

RSU 23 Board Minutes

**RSU #23 Board Meeting held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall on
November 16, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting Called to Order

David Boudreau called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Present: David Boudreau, Michelle Violette, Peter Flaherty, Stu Hogan, Carol Marcotte, Cierra Albert (student rep) and Superintendent John Suttie.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Stu Hogan and seconded by Michelle Violette to accept the minutes from the October 19, 2017 board meeting. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Adjustment to the Agenda

We will be voting on Superintendent's contract under new business instead of executive session.

Correspondence

None

Public Session

None

Superintendent's Report

John stated that it's that time of year now when we are getting close to Thanksgiving and principals and managers are starting to think about budgets for next year. December 21st budget requests from teachers are due to principals and budgets from principals are due to John January 12th. Budget presentations to the board will be February 27th at 6:00. (Please see website for full budget schedule). The process is starting now and from now until January it will be very busy dealing with this.

He is happy to report that we had a group of students (Celina Ouellette, Marcas Anderson, Rose Cyr, Aiden Davenport, Danika Evangelista, Morgan Howlett Brown and Cameron Christy) take a quiz to qualify for the High School Quiz Show: Maine. They qualified for the show and will be reporting to Lewiston on December 9th to tape the program for MPBN. Very proud of that group of kids representing our school. We will make the public aware of when the airing happens as soon as we know.

John wanted to plug our new website that should be up in January. We have been taking photos, developing logos, etc. We are excited about that.

If anyone knows a family that is in need, please reach out to your administrators. We have plenty of resources out there to help families in need.

John has been visiting schools recently, like he always does. One thing he wanted to point out was how engaged and focused our staff is with the kids. Being a high school principal in his career he

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hasn't experienced elementary and middle school atmospheres. It has been great to witness the joy that goes on there daily.

Board Presentation

Tim from Runyon Kersteen Ouellette presented the board with the audit findings. He wanted to thank everyone for making the audit process easy for them. There were no adjusting journal entries, which he stated they never find that to be the case. It goes to show how organized Cindy and her staff are to get prepared for us to audit. (Please refer to meeting recording for full audit results & discussion)

Cierra stated that going off of Mr. Suttie's comments and the busyness at school currently. I can't believe that Thanksgiving is next week. Many of the extra curricular clubs have participated in several things. Collecting school supplies to send to St. Marten after the hurricane. They are also collecting food to send to the OOB food pantry. There is a Day One training in South Portland on Tuesday. The prom committee has been meeting to plan prom and we actually had a bake sale on Election Day and raised \$400 for Prom so that should help. Fall sports season is officially over and winter sports are among the athletes. Annual Holiday Tournament at Monmouth High School next week. Some of our students recently attended the athlete summit held at St. Joe's. Jazz Band is practicing to participate in a lot of festivals. Students are happily taking advantage of all the great opportunities.

Old Business

None

New Business

A motion was made by Michelle Violette and seconded by Stu Hogan to approve the new superintendent contract as discussed at last month's executive session. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Michelle Violette to approve the authorization of the submission on behalf of RSU 23 School Department of a Part I preliminary application to the Maine Department of Education for the Southern Maine Regional Service Center substantially in the form presented to this meeting with such changes as may be recommended by counsel. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Michelle Violette and seconded by Peter Flaherty to approve the authorization of the submission on behalf of RSU 23 School Department of a Part I preliminary application to the Maine Department of Education for the ODB regional partnership school management and leadership center substantially in the form presented to this meeting with such changes as may be recommended by counsel. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Carol Marcotte and seconded by Stu Hogan to increase the sub pay daily rates as outlined in the meeting. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Michelle Violette and seconded by Stu Hogan to accept Kalina Dodier as long-term sub for 6th grade Language Arts and Social Studies. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

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A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Michelle Violette to accept policies KCD: Gifts to the schools and DGD: Fiscal Management of credit cards as written. Voted unanimously. Motion Approved.

Committee Reports

Dave reported out on the finance committee who met today. They went over some insurance bids so to speak. We are looking at costs for going forward. They are looking at very favorable things. We are in good condition and ahead of the game. We have already taken care of a lot of things the auditors addressed. We also approved to go forward to go out to bid for some security equipment for our schools. Finding that going out to bid, which we didn't commonly do we are saving a lot of money. We will continue that process. Some of the items in the financial overview tonight we have been addressing. We are looking to do the things they have recommended. We have recognized the things that we have to be tweaked and I consider these little tweaks and not so much to improve. The finance committee is on top of these things. We meet with administrators monthly. The lines are right on the money and I can't ask for anything better. Going forward we do have our budget process coming up.

