

MINUTES
RSU 13 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2013
MCLAIN SCHOOL
6:30PM

Executive Session – 5:30-6:30pm

1. Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum

Chair Kilgour called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and a quorum was declared. Carol Bachofner, Nancy Jeffers, and Daryl Sanborn were excused absent.

2. Executive Session:

To go into Executive Session per MRSA 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter

To go into Executive Session per MRSA 405(6)(D) to discuss negotiations

It was moved by Arvilla Collins and seconded by Don Robishaw to go in to Executive Session per MRSA 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter and per MRSA 405(6)(D) to discuss negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session entered at 5:30 pm and Chair Kilgour declared the Board out of Executive Session at 6:23 pm.

Regular Board Meeting – 6:30pm

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Chair Kilgour asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of OHS-W English teacher Mike Rubashkin, who passed away on August 29, 2013.

4. Adjustments to the Agenda: *None*

5. Staff Member of the Month Presentation

Superintendent Collins presented the Staff Member of the Month to Kathy Blais, Secretary to the Superintendent. Kathy is the epitome of kindness and competence. She always greets staff and visitors with a smile and warm greeting. Nothing and nobody surprises her and she has an institutional memory unrivaled in the district – a true life “Radar O’Reilly.” She will receive a \$100 bonus, a plaque of appreciation, and a prime parking spot for a month.

6. Presentation – Introduction of New Teachers and Administrators

Introductions of new teachers and administrators were made. Superintendent Collins introduced the new administrators: Carissa Veit, half time Project Manager for Proficiency-based Education; Erin Frazier, Special Education Director; Jessica Yates, IEP Coordinator; Kelly Pelletier, Clinical Coordinator/Behavior Analyst; Shannon Cawley, School Psychologist; and Rachel Rivard, Certified Nurse Practitioner.

CCS and LLS Principal Ainslee Riley introduced Nicole McLellen, Grade 2 at CCS; Jamie MacCaffray, Grade 3 at LLS; Kathy Perkins, half time Librarian/Media Technician at CCS, GBS, and LLS. SS Principal Lynsey Ward introduced Kyle Reniche, Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Special Ed Director Erin Frazier introduced Ben Springer, Teacher in the Autism program at SS; Sarah Dyer, Teacher in

the Resource Room at GBS and OHCS; and Jenn Colby, part time Office Assistant in the Superintendent's office, who now has additional administrative duties in the Special Services office.

7. Public Participation: Citizens are welcome to speak to agenda matters before the Board (up to 30 minutes total)
 - *Bill Reinhardt: was speaking collectively for the St. George Select Board. They are disappointed that the Superintendent is not following the wishes of the voters and felt the post-vote wording on the school signs was hypocritical. He extended an invitation to the board to attend a St. George town meeting where the Superintendent and boards can discuss deficiencies and to explain how St. George will fit into the new consolidation plan.*
8. Business Items
 - a. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Arvilla Collins as a School Board member, effective November 6, 2013.

Chair Kilgour presented Arvilla Collins with a gift of thanks on behalf of the board. It was moved by Don Robishaw and seconded by Sally to accept her resignation with regret. Motion passed 672 – 80 – 248 (Arvilla Collins abstained; Carol Bachofner, Nancy Jeffers, and Daryl Sanborn absent). She is very proud of the Superintendent and the board. She noted that while everyone doesn't always agree, there is still respect amongst each other. She also thanked the voters for their support.
 - b. Accept the resignation of Todd Martin, Title I Interventionist, effective August 31, 2013.

It was moved by Arvilla Collins and seconded by Bill Pearce to accept the resignation of Todd Martin with regret. Motion passed unanimously.
 - c. Oceanside High School Athletic Event Staff – New Stipend Position

The Teacher Contract lists all stipends and positions, so anything added must be by the action of the board. AD Jim Leonard noted this is not a new position but that they were previously covered under "Activities" (Athletics and Activities have since been separated). There is money in budget and it should be a stipend position, which includes four (4) for football and six (6) for basketball.

It was moved by Loren Andrews and seconded by Sally Carleton to accept the new OHS Athletic Event Staff as a new stipend position. Don Robishaw asked about the Event Coordinator and AD Leonard confirmed it is one of the ten workers. Loren Andrews made a friendly amendment for the motion to be just for the Gate Workers.

