

**MSAD #72 Board of Directors
Wednesday, June 11, 2014
Minutes
Molly Ockett Middle School
7:00 PM**

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

Members Present:

Card, Linda*
Carter, John
Cummings, Laura
Dondero, Mitch
Dupuis, Steven
LeBlanc, Sharon*
Mattei, Chris
Mosca, Anna
Schasel, Dean

Shorey, Kathiann
Snow, Norma
Spoonier, Ed
Stacy, James
Steller, Bob
Struven, Marie
Trumbull, Anne
Weston, Laurie
Williams, Jane*

Administrators

Emily Kirkpatrick
Pat Menzel
Mark Schrader
David Powers
Sue Frost
Rhonda Poliquin

Members not Present:

Emery, Ricky*
Lindblade, Carl*

Lyman, Kathleen*
Smethurst, Kevan*

Agenda:

1. Public Discussion (15-Minute):
None

2. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve minutes from Special Board Meeting held on May 19, 2014 and minutes from District Budget Meeting held May 28, 2014

Motion: Norma Snow

Second: Jim Stacy

Passed

3. Communications:

Letters of Resignation: Jay read letters of resignation from Christopher Logan, Grade 4 Teacher at Brownfield/Denmark School; Carol Mallette-Tonken, Special Education Resource Teacher at Molly Ockett; Pat Struck, Physical Therapist and Barbara Anderson, Elementary Art Teacher. Jay thanked them all for their service to the District and wished them well.

A motion was made to accept the resignations of Chris Logan, Carol Mallette-Tonken, Pat Struck and Barbara Anderson with deepest regret.

Motion: Laurie Weston

Second: Norma Snow

Passed

Leave Request: Jay read a letter from Rhonda Searles, Occupational Therapist, requesting a leave of absence for the 2014-2015 school year. A motion was made to approve the leave request for Rhonda Searles for the 2014-2015 school year.

Motion: Norma Snow Second: Laurie Weston Passed

Certification Committee Report and Appointments: Joe Ferigno, Chair of the Teacher Certification Committee, informed Jay Robinson that there is a vacancy at Snow School that needs to be filled. Two teachers expressed an interest in filling the vacancies. The Committee recommends Laura Naughton as the vacancy replacement.

A motion was made to approve Laura Naughton to be on the Certification Committee as a representative from Snow School.

Motion: Norma Snow Second: Laurie Weston Passed

4. Committee Reports:

- a. **Finance:** Laurie Weston reported that the committee met yesterday. Jay let them know that there had been 2 recent donations to the District; one from Nestle for a scoreboard to be placed in the James Anderson Gymnasium at Molly Ockett, and an anonymous donation to the MESA program. They discussed the possibility of having a Pre K program in the future and how that would affect the District. They signed warrants.
- b. **Curriculum:** Jane Williams reported that the committee did not meet. She also said that several members had attended the informational meeting on Common Core held at Brownfield Denmark school.
- c. **Transportation:** Marie Struven reported that the committee did not meet.
- d. **Facilities:** Jim Stacy Reported that the committee did not meet.
- e. **Policy:** Norma Snow reported that the committee did not meet.
- f. **Special Education:** Laura Cummings reported that the committee did not meet.
- g. **Personnel:** Norma Snow reported that the Personnel Committee met tonight to review those staff members up for 2nd and 3rd year probationary contracts and to learn about new teacher appointments for the 2014-2015 school year.

5. Administrative Reports:

None

6. Superintendent's Report:

Jay spoke about his concerns in getting accurate information out to the public. While he encourages people to express their opinions through letters to the editor it is very problematic when inaccurate information is portrayed as factual. It could become a full time job to respond to the many inaccuracies that are printed. Some criticism is justified and some is not. Currently we use the District web-site, school newsletters, newspaper articles and informational meetings to try and get information out to the public. Jay asked the Board to be thinking about how we can

better reach people in the District. Jim Stacy offered the idea of creating a quarterly or biannual newsletter to send out to the townspeople in the District. Ed Spooner asked that we consider putting information in the Lewiston Sun newspaper and/or Portland Press Herald as people out towards Stoneham area do not get the Conway Daily Sun.