Peter reported on the building committee who met yesterday at 4:30. We had a very productive meeting. We heard a lot of good things from Mr. Suttie. We essentially worked on a timeline on how we will proceed to present it to the public. John stated that we are at the point where we have gathered all the data on land, costs, population, etc. where we will meet with Larry Meade and the tax assessor, to calculate what the cost would be to the taxpayer then decide how we will present it to the public and what are our options moving forward.

Board Remarks

Stu stated that this one goes out to all the principals for sending the Sunday memos. It is very helpful to us to see the process during the week and how you conduct your staff. He goes back to maybe a couple of weeks ago and hit one of the subjects I feel very strong about. It had to do with Parent/teacher conference. He wanted to remind his teachers to keep in mind to remind the parents when the students are doing well. Also, he's proud of the students at LMS for participating in the SlumDog York County Math competition. There were 154 students and out of that we had an overall winner from Mrs. Allen's class. He was an official at NCAA III cross-country championship at the Gorham Country Club this week and had the chance to come across one of our former students, Connor Rice, competing.

Peter stated that he was really happy when he got these very nice cards that were sent to us for building the playground. They especially like the logs we put down. Want to congratulate Chris LaSalle for his election to the school board but at the same time sad to see Michelle leave. She won't be leaving completely; I'm sure. Shout out to Jimmy P. who took four high school kids (Cody Blanchette, Zack Brasier, Lane Gaudet, Tyler Michaud) to help beautify the Googin's grave sight off the Milliken Mills road. It's great to see kids doing that. A few weeks ago I was driving down First Street and a group of kids were raising a flag. It's good to see the kids out in the community.

Carol wanted to speak of the amazing experience related to the community actions the past few weeks. Hurricane Irma struck St. Maarten and since she is educationally connected she asked UNE to adopt a school and they did. The schools in OOB and the community jumped on. If you could only

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walk in the schools and hear the excitement from the kids and staff it was beyond belief. It has spread to other times as well. Ask American Airlines if she could have two suitcases overweight. They allowed me and each bag will be 100 pounds. One school filled a bag all by themselves. They are learning about global awareness and science. Pride that she has in this town and school. You come together for education and it's great to watch the kids grow academically and socially. Finally, She is gonna miss her bud but knows she is not going to be quiet. She thinks she is going to be more vocal.

Michelle wanted to thank the community for allowing her this opportunity. She hopes everyone realizes what we have in this community. There is something that each one of you brings to this board. Even if sometimes we do not agree we are able to rationally figure it out. Congratulations to Chris LaSalle. I am thankful for the time that I got to be a part of that. She thanks you and she stated she probably will not be going away. Regarding the playground, OOB Rec Department stated that they would be helping with the playground and are going to replace swings and also contribute to it's phase 2 so thank you to Mr. Weber and their crew there.

Dave wanted to congratulate Mr. LaSalle and look forward to working with him. Everyone contributes like Mrs. Violette said. Congratulations to all the sports that finished up. I know that they all didn't end they way they wanted to, but it is rewarding to participate in group activities. Over 75% of our students in the high school participate in some kind of activity after school. We are happy they do that and we will continue to fund that going forward. Negotiations for a couple of the union contracts are moving along. The board is negotiating in good faith and we are doing things right. I think we are offering good things and I guess I really would like to see that on the other side to make things going forward and look at the atmosphere in the schools. Looking forward to keeping you guys updated. Visiting colleges with my son and my wife. Everyone knows OOB and they know we are doing good things here. They are excited to get our students applying to their colleges. Our little community is being noticed at big colleges. I do want to thank Mrs. Violette for being on the board. Most of you know my first run I did not win. It was between me and Michelle. I enjoyed debating her and I am really glad she beat me. Coming on after that and joining the board, I have not met anyone more passionate and excited about the kids. I really, really appreciate what you have done. You kept me in check.

Executive Session

None

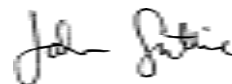
Adjournment

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Stu Hogan to adjourn the meeting at 7:16PM. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Minutes prepared by:

Helene Stevens,
Transcriber

Respectfully submitted by:



John Suttie,
Superintendent