

RSU 13 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 6, 2011

1. Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum

The regular meeting to the RSU #13 School Board was held on January 6, 2011 in the Board Room at the McLain School. Present were:

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

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Ruth Anne Hohfeld at 5:31 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

Add Item 8.c.Budget Development Timeline

4. Public Participation

Bill Reinhardt, Jennifer Garrett and Josh McPhail all spoke in support of rescinding the decision to assign the St. George 8th grade students to the RSU 13 8-9 school in the fall of 2011.

5. Communications

The District received a card of thanks from Judy Riff, a retired teacher, for her rocker. David Webbenhurst sent a letter concerning his reasons for not being able to serve on the board. Also, Jane Zimmerman, the HIV Prevention Coordinator, sent a letter awarding teacher JoAnn Weatherbee a grant for "Reducing Risk, Making Safer Choices". Finally, Marsha Nye-Boody, the person overseeing the Literacy Project at South School and many other schools, sent a letter to Ben Tripp at South School expressing her excitement about a lesson she and 15 others, who are training to be literacy coaches, observed.

Board Chair Ruth Anne Hohfeld mentioned they had received a letter from an anonymous person, however they are not able to respond to anonymous letters.

6. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Josiah Wilson and seconded by Esther Kilgour to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 2, 2010
- b. Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting of December 13, 2010
- c. Acceptance of Resignation: John Hodges as GVHS Science Teacher
- d. Approval of Teacher Nomination: GVHS Science Teacher

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Reports

- a. Report of the Superintendent
 1. Enrollment Status: Enrollment is 2022, almost the same as when school started in September.
 2. Status of Transition Planning

- b. Report of the Chair

Board Chair welcomed new member Sharon Spaulding to the Board.

1. Report on Meeting with Municipal Officials

Scott Vaitones reported on the meeting held on January 5th with the Town Officials concerning the upcoming budget. In general, the towns don't believe the citizens will accept a tax increase. They also believe the Board needs to make an effort to settle contracts and move forward. In Cushing there are many retired and self-employed citizens and they cannot afford a tax increase. The Board may need to take a look at sports and they need to look long-term. They believe the cost of education has increased more than the inflation rate.

2. Process for School Board Self-Assessment

The Board Chair stated that the self-assessment forms must be completed and all comments brought to the meeting. There needs to be a review and discussion with the Superintendent concerning goals for the coming year.

- c. Report by RDMS Principal Kathryn Hollicker

Kathryn Hollicker, assisted by teacher Bruce Gamage and "Station Maine" Director Muriel Curtis, spoke about an innovative program that is having a positive impact on 8th grade students. There are about 35 participants in the program, which ultimately could have a positive effect on the dropout rate.

- d. Report on Response to Questions Raised by School Board Members Regarding Saint George 8th Grade Students

The Superintendent addressed the list of questions from School Board Members regarding the placement of the St. George 8th grade students. She read each question and her answer for each. The questions were briefly discussed by the Board. Board Attorney Bruce Smith from Drummond Woodsum commented on the legal issues involved.

8. Business Items

- a. Motion to rescind the decision at the June 3, 2010 meeting to assign the Saint George 8th grade students to the RSU 13 8-9 School in the fall of 2011.

It was moved by Steven Dyer and seconded by Arvilla Collins to rescind the decision at the June 3, 2010 meeting to assign the St. George 8th grade students to the RSU 13 8-9 School in the fall of 2011.

Motion failed 457 for, 462 against (Loren Andrews, Sally Carlton, Gregory Hamlin, Ruth Anne Hohfeld, Jamie Doubleday, Esther Kilgour), 80 abstained (Sharon Spaulding)

- b. Personnel Items:

- 1) Approval of Retirement Offer to Teachers

It was moved by Jamie Doubleday and seconded by Esther Kilgour to approve the same retirement offer to teachers as last year.

Motion carried 927 for, 72 against (Josiah Wilson)

- 2) Extension of Superintendent's Contract

Jamie Doubleday spoke on the reasons to extend the Superintendent's contract. The Negotiations Committee will meet to decide the salary and terms.

It was moved by Esther Kilgour and seconded by Loren Andrews to extend the Superintendent's contract two years.

Sally Carleton moved the question. Motion carried 927 to 72 (Josiah Wilson).

Motion carried 694 for, 152 against (Josiah Wilson, Steve Dyer), 153 abstained (Arvilla Collins, Sharon Spaulding).

- c. Budget Development Timeline

The Proposed Budget Development Timeline was presented by the Superintendent.

There was no formal vote but the Chair will approve the meetings.

9. Committee Reports and Upcoming Meetings

- a. Activities: Esther Kilgour stated that the Committee had not met. The next meeting is scheduled for 6 pm on 1/27/11.
- b. Curriculum: Sally Carleton reported on the meeting held. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on 1/20/11.
- c. Facilities & Transportation: Greg Hamlin reported on the last two meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on 2/1/11.
- d. Finance & Insurance: Brian Messing reported on the meeting held. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm on 1/13/11.
- e. Personnel & Negotiations: Jamie Doubleday reported that some contracts are in mediation, negotiations continue with Teachers, will soon begin with administrators and on the terms for the Superintendent's contract.
- f. Policy: Steve Dyer reported that the Committee did not meet. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:00 pm on 1/18/11.

- g. Technology: Loren Andrews reported on the meeting held. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm on 1/11/11.
- h. Mid Coast School of Technology: Greg Hamlin reported on the last two meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on 1/26/11.
- i. Many Flags/One Campus: Jamie Doubleday reported on the Steering Committee meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 am on 1/7/11.
- j. Transition Advisory Group: George Emery reported that the Committee did not meet. The next meeting is scheduled for 3:30 pm on 2/7/11.

10. Adjournment

It was moved by William Pearce and seconded by Josiah Wilson to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.

The next Regular Meeting of the RSU 13 School Board will be Thursday, February 3rd, at 6:30 pm.

There will be a special meeting for School Board Evaluation on Monday, January 31st at 5:30 pm.

There will be an executive session for Personnel on Monday, February 7th at 5:30 pm.

Each of these meetings will be held at McLain School.