7. New Business:

- **School Lunch Prices** - \$2.35 to \$2.50 (USDA requires review); this amount is closer to the reimbursement for free lunches. Director of Food Services, Mary Emerson, requested an increase of fifteen cents over last year's price. The goal to set the price of paid lunch to be comparable to what is reimbursed from the Federal Government. There were many questions asked and much discussion had as to raising the price. The federal Government is encouraging the price of a school lunch be \$2.65. Mary is trying to spread out raising the cost over a few years so it doesn't make such a huge impact on our families. Currently 46.2 % of our students are receiving Free/Reduced lunch.

A motion was made to raise lunch price to \$2.45 instead of \$2.50

Motion: Norma

Second: Kathiann Shorey

Failed

A motion was made to raise lunch price from \$2.35 to \$2.50 as requested.

Motion: Jim Stacy

Second: Steve Dupuis

Passed

- **Board Apportionment:** This past Fall Jay looked at the most recent census data (2010), believed we may not have the correct Board apportionment based on that data and asked the State if the apportionment was correct. The State recently responded to Jay's question and said that we do need to look at apportionment. We need to create a reapportionment committee comprised of citizens from each District town. Jay will send a letter out to each District town asking for volunteers and a meeting will need to be held within 20 days of sending letter. There was discussion amongst Board members as to what the reapportionment would be and Jay said that is something that the committee will need to look at. Currently our weighted vote may be inaccurate based on 2010 census data and that is what the Committee will address.
- **Kindergarten Placements:** Mark Schrader handed out an informational piece (see attached). He shared that we have an issue with class size regarding incoming Kindergarten, specifically at Brownfield Denmark School. Currently we have 25 Kindergarten students enrolled at BDES for the Fall. This is not a good situation and Mark asked the Board for some guidance as to how to deal with it. Mark's proposal is to place 7 BDES students at CA Snow School along with any additional registrations that may come in for BDES over the summer. All parents of incoming Brownfield Denmark Kindergarten students were sent a letter stating the problems. Also, Mark has met with the parents of 19 out of 25 kindergarten students to share

the problem of the oversized class and no one wants to send their child to CA Snow School.

Options:

1. Lottery Drawing. (to include all or some of the students.)
2. Place students according to their proximity to CA Snow. (This would primarily affect Brownfield residents.)
3. Develop a rating system for students to include a combination of factors (e.g. proximity to school, siblings, family size, family access to vehicles.)
4. Create 2 Kindergarten classrooms at BDES. (This becomes a problem in 2017 when the current portable will be removed from BDES and there will not be enough classroom space for K-4 classes. Some Students in the incoming Kindergarten classes who will be in 3rd grade in the Fall of 2017 would then need to be moved to CA Snow School). There was much discussion regarding this issue. Jim Stacy felt having 2 classrooms might work and that it might be easier to move kids later when they are older. Both Norma Snow and Jim Stacy have received many concerns from parents regarding sending their children to CA Snow. Chris Mattei felt it was important to consider those families who already had children attending BDES as it would be difficult having children at both schools. If a new classroom were added it would affect specialist time (PE, Music, Art and Library) for all grades at BDES by decreasing each class by 10 minutes. Art classroom would be lost and storage would need to be found for all PKA program supplies. There was a question raised about having a K-1 classroom but Mark Schrader said that would be very difficult based on the current reading program. You would have students learning ABC's while others were learning to read. Ed Spooner made a motion to move 7 BDES Kindergarten students to Snow and all additional students registering over the summer as well. No Second. Discussion continued.

A motion was made to go with 4th option; creating a second classroom at BDES.

Motion: Jim Stacy

Second: Norma Snow

Failed

A motion was made to send 7 students to Snow School, eliminating students who have siblings at BDES and using proximity to Snow School as factor in determining who is moved.