This was previously covered under the SAD 5 teachers' collective bargaining contract. In the current contract, this position is not in the stipend position list. Arvilla Collins doesn't feel it should be included in the bargaining contract. AD Leonard said it has always been paid by stipend since he has been AD. Superintendent Collins felt that these are just being acknowledged as a stipend position.

Don Robishaw pointed out that the Coordinator stipend jumped from \$1,500 last year to \$2,000 this year. He questioned if they need job descriptions and if event staff are required by the Principals' Association or if they are just a convenience to the district. AD Leonard said it is convenience but that they have been instrumental in preventing certain situations.

Chair Kilgour's recollection was that they were paid hourly and feels that they are necessary, but she objects to adding it to the stipend positions as they may be subject to the terms of the collective bargaining contract. She supports the positions but as an hourly rate position.

Don Robishaw moved to amend the motion until they receive clarification by SEA and to pay the gate workers \$50 per game. Arvilla Collins noted that if the motion is defeated, they will be paid as they have been before.

Loren Andrews withdrew the motion for further research. Chair Kilgour reiterated that the workers' efforts are greatly appreciated.

d. Budget Vote - Board Ratification

MOTION: That the Computation and Declaration of Votes dated August 13, 2013, and attached hereto be and it is hereby approved.

It was moved by Loren Andrews and seconded by Arvilla Collins to accept the motion. Superintendent Collins explained it is required by state law. Motion carried unanimously.

FURTHER MOTION: That the Computation and Declaration of Votes be entered upon the records of Regional School Unit No. 13 (the 'Regional School Unit').

It was moved by Arvilla Collins and seconded by Don Robishaw to accept the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

FURTHER MOTION: That a certified copy of the Computation and Declaration of Votes be sent to each of the Municipal Clerks within the Regional School Unit.

It was moved by Tess Kilgour and seconded by Christine Curtis to accept the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

e. 2013-2014 Budget Discussion

Sherm Hoyt asked the Superintendent to explain how he came to his decision in light of the concerns expressed by St. George Select Board Chair Bill Reinhardt. Superintendent Collins explained that it is not illegal to fully expend an article. When a budget is adopted, it is a best estimate. Law states that a budget must pass by article, not that it must be spent. Our problem is that 80% of the expenses is a people issue due to legal and binding agreements (raises, insurance, e.g.). Any decision made must be balanced – student need vs. tax payer. He feels the board did a tough job and a good job. We have to be responsible stewards and try to respect all sides of the argument, the community as a whole.

Chair Kilgour noted that the surplus is less and less each year. Superintendent Collins stressed they need new revenue sources, and will be ensuring that the state legislature recognizes the distinctively low family incomes in our towns. We cannot commit to something that may not be available five months from now.

Don Robishaw pointed out that when the art teacher position was cut last year then reinstated, administration had a year to sell it and it was still cut again this year. He also lobbied hard for the grant writer but it was cut. Non-equity in student/classroom sizes is not fair to students and teachers.

Loren Andrews said that we had a budget we were happy with then received extra money from the state, and feels we should do as the voters wished. Superintendent Collins detailed the shuffling of money, saying it's just a manipulation of the funds and formula. Loren Andrews said Rockland tax payers are being hit hard by taxes and that the board needs to look at quality of education (why students are moving out of district). Sally Carleton agreed, saying tax relief needs to be a priority as well.

Chair Kilgour feels we are at the whim of Augusta, realizes we have students who are driven, but is wondering why we lose sight of the great resources we have in this district. We have excellent new, highly qualified staff, especially in Special Education. It's not going to happen overnight. Let's stop focusing on the negative.

George Emery feels we are sending a message if we do not do as voters indicated. His request is to see the calculation on how each town has to pay and how a budget adjustment affects each town. Bill Pearce also feels the two teaching positions should be restored.

Christine Curtis agrees with Superintendent Collins that it was soft money that came in, and while "the grass is greener," some people may end up coming back into the district.

Sally Carleton gave kudos to Superintendent Collins for his article in the Bangor Daily News (regarding state funding allocation to the towns), and suggested the board give their support in the form of a communication for him to take to his next meeting with the legislature.

