

**MSAD #72 Board of Directors
Minutes
Wednesday, November 6, 2013
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*	Trumbull, Anne
Carter, John	Snow, Norma
Dupuis, Steve	Spooner, Ed
LeBlanc, Sharon*	Stacy, James
Mosca, Anna*	Steller, Bob
Schasel, Dean	Struven, Marie
Shorey, Kathiann	Weston, Laurie
Smethurst, Kevan*	Williams, Jane*

Administrators

Emily Kirkpatrick
Rhonda Poliquin
Pat Menzel
David Powers

Consultant

Steven Blatt

Members not Present:

Brown, Kirsten	Lucy, Laura
Dondero, Mitch	Lyman, Kathleen*
Emery, Ricky	Mattei, Chris

Agenda:

Public Discussion (15-Minute):

- Bob Steller received a letter from a Lovell resident with concerns regarding the school building project which he read to the audience. There was much public discussion regarding the building project.
- A Snow School PTO Representative asked that the board consider amending the Health and Wellness policy to allow for PTOs/PTAs to sell food products that may not meet Health and Wellness standards. These food products would not be sold at school. The money raised from these sales benefits the students at Snow School.

Approval of Minutes from October 9th meeting:

Motion: Norma Snow

Second: Jane Williams

Motion: **Passed**

Communications:

Summary of Ad Hoc Building Committee Discussion: Chairman Jim Stacy stated that the committee met last week and decided to take Option C off the table. They will move forward looking at Option B. Steve Dupuis said that people are not interested in any consolidation at any level. He also stated that “the people” do not want Plan B either. Kevan Smethurst asked why Plan C was even considered.

There was much discussion on when/why Option C was brought into consideration. The discussion then turned to the cost sharing of the entire project. The overall feeling is that the cost of the building project needs to be shared by all seven District towns. This change in cost sharing would need to be addressed by a committee with representation from all towns and then a vote would need to be taken in these towns for final approval.

A Motion was made to proceed with changing the funding of the 34% of debt service that will be paid so that the burden is shared equally amongst all 7 sending towns.

Motion: Norma Snow Second: Ed Spooner Motion: **Passed**
15 for 1 opposed

There was more discussion regarding Plan B after motion to seek equitable sharing of costs. Laurie Weston asked if the state would support Plan B without consolidating all District 5th grade students at Molly Ockett.

Jay spoke about the history in considering the replacement of Snow School started back in 2006. There were many issues with Snow School making it important to pursue replacement options. The need to eliminate portables at all schools for security reasons was important, which was one of the reasons Plan B was considered.

In moving forward with Plan B or some version of Plan B, Jim Stacy said the Ad Hoc Building Committee felt it appropriate to defer to the Administration about the configuration of grade levels at each school. Sharon LeBlanc stated that she felt it is very important that the elementary essential skills classroom be centrally located at Molly Ockett. Steve Dupuis asked what the cost will be for Plan B.

Norma Snow asked: "Is there a time limit as to when this needs to go to referendum? Jay responded no. However, we need to think about the impact on Snow School students and faculty if we do not move forward with a plan in a timely fashion.

Summary of feedback received from constituents: John Carter had requested feedback from Lovell residents regarding their concerns about the proposed building projects. He shared some of their thoughts.

Committee Reports:

a. **Curriculum:** Chairman Jane Williams stated that the committee had met and set goals for the year: to become more aware of what learner centered classrooms look like and entail; to focus on the Math Curriculum; to learn more about the Common Core State Standards. They also discussed professional development and what might be offered to teachers in this area.

b. **Policy:** Met tonight to discuss ADA Policy which will be voted on later in the evening. They also looked at the Health and Wellness policy in relation to Fundraising for PTO's/PTAs. The committee will continue to update/revise policies throughout the year.

c. **Finance:** Laurie Weston stated that the committee had met this week and discussed the new copiers and printers that will be coming to the Central Office and schools. They discussed the financial implications of having 8 or 9 students at out-of-district placements. They also signed warrants.

d. **Transportation:** Chairman Marie Struven stated that the committee met this evening. They discussed putting applications in for three new buses, hoping that the state will give us at least two. They also discussed the inappropriate behavior occurring on buses and steps to take to address this issue. They are looking for recommendation to apply for purchasing buses. Two buses need to be replaced and one is showing the need to be replaced soon. Dave Powers clarified that the committee is requesting a motion that they may file the application to receive three buses. After receiving approval through the application process the board will vote. Motion: Ed Spooner Second: Laurie Weston Motion: **Passed**

e. **Special Ed:** Sharon LeBlanc spoke on behalf of Chairman Laura Lucy and said that the committee had met and Special Services Director, Pat Menzel had brought the group up to speed on what was happening in the special education department.

f. **Personnel:** No report.

g. **Facilities:** No report

Administrative Reports:

Update on Professional Development Activities: Jay expressed his wish to keep the board informed about what is going on in the schools and with that in mind had asked Rhonda Poliquin to speak about Professional Development and Emily Kirkpatrick to speak about the informational meetings held at each school.

