need for a physical copy of the recording.

B. Board Chair

As of today, Robin McNeil has been appointed to replace Jonathan Parker on the Board. He moved out of RSU 19 due to his work.

Mary Nadeau – It's been a smooth start for Nokomis. It has been nice to have the energy in the building of both students and staff. Lots of great things happening with sporting events. Saturday's homecoming has a great set of games coming up. Kasie Giallombardo is one of the three finalists for teacher-of-the-year. September 20th is the site visit.

Jane Stork – Etna/Dixmont is doing a lot right now. Paleoanthropologist from National Geographic in South Africa was on a live feed with the School. They have been invited to participate again. Maryann Tudor, from Modern Woodman, purchased new wheel barrows for the garden, donated \$300+ for canned goods for 25 Thanksgiving baskets and will do a matching grant. A Bangor artist worked with teachers and the teachers are making wonderful things. The School is sponsoring a spaghetti supper for a hurricane relief effort on October 5th, 5:30-7:30 pm. This will also include a Hometown Hero announcement.

Lori Merrow – Newport/Plymouth is also off to a good start. Staff is looking at some of the preliminary testing data to assess education needs. They are also doing a hurricane fundraiser.

Laura Donahue – Reported she has been at Corinna for one day. They are having a harvest lunch tomorrow and fourth grade students are helping with that.

David Leighton – The harvest dinner is a statewide event in every district. Everything is from the state of Maine. CEP started at St. Albans and Somerset. All students are eligible

to eat for free. Staff is saying they are seeing numbers rising from day to day. Lots of families will benefit from this program.

Liz Mares – Special Education - New staff member at Corinna, Karie Carrothers, is taking it by the horns and enjoying it. Many staff changes were made to accommodate the closing of Hartland Consolidated School. Staff is doing a great job with the transition. There are approximately 337 students with an IEP, 23 in referral process, and 47 with a section 504 plan. Principals had training last week on electronic records management that makes records easily accessible for all involved and to help everyone with compliance. There has been an increase in children served as English as a second language from 7 last year to 11 this year, and 3 of the 4 new are virtually without any English. Gifted and Talented program is starting. DOE training last week helped provide clarity and guidance about the application and identification process. Mary and Lisa are going to attend an annual conference on this in October. Two groups of special educators will be going to two conferences, put on by the Directors' Association, to learn about supporting students with challenging behaviors. One group will attend for elementary level and the other for middle and high school level. Hoping this will raise the level of performance for the whole District. We are getting ready to complete the carry over report for title.

The Governor would like local SAU's to have early intervention with 3-5 year olds and have us pick up the costs associated with special needs.

V. Report of Special Committees

A. Budget/Finance Committee

No Meeting

Trish – This is audit week in the Business office. They have been able to address some of the journal entry issues that the auditors raised last year.

B. Building Committee

August 9, 2017

Communication presented

Chad says the building project is underway. The contractors are moving earth, they are going to be blasting soon. Somerset boiler failed an inspection. Licia is looking for prices for repairs and possible replacement. Nokomis boilers are not functioning and we are looking for temporary replacement from Bowman, but Licia is looking to see if their 1 million BTU boiler will heat the whole building. Don asked if we are switching oil types. Hartland ITC Board is voting on the 20th to see how much money they are willing to commit to heating the building. The RSU will provide one tank of oil. Mike says we have a Clerk of the Works as of today. Licia, Mike, and Trish are going to have every-other-week meetings on Wednesdays starting tomorrow (20th) with construction teams. People are not slowing down despite construction signs. Police department is at the table at some of these meetings and we're trying to get people to be as safe as possible. Concrete pouring is scheduled for November. Nickerson and O'Day will help with the kick-off/promotion of ground breaking, etc.

C. Education Committee

September 5, 2017

Communication presented.

Started with a science curriculum update, next generation science curriculum. Guiding Principles of the Maine Learning Results guide requirements for H.S. graduation and discussion was held about how they are implemented without becoming burdensome. Presentation by Don Mendell on the Core/Cardinal virtues and also a question from him about whether there is a required reading list for the District. Don added that he would like to know if there are any content requirements and asked if the Board has opinions about certain kinds of content or areas where we would expect students to graduate with. Don would like to see us continue to study that. Mike has a reading list from Mary that he will share with the Committee.

