

RSU 13 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 4, 2010

1. Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum

The regular meeting of the RSU #13 School Board was held on November 4, 2010 in the Board room at the McLain School. Present were:

	Loren Andrews	Cushing
	Sally Carleton	Owls Head
	Steven Dyer	Rockland
	George Emery	St. George
	Gregory Hamlin	Thomaston
	Ruth Anne Hohfeld	South Thomaston
	Arvilla Collins	Thomaston
	Brian Messing	Rockland
Absent Excused	Jamie Doubleday	Thomaston
Absent Excused	Esther Kilgour	Rockland
Absent Excused	Josiah Wilson	St. George

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Ruth Anne Hohfeld at 6:30 P.M. A quorum was declared.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag was given.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda

Removed item 6c – Approval of Softball Players Trip to Disney for Spring Training in April 2011

The Superintendent asked for an executive session on personnel after committee reports.

4. Public Participation: Citizens are welcome to speak to matters before the Board (up to 30 minutes total)

Jennifer Garrett of St. George spoke about the TAG committee report. She pointed out that the benefits the plan outlines already exist in St. George. She said the board needs to better articulate the advantages of the move.

Ben Perry, Curator of the Alumni Heritage room located in the Lincoln Street Center spoke. He wants to make sure there is memorabilia available for that room. He is working with Tom Forti to move, over a period of time, memorabilia from RDHS to the Heritage room.

5. Communications

There were no additional communications.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 7, 2010 was removed from the Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Greg Hamlin, seconded by Sally Carleton to approve minutes of the regular meeting of October 7, 2010.

Motion carried 461 for, 153 abstained (Collins, Messing)

It was moved by Loren Andrews, seconded by Greg Hamlin to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- b. Approval of Policies in Second Reading
 - (1) 3.11 Selection of Instructional Materials
 - (2) 5.40 Community Use of School Facilities
 - (3) 4.16P Procedures for Administrator Evaluation

Motion carried, unanimously.

7. Reports

- a. Recognition of Students

Superintendent reported how proud she is of Kalie McGuirl (6th grade student at TGS), Emily Protheroe (7th grade student at RDMS) and Jackie Thorbjornson (7th grade student at RDMS). These students were recognized by John Hopkins University in Baltimore Maryland for their high scores on the SAT taken in 7th grade.

- b. Report of the Superintendent

- (1) Enrollment Status: increase from 2121 students to 2142 students.
- (2) Closure of MacDougal Facility: Final stage of emptying MacDougal School occurred by offering all remaining items for free, instead of paying to dispose of the rest of the items.
- (3) Superintendent reminded community that on November 15th at GVHS at 5:00 p.m. the district will celebrate its retirees. This date also is the beginning of National Education Week.
- (4) Superintendent reported on her interview with a researcher for the Center for Education Policy Applied Research and Evaluation from the University of Southern Maine. They were contracted by the DOE to do a multi-year study of school district reorganization and the impact on educational programs.
- (5) She learned about a grant opportunity for RSU Superintendents in the state of Maine to network with each other. She'll be working with her colleagues in those districts to write the grant.
- (6) The Superintendent reported on her attendance of the Maine School Board Association Conference, including a session regarding the new transportation software. After speaking with people who already use the software, it appears it will accommodate all of the needs that we have especially in terms of optimizing our routes. Another session reported on was about

International Baccalaureate which offers an array of courses for high school juniors and seniors that are of high rigor like advanced placement courses.

- (7) The Superintendent reported on the analysis of the length of each bus run. Analysis was spurred due to concerns voiced at past board meetings.

c. Report of the Chair

Chair Ruth Anne Hohfeld thanked the artists at the Rockland District Middle School who provided the art for the board room this month.

Chair reported on her attendance of the Maine School of Management Conference with Jamie, Greg, George, Arvilla, Judy and Scott. She attended workshops on consolidation, state financial outlook, negotiation, teacher evaluations and the international baccalaureate program. During the financial outlook session, she learned that the financial outlook is grim. She stressed that the board needs to make sure they remain undeterred, remain clear about improving education, utilizing its resources to the best of its abilities and be very smart about what the board does.

Chair brought to our attention that the South School teachers are taking a graduate class for literacy improvement right on the South School campus. The goal is to improve student's literacy results.

AS described in administrative reports, the fall writing assessments are complete and teachers are analyzing the results.

Chair attended GVHS spirit week. Students made her week! Both the school and students were decorated. She was very impressed with the student's positive attitude and how they are looking forward to being Ocean Side. She was particularly impressed by the fact that students chose to display the names of sophomores not only in GVHS but in RDHS as well.