Per a question from Loren Andrews, Superintendent Collins detailed how the new funds were spent: a new ET3 in SGS, a new ET3 in SS, \$26k to teacher supplies, \$10k to the after school programs, and possibly a new 3rd grade teacher in SS; about \$200k went to tax relief and the balance went to Fund Balance.

Sherm Hoyt asked why enrollments were going down, and Superintendent Collins noted they will have Superintendent agreement information next week. he noted there is a lot of migration due to choice, plus we are the oldest state in the nation.

The next two agendas will include the distribution of any potential savings and tax relief.

9. Communications

We have received a bill from Baxter Academy (a charter school) for an unidentified student. It is being investigated as to the legitimacy of the student.

9. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meetings of August 1, 2013
- b. Approve the employment of:
 - (1) Jaime MacCaffray, Grade 3, LLS
 - (2) Nicole McLellan, Grade 2, CCS
 - (3) Kathleen Perkins, .5 FTE Library/Media Specialist, CCS/LLS/GBS
 - (4) Annabelle Schierman, School Nurse, SS
- c. Appointment of coach for 2013/2014 who is not a regular employee:
 - (1) Terry Lawry – OHS-West, Boys White 8th Grade Basketball Coach

It was moved by Bill Pearce and seconded by Loren Andrews to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

11. Reports

- a. Report of the Superintendent & Business Manager

1 - Lew: his report was included with board packet. He went to OHS-E, OHS-W, SS, and RDMS on the first day of school – his favorite part was to help 5th grader w/ locker (even though he was unsuccessful!). New shows were recorded today for TWC customers. The next meeting of the Facilities Committee is Sept 19, when they will unveil timelines, etc, re: middle school merger, the 9th grade move, and potential OH/GB closures. These will then be refined at a workshop for discussion at regular Oct board meeting. The public will be able to comment at forums. Enrollment reports will be provided next month.

2 – Scott: his report was also included with board packet. Projects included reconfiguring class rooms, four roofing projects (complete), HW heater was replaced with on-demand gas heaters (\$52k estimated payback in 2-3 yrs, \$30k savings subsequently), replacing all ceiling grids from

main office to gym at OHS-E, electrician removed every other light fixture and installed smaller wattage bulbs, installed video lock systems (installed before school started with minimal issues), replacing PA system at OHS-E and installing a video component which is always recording, adding card swipe at main and certain audit doors, PA system is backordered but will be in next week. Scott Hall and the crews did phenomenal jobs, and several great local vendors were instrumental in the many projects (Alley Electric, Rock Coast Plumbing & Heating, McCormick & Associates, and Seacoast Security).

b. Report of the Board Chair

Chair Kilgour reported first day went very well.

12. Committee Reports and Upcoming Meetings

- a. Curriculum (2nd Tues, 5:00 p): *Chair Sally Carleton reported that the committee did not meet in August. The next meeting is September 10, 2013, at 5 pm.*
- b. Facilities & Transportation (1st Tues, 5:30 p): *Chair George Emery reported that the committee met at GBS on September 3, 2013. The next meeting is September 19, 2013, at OHSE at 5:30 pm.*
- c. Finance & Insurance (2nd Thur, 6:00 p): *The committee last met in July. The next meeting is September 16, 2013, at 6:00 pm.*
- d. Policy (3rd Mon, 4:00 p): *Chair Bill Pearce reported the last meeting was in August. The next meeting will be September 17, 2013, at 4:00 pm.*
- e. Technology (4th Thu, 6:00 p): *Chair Loren Andrews reported the next meeting will be September 26, 2013, at 6:00 pm.*
- f. **Many Flags/One Community: Loren Andrews reported the next meeting will be ???**
- g. MCST: *Bill Pearce reported the last meeting was August 28, 2013. The next meeting will be September 25, 2013, at 7:00 pm.*

13. Adjournment: *It was moved by Arvilla Collins and seconded by Christine Curtis to adjourn at 8:54 pm.*

**The next meeting of the RSU 13 combined Board/Facilities Committee
will be September 19, 2013, at 6:00 pm.**

**The next regular meeting of the RSU 13 Board
will be October 3, 2013, at 6:30 pm.**