Rhonda shared the the main focus for Professional Development was working on Math; helping students in learning how to support their ideas with evidence. K-8 teachers are meeting for professional development and are sharing the strategies they are using in their classrooms. A speaker came in to introduce some new ideas in teaching math. K-8 teachers will meet in December to share what they have been doing in classes in regards to math instruction and how to better communicate their understanding of math. They will be utilizing a regional educational lab which provides access to current research and technical support.

Update on Report Card Meetings: Each school held meetings for parents and shared information about learner-centered classrooms. These informational sessions included sharing what learner-centered classrooms should look like and why they are necessary; discussing goals for establishing learner center classrooms; sharing how to help students set goals and problem solve; exploring how to help students become more engaged by helping them use their individual strengths.

K through 8 staff are working on creating a Report Card that will be used in K through 8 classrooms. A major focus in creating these report cards is to make sure they accurately share what students are learning each day regarding academics as well as behavior. It is also important that the report cards provide information on each student's strengths as well as weaknesses.

Anne Trumbull asked if Molly Ockett was looking into reinstating any type of Honor Roll recognition to help provide incentives to students to strive to meet and exceed standards. Emily Kirkpatrick stated she was working with Jay Robinson on looking into an Honor Roll Recognition System.

6. Superintendent's Report:

None

7. New Business:

a. Policies for final review and approval

- ADAA: Standards for Ethical and Responsible Behavior

Motion: Ed Spooner

Second: Jim Stacy

Motion: **Passed**

b. Discussion of Wellness Policy (Fundraising) The Policy Committee is looking for consensus that the board would not set limits on fundraising when it involves food. Kathiann Shorey explained that the health and wellness team spent many hours working on a Health and wellness policy that included nutritional values of food to be served/sold at school. There is "strong language" in the policy urging PTOs/PTAs to sell things other than food for Fund Raisers, but there is no ban on selling food outside of the school building. Motion was made to allow the selling of food (cookie dough) by PTOs/PTAs provided the sales did not take place on school property.

Motion: Ed Spooner

Second: Anne Trumbull

Motion: **Passed**

c. Purchase of New Busses: Discussed and voted upon under Transportation Committee report.

d. Discussion of Building Project-Survey Results and Summary

Can we have the money to look into sharing the costs? All approved in previous motion.

e. Determination of Next Steps

i. Option C: AD Hoc Building Committee made the decision to take option C off the table after evaluating responses from the survey and feedback from the various public informational meetings.

ii. Option B - Cost of approximately 20 million including work on Molly Ockett that needs to be done.

1. Grade Levels: Ed Spooner suggested Moving 5th grade from both Denmark and New Suncook to Molly Ockett Campus. Steve Dupuis made the point that people do not want 5th grade moved from New Suncook. No decision made on grade configurations at each building although in order to remove portables from Brownfield/Denmark school, grade 5 would need to move to Molly Ockett Campus.

2. Pre-Kindergarten Programming: Many questions as to issue of including Pre-K in plans. If we include Pre-K classrooms into Plan B then we need to use those classrooms for Pre-K programming which means funding Pre-K as well. Would people support Pre-K program?

3. Superintendent's Office: Steve Dupuis asked why the Superintendent's Office/Central Office space was being doubled in the Option B new building project. Architect Steven Blatt responded that in actuality the Central Office space was being downsized by about half to make a more efficient work space. There was no further discussion regarding the Superintendent's Office.

4. Other

8. Unfinished Business:

None

9. Personnel Action:

None

Agenda Planning/Adjournment:

Motion: Norma Snow

Second: Ed Spooner

Motion: Passed

Next Meeting: December 11, 2013

Meeting Guidelines

*Listen for understanding

*Question for clarification

*Respect – time and each other

*Engage differences

*Take care of your own personal needs