- D. Policy Committee August 22, 2017
1. First Reading of Policies - highlights indicate changes.
 - a. JLWellness and JL-E Smart Snacks in School
Most of the changes related to changes in the nutritional standards.
 - b. Laptop and Computer use.
Motion was made by Fred Hickey to approve the above policies and **seconded** by Robin McNeil.
 2. Second Reading of Policies - None
- E. Transportation Committee No Meeting
There are things that need to be taken care of but we need a quorum to hold a meeting.
- F. Warrior Education Foundation Com.
Business letters have gone out. Planned fundraiser for Sunday the week of homecoming has been postponed until tentatively November 5th (Turkey trot, music at the end of the day with community band, and selling refreshments). Robin is very confident that they will be able to raise the money. Current amount raised is \$25,000.
- G. Negotiations Committee
Has met several times since the Board last met. Negotiations is still moving forward but it is a slow process. We've tabled several items, others are being worked on. Next meeting is September 27th.

VI. Old Business

- A. Cost for Warrior Broadcasting to Video Board Meetings
A **motion** was made by Fred Hickey that the Warrior Broadcasting be allowed to record the Board meetings and **seconded** by Ken Sands.

Discussion – Don suggests student involvement. How is this being adjusted so it will not affect Matt's work with students. Mary says Matt only has two periods with direct student contact. Mary doesn't know if mandated student involvement would work. Matt has a lot of duties to ensure recorded video is appropriate before it can be uploaded online, then transferred to local access, etc. Then include the large volume of extra-curricular activities. We should cement whether someone is available to record the

meetings. Matt says we have the technology, equipment and possible personnel to make multiple events

Jason Scholten made a suggestion to amend the original motion to read: All Board meetings will be recorded and broadcast. This amended language was accepted by Fred and Ken. The motion, as amended, was not voted on.

Ryan Parker made a **motion** to refer this to the Policy Committee, **seconded** by Robin McNeil and **voted** unanimously.

B. Award of the BAN

Two bids were received, one at 4.25% and the First National Bank at 1.59%, which we accepted for \$4.1 million. This gives us until November 1st to go into the fall Bond Bank on November 2 to get the \$52+ million.

Trish received an email from Bangor Savings Bank saying they didn't bid on the second BAN because they weren't sure they could be competitive. They also wanted to congratulate the RSU on its improved financial situation.

VII. New Business

A. Staff Resignations – Informational

1. Julie Thorton Ed Tech III SPED SEB
2. Wendy Sheriff Bus Driver

Superintendent believes Julie took a position closer to home for better pay and Wendy made a career change.

B. Staff Nominations

1. Nicholas Boterf Latin NRHS

Motion was made by Fred Hickey to accept the Superintendent's nomination of Nicholas Boterf as Latin teacher at NRHS, **seconded** by Jason Scholton and **voted** unanimously.

2. Ann Kenny Grade 1 N/P

Motion was made by Fred Hickey to accept the Superintendent's nomination of Ann Kenny as Grade 1 Teacher at N/P School, **seconded** by Corinna Caron and **voted** unanimously.

C. Staff Appointments - Informational

1. Trisha McPherson Ed Tech III SPED STAL
2. Kathy Bernier Ed Tech III SPED STAL
3. Emily Sevey Ed Tech III SPED CES
4. Mariah Hallett Ed Tech II SPED EDS
5. Patricia Roy Head Cook/Kitchen Manager SOM
6. Margaret McLeod Van Driver

D. Staff Transfers - Informational - None

VIII. Future Agenda Items

- A. Broadcasting of Board meetings is going to the Policy Committee.
- B. Don would like to know what the mascot is and if we have one why aren't we using it? Chad mentioned that there has not even been a decision about whether or not to retain the name Nokomis when the new school is complete. Mary Nadeau provided a chronology of the discussions that lead to the current school colors and current signage at the end of Williams Road.

IX. Next Meeting Dates

The Board will meet on October 17, 2017.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Hammer
Secretary to the Board