Today, RDHS and GVHS student government met at the Samoset. Chair invited them to attend a board meeting so that they can report on their meeting.

Both GVHS and RDHS math teams competed in a math competition that included nine teams. The GVHS team placed second and the RDHS team placed 3rd.

She reported on a presentation by a GVHS and Bates College graduate Wiley Todd. He has been involved in starting a project in Chili.

School Board members were strongly encouraged to attend the special meeting of the Saint George Selectmen on November 30th at 6:30 p.m. in the St. George Town Hall. Board will hear views of St. George residents on the placement of Saint George 8th grade students.

d. Transition Advisory Group

Superintendent explained roll of Transition Advisory Group and it's make up. She expressed her appreciation of the faculty involved. She also acknowledged the work of Kathy Blaise and Neal Guyer. She expressed that Larry Schooley and Tom Forti are the leaders, guides and champions in the project and how fortunate the district is to have them.

Tom Forti profiled the work done thus far to create a comprehensive program of studies that will support a rigorous curriculum to insure that all students will be prepared for post-secondary options. He reported on how the work has progressed to date t.

Larry Schooley spoke about other ongoing projects. He spoke of the Academy Period where all core teachers are available to work with students who require additional help. Larry reported on developing a unified grading system and plans to visit other schools to help with planning. He reported on transition activities, such as spirit day, happening in the schools. Many activities have been lead by the students, who are remembering the past and looking forward to the future. He reported that Homecoming was a tremendous success and couldn't have happened without the work of Crystal Gamage.

Neal Guyer talked about the TAG work plan. He reemphasized that it's a blue print of the process. Every time TAG meets, they check benchmarks to see where they are and make adjustments when necessary.

An in depth question and answer time followed during which time Tom Forti and Larry Schooley took turns answering questions. In conclusion, Tom Forti said we have fantastic kids who do fantastic things; we want more of that.

e. Many Flags/One Campus Foundation

Alan Hinsey from the Many Flags Foundation spoke about the foundation, how it was formed and its purpose which is to support and advance the Many Flags concept and its mission and goals. The model is about shared services and shared efficiencies which raises the level of collaborative learning. He is serving as the project coordinator for the steering committee. He walked the board through materials that he passed out.

8. Action Items

a. Action on Grossman Scholarship Trust

Because the materials were not provided by the attorneys for the Trust enough in advance of the Board meeting, Board members agreed to postpone any decision until the December meeting. The Superintendent was asked to provide the archive documents for consideration at the next meeting.

b. Establish Maintenance and Transportation Secretarial Position

The Superintendent explained the necessity of this position. She explained that by hiring an in-house mechanic we are saving enough money to cover a part time secretarial position. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Greg Hamlin, seconded by Brian Messing to establish a maintenance and transportation half time secretarial position at 4 hours per day.

Motion carried unanimously

9. Committee Reports and Upcoming Meetings

a. Activities: George Emery reported on the Activities Committee meeting. The next meeting is 6 pm 1/27.

b. Curriculum: Sally Carleton reported on the Curriculum Committee meeting. The next meeting is 5:30 pm 11/18.

- c. Facilities & Transportation: Greg Hamlin reported on the Facilities & Transportation Committee meetings. The next meeting is 5:30 pm 12/7.
- d. Finance & Insurance: Brian Messing reported on the Finance & Insurance Committee. The next meeting is 5:00 pm 11/18.
- e. Personnel & Negotiations: All in executive session.
- f. Policy: Judy Lucarelli reported. Committee started consideration on a policy on fund raising. Next meeting: 5:00 pm 11/16.
- g. Technology: Loren Andrews reported on the Technology Committee meeting. The next meeting is 6:30 pm 11/9.
- h. Mid Coast School of Technology: Greg Hamlin reported on the MCST Board meeting. The next meeting is 7 pm 11/17.
- i. Many Flags/One Campus: nothing further to report.
- j. Transition Advisory Group: nothing further to report. Next meeting 12/6 at 3:30 p.m.

It was moved by Steven Dyer, seconded by Loren Andrews to move to executive session.

Motion carried unanimously.

Entered Executive Session at 9:18 pm.

Returned to Public Session at 9:25 pm.

It was moved by Greg Hamlin and seconded by Brian Messing to approve an hourly pay rate of \$18.50 for the mechanic to work in the District Transportation Facility in Thomaston with non-aligned employee benefits.

Motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion of the November 30th meeting in Saint George.

10. Adjournment

It was moved by Arvilla Collins and seconded by Loren Andrews to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:47 pm.

The next Regular Meeting of the RSU 13 School Board will be Thursday, December 2nd, at 6:30 pm.