

**MSAD #72 Board of Directors
Wednesday, January 14, 2015
Meeting Minutes
Molly Ockett Middle School
7:00 PM**

Call to Order: Bob Steller called the meeting to order and declared a quorum at 7:00.

Members Present:

Card, Linda*	Shorey, Kathiann
Carter, John	Snow, Norma
Cummings, Laura	Spooner, Ed
Dondero, Mitchell	Stacy, Jim
Dupuis, Steven	Steller, Bob
Mattei, Chris	Struven, Marie
McGrath, Denise*	Trumbull, Anne
Ontengco, Julie	Weston, Laurie
Schasel, Dean	Williams, Jane*

Administrators

Emily Kirkpatrick
Pat Menzel
Rhonda Poliquin
Mark Schrader
Jay Robinson

Members not Present:

LeBlanc, Sharon* (excused)	Lyman, Kathleen* (excused)
Lindblade, Carl* (excused)	Smethurst, Kevan*

Agenda:

Prior to beginning the Agenda, Jim LaPlante, Director of Technology, shared that we now have a new sound system that will be used at Board Meetings so that everyone can hear the discussions. He explained how the system is used.

1. **Public Discussion** (15-Minute):
None

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Board Meeting - December 10, 2014
A motion was made to approve the minutes from the meeting on December 10, 2014.
Motion: Julie Ontengco Second: Norma Snow
Discussion: Heather Sheehan shared that she had received word after the Minutes were sent that in fact Denise McGrath was absent excused at the December 10th meeting.
A motion was made to approve the minutes from the meeting on December 10, 2014 with the amendment that Denise McGrath was absent excused.
Motion: Norma Snow Second: Julie Ontengco

Passed
All in favor

3. Communications:

Leave Request: Jay received a request from Jessica Brooks, Ed Tech at FA, asking for a leave of absence for the remainder of the school year as she was asked to be the Director of Residential Life at Fryeburg Academy for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.

A motion was made to approve the Leave Request for Jessica Brooks for the remainder of the 2014-2015 School year.

Motion: Laurie Weston

Second: Norma Snow

Passed

All in favor

4. Committee Reports:

- a. Finance: Laurie Weston reported that the Committee had met with Jay and Sue Frost, Business Administrator, on Tuesday morning. They reviewed two policies; discussed the status of the Headstart request for \$48,000 in funding (the Committee was split on their decision regarding this matter); and discussed the budget timeline for meetings.
- b. Curriculum: Jane Williams reported that the committee did not meet. Committee members Mitchell Dondero and Jane Williams visited Brownfield Denmark School and observed Language Arts classes in the 2nd and 4th grade classrooms.
- c. Transportation: Marie Struven, No Report
- d. Facilities: Jim Stacy reported that the committee met last month at Brownfield Denmark Elementary School to discuss security issues. Mark Schrader added that there was a recommendation made to add security cameras outside the school to address the portables. Dave Powers needs to get cost information. They will be looking at a similar solution for the CA Snow School
- e. Policy: Norma Snow reported that the Committee met this evening and continued to review policies. They reviewed policies that the Finance Committee as looked at and many of those policies will be brought for First Read and Review at the Board meeting in February. The Board will vote on policies later this evening.
- f. Special Education: Laura Cummings , No Report
- g. Personnel: Norma Snow reported that the committee had met this past Tuesday evening to begin the process of reviewing the language in the current PVEA contract and looked at changes to be made. They also met this evening to review information regarding the new guidance counselor at Molly Ockett. The Board will approve her appointment later this evening.

5. Administrative Reports:

None

6. Superintendent's Report:

● **Common Core Survey Overview and Teacher Feedback:**

In response to the Board's request, the Administration developed a survey for the teachers in our District in order to receive their feedback regarding how they have been impacted by the Common Core Standards. Complete survey results were sent to board and Jay will post the survey results on the District Website tomorrow. All teachers were given the opportunity to come and speak to the Board regarding Common Core Standards. Megan Barry, 6-8 Math teacher for the MESA program at Molly Ockett; Courtney Smith, 3-5 LEAP teacher at New Suncook and Sue Hill, second grade teacher at CA Snow school came to share their thoughts with the Board and to answer questions.

The teachers thanked the Board for asking for teacher feedback and hope that they will continue to ask questions. They shared that while implementing the Common Core Standards is certainly a challenge, they are grateful for the depth and specificity of the standards. The Maine Learning Results standards that were being used prior to the Common Core were very vague. Using CC standards gives the teachers specific targets to meet and gives students clear expectations of what they need to learn. Students are more invested in what they are learning. Using these standards helps to give parents the "whole picture" of how their child is learning and progressing.

These teachers felt the initial shift to using CC standards was difficult. There is a lot more work in figuring out how to meet the needs of all students. There is more data collection to prove students are meeting standards but this is done through a variety of ways i.e.: testing; creating portfolios that show students understand the concepts they need to know; teachers having specific conversations with students regarding standards. Teachers are collaborating to find the best way to continue creativity with data collection and how to effectively convey data collection to parents.

They wanted to make it clear that Common Core Standards and Curriculum are two different subjects. Standards are not curriculum. We have no choice about teaching the Common Core Standards, but we do have a choice in the curriculum we use to teach those standards. Teachers have a say in how they teach the standards. That is where creativity comes into play.

They realize there is work to be done to help parents feel involved in the process. They are not trying to confuse parents but also know that change is often difficult. They hope that parents feel free to ask questions as well.