Motion: Chris Mattei

Second: Marie Struven

Passed

- **Policies for First Read:** Norma asked if we could table voting on policies as people needed more time to review changes. The Board will vote at next meeting for First Read on the following policies.
 - ADC Tobacco
 - ADC-R
 - JICH
 - JICH-P
 - EEA

- **Election of Nominating Committee for 2014-2015:**
Norma Snow, Jim Stacy, Jane Williams, Linda Card and John Carter will serve on the nominating Committee. A sign-up sheet was passed around for Board members to express their interests in serving on various committees.
- **Signing of Town Assessments:**
The Board signed the Town assessments for Fiscal Year 15. Heather Sheehan will mail out assessments and schedule of payments to town clerks this week.
- **New Construction Referendum Vote:**
The Board tabulated the results received from each town for the Referendum held for the New Construction Project on June 10, 2014.

Votes in Favor - 823

Votes Opposed - 616

The Referendum **PASSED.**

VOTED: That the Computation and Declaration of Votes dated June 10, 2014 and attached hereto be and it is hereby approved.

FURTHER VOTED: That the Computation and Declaration of Votes be entered upon the records of the Maine School Administrative District No. 72 (the "District").

FURTHER VOTED: That a certified copy of the Computation and Declaration of Votes be sent to each of the municipal clerks within the District.

Motion: Jim Stacy

Second: Norma Snow

Passed

8. Unfinished Business:

None

9. Personnel Action:

● **Approval of Probationary Teachers**

Jay nominated and the Personnel Committee recommended the following teachers for probationary contracts:

2nd Year

Craig Bryan - Instrumental Music/Chorus Teacher

Carolyn Findeisen - Middle School Math Teacher

Christina Zahn - Elementary Music Teacher

3rd Year

Cheryl Baker - Special Services Consulting Teacher

Dylan Ney - Middle School Social Studies Teacher

A motion was made to approve 2nd and 3rd year probationary teachers.

Motion: Jim Stacy

Second: Norma Snow

Passed

- **Approval of nominations of new teachers 2014-2015:**

Jay nominated and the Personnel Committee recommended the following new teachers for the 2014-2015 School Year:

Katie Hatfield - CA Snow Special Education Resource Teacher

Allyson Quinn - New Suncook 4/5 Classroom Teacher

Sarah Wallace - Molly Ockett MS Special Education Teacher - Bridge Program

A motion was made to approve the new teachers (mentioned above.) as recommended.

Motion: Jim

Second: Norma Snow

Passed

- **Superintendent Authorization for Summer Hiring:**

A motion was made to authorize Superintendent, Jay Robinson, to hire as needed throughout the summer.

Motion: Laurie Weston

Second: Norma Snow

Passed

10. Agenda Planning/Adjournment:

Next Meeting(s): July 9, 2014

August 13, 2014

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:15.

Motion: Ed Spooner

Second: Norma Snow

Passed

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Sheehan
Recording Secretary

District Kindergarten 2014-15

	Enrolled K	Retentions	Total	Class Size
Brownfield-Denmark (1 class)	24	1	25	25
C. A. Snow (2 classes)	20	2	22	11
New Suncook (3 classes K-1)	29	3	32	17

Proposal: Place 7 students from BDES to CAS. Any additional students registering would automatically go to CAS.

Result: BDES class size of 18. CAS class sizes of 14-15

BDES K class Demographics

- 14 total Brownfield residents
- 5 Brownfield residents already have a sibling in the school.
- 11 total Denmark residents
- 7 Denmark residents already have a sibling in the school.
- With the exception of 1 Brownfield resident and 1 Denmark resident, BDES is the closest school to all of the students' residences.

Steps taken

Before any requests were made (29 students), 4 parents requested a transfer from BDES to CAS. All incoming K parents at BDES were sent a letter in May explaining the situation and asking for voluntary transfers. All parents attending (19) Kindergarten orientation on June 4th were asked a second time if they would like to transfer. No families have followed through on a request.

Dilemma

How do we decide who is placed at CAS?

Options

1. Lottery drawing. (to include all or some of the students)
2. Place students according to their proximity to CAS. (This would primarily affect Brownfield residents.)
3. Develop rating system for students to include a combination of factors (e.g. proximity, siblings, family size, family access to vehicles)
4. Create 2 Kindergarten classrooms at BDES. (This becomes a problem in 2017.)