● **Calendar Update:**

Jay met with Superintendents of SAD 55 and 61 as there is a statute that says the local districts need to meet to look at school calendars together and create a regional calendar. They are looking at starting the 2015/2016 school year prior to Labor day. We are still in the preliminary phase in regards to calendar but Jay wanted the Board to know we are looking at a Pre-Labor day start for students.

Julie Ontengco: Did you look into Blizzard pack that another school district is using on snow days?

Jay: There are lots of implications with using the Blizzard packs. How does a District verify if they are being used? What is expected of teachers on snow days? He would like to see how it plays out in other Districts and doesn't want to use an experimental approach.

Steve Dupuis: Power outages can cause problems regarding internet connections. It is unrealistic to think all students could participate in the program.

7. New Business:

- Steve McFarland, Crooked River Adult & Community Education Presentation
Steve introduced himself and his co-workers Rhonda Jacobson from Brownfield and Phoebe Monteith from Stoneham who help to run the program in our District. Steve gave an overview of the Adult Education program and the people it reaches within our District. He would like the Board to consider the following questions. and offered to answer any questions the Board might have regarding the program.

*What is an appropriate number of HS grads?

*What is an appropriate number of people going to college/higher education?

*What is an appropriate amount of money for district to give?

- Election of Superintendent for 2015-2016: This is an action that the Board needs to do annually and a report needs to be filed with the state regarding superintendent election.

A motion was made to elect Jay Robinson as Superintendent of Schools for the 2015-2016 school year.

Motion: Jim Stacy

Second: Norma Snow

Passed
14 for/ 1 opposed

- Policy

2nd Read

BB: Board of Directors Legal Status

EF: Food Services

EFE: Competitive Food Sales

EEAEAA: Alcohol and Controlled Substances Testing for Drivers

EEAEAA-R: Administrative Rules on Driver Alcohol/Controlled Substances Testing

A motion was made to approve the 5 policies listed above for second read.

Motion: Marie Struven

Second: Jim Stacy

Passed
All in favor

1st Read

ECB: Integrated Pest Management

ECB-E: Annual Notification of Integrated Pest Management

EEA: Student Transportation

KMA: Relations with Parent Organizations

A motion was made to approve the 4 policies listed above for first read.

Motion: Kathiann SHorey

Second: Marie Struven

Passed

14 for/ 1 opposed

Discussion: Julie Ontengco asked why do we need policy KMA. Norma said we needed it to clarify the relationship between schools and parent organizations like the PTO/PTA.

Review Only

EC: Building/Grounds/Property Management

ED: Materials and Equipment Management

EEAG: Student Transportation in Private Vehicles

A motion was made to approve the 3 policies listed above for review only.

Motion: Jim Stacy

Second: Laurie Weston

Passed

All in favor

8. Unfinished Business:

Head Start MOU: Memorandum of Understanding.

Jay shared that he had met with Community Concepts after the last Board meeting to let them know of the Board's decision regarding their request for \$48,000 from the District to help fund staffing for Headstart. The Board had agreed to return to Headstart what the District receives in subsidy for the program. Community Concepts is holding fast to wanting us to contribute \$48,000. If the Board does not vote to contribute \$48,000 then Community Concepts will need to look to other Districts to fund the Headstart program and move the program out of Fryeburg. Jay needs to know if the Board will/will not authorize him to sign the MOU which includes funding the \$48,000.

A motion was made to grant the request of Community Concepts and fund the \$48,000.

Motion: Laurie Weston

Second: Marie Struven

Failed

3 for/12 opposed

Discussion:

There was discussion amongst the Board that the budget is going to be tough again this year and we can't afford to pay the \$48,000. It would be difficult to approve the \$48,000 for Headstart which is for Pre-School, and then have to cut the District budget which affects the K-8 students in our schools. Other Board members felt that approving spending the \$48,000 would be a great investment in our Pre-K population and that we would get a lot of that money back in state subsidy.

Mark Schrader: He shared that every year we have Headstart students showing up in our elementary schools. These students would have been further behind academically had they not been involved in the Headstart program. Statistics state that those kids that are in Headstart programs do much better in our public schools.

9. Personnel Action:

Election of New Guidance Counselor for Molly Ockett Middle School

Jay shared that with the retirement of Jane Lansing a new Guidance Counselor, Debra Delmonico, was hired at Molly Ockett.

A motion was made to approve Debra Delmonico as Guidance Counselor at Molly Ockett Middle School.

Motion: Norma Snow

Second: Jim Stacy

Passed

All in favor

10. Public Discussion:

Note: This portion of the agenda is ONLY for clarifying questions regarding topics discussed during the course of the Board Meeting.

*Carol Brooks commented that the new sound system made a big difference in being able to hear discussion.

*Luanne Mageles thanked the teachers who came to speak about Common Core. She would like to have heard from teachers who are not in favor of Common Core so as to hear both sides. She also asked if it would be possible to get a copy of the survey. Jay said that he would post it to the District Web-site.

*Donna Dodge: Shared what she thought was good news that as of today legislation was presented to repeal common core; to repeal Smarter Balance testing to protect families/students against the amount of data collection; to repeal LD122 and replace proficiency based grading with traditional grading.

*Laurie Weston: She asked Donna if she had the numbers and names of students leaving district due to Common Core. Donna said that Sonya Harding had that information and would hopefully have it for the next Board meeting.

11. Agenda Planning/Adjournment:

Next Meeting: February 11, 2015

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Ed Spooner

Second: Jim Stacy

Passed

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:35

Respectfully Submitted,



Heather Sheehan

Recording Secretary