

RSU 23 Board Minutes

**RSU #23 Board Meeting held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall on
September 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting Called to Order

Superintendent Lloyd Crocker called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. Present: Jerome Plante, Carol Marcotte, Peter Flaherty, Stuart Hogan, Michelle Violette and Superintendent Lloyd Crocker.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Michelle Violette to approve the minutes for August 12, 2015 and August 20, 2015 as written. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None

Correspondence

None

Public Session

None

Superintendent's Report

Reflections on the opening day of school: on August 25 we hosted new teacher orientation. We had more new staff than we had in years. Thank you to Barb Fletcher who organized this session. Took the time to introduce our mission and vision for our community and provide a tour of all three schools. After lunch, a 2 hour restorative practices training session was held. On August 26 and 27 we held teacher workshop days for the entire district. The idea of a Future Ready classroom was discussed to introduce this to the staff. The second workshop day focused on professional development. Assessment and evaluation of curriculum and standards was done as compared to the previous year. Surveys were completed and this tool was used to show where we are starting and focus on where we want to go.

The first week of school for grades 1-12 was very positive and upbeat. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers to helped guide students to where they needed to be. A few challenges as we begin the school year – the new modular at LMS is ready to go and teachers moved in today. Thank you to Dick Martin for the work that he has put in with building stairs etc. to complete this project. Another challenge is the relocation of the T.I.D.E.S program. The modular should be here in the next couple weeks. A fourth 3rd grade teacher was added in the first week of school and he started this week due to the enrollment numbers. We had set aside this money in the budget in the event that this happened as we had thought this would happened but the enrollment numbers did not

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reflect that at the end of the school year. Thank you to Mike and Barb who called all of the third grade parents to inform them of the change.

We did have a minor mold issue at Jameson School. As soon as we realized there was an issue, the wall was cut out, and once this was done the mold was more pervasive than originally thought. Dick Martin is currently tearing down walls in the room, which has been sealed off, and once we have cleaned this area we will be conducting an air quality test in that room and the neighboring rooms to ensure the issue has been remediated.

We are working on settling a contract for the Educational Support and Non-instructional staff. Tomorrow there is a mediation meeting where we are hoping to get majority of the contract settled.

There has been an influx of students at Loranger. We have seen a reduction in numbers so they look relatively the same overall: to date 2015-2016 enrollment numbers are: 806 total students in the district – 179 at Jameson (Grades Pre-K to 2), 359 at LMS (Grades 3-8), and 249 at OOB HS (Grades 9-12).

The resurfacing at the tennis courts has been approved and is going to be done through the town and the Rec. department.

In the coming months we are looking for a new strategic plan draft, a Harriman presentation for the public with their findings and the options so we can get feedback from the public, Settlement on the Educational Support/Non-Instructional staff contract, Placement of the TIDES program modular at the OOB HS, and organizing a State of the District/State of the Schools community forum to provide data for the public.

Chairperson's Remarks

Thank you Superintendent Crocker for being so open in your remarks tonight. Covering the positives, current work happening, the current challenges, and the upcoming months.

Mr. O'Connor – T.I.D.E.S stands for Teaching Individuals Diversity Empathy and Self-Esteem.

Thank you for all the staff on opening day. Thank you for supporting us through the transitions with everything we have to change. Thank you to the clerical staff for helping all of the new students get enrolled. I hope everyone has a wonderful school year.

Board Presentation

OOB HS – John Suttie: Eric Hanson sent survey out in regards to what each department needs on our opening days. Some are close to being at proficiency-based education and others are further away. We are in the process of setting goals – both short and long term – to focus where we need to go. Mapped out a plan for the school year with team leaders.

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First day of school helped guide the 9th grade to know where to go and how to do the small things like open lockers, get lunch, etc. Upperclassmen came in after lunch and went through their schedule. Wednesday, which was the first full day, went relatively smoothly. Cross-country, football, field hockey – first games happened last Friday. iPads went out to the high school and about half of the students got iPads today. 25% of our students are attending Biddeford VOC. It was a goal last year to get our students to visit the center to see what they wanted to be involved in and to help them think about a career. Small challenge with transportation but that was easily remedied. Working hard with faculty and staff to make sure students needs are met so they can achieve at a high level.

PreK-8 – Mike Flaherty: We have 17 new folks at Jameson and Loranger total – some new staff and some current staff that have had the opportunity to move up and work towards their career goals. Jameson– 204 including our PreK class, LMS – 36. Grades 1, 3, and 7 are our largest classes. There has been a lot of moving around at both schools and we think we have found the most functional way to use the spaces available at Jameson and Loranger. We have had to be creative with how to host health classes. Each grade is coming up with a schedule to work with our health teacher.

Jameson – Barb Fletcher: Open House night – the hallway was full of resources for families – transportation, PTO, OOB Rec Department, girl scouts, boy scouts, and OOB Rec department. Grades 1-2 were present for the first week and to get the lay of the land before the PreK-K were coming in. Thursday, PreK and K came for a couple of hours to visit. Got to be with their teachers and take a ride on the bus. PreK coordinator Sue Gallant was able to do a family literacy presentation in the library. S.T.A.R. Pledge – Safe Taking Responsibility Accepting and Respectful behaviors. We had a full building today and there is not a space unused it was a really positive day. We have an Art and Music space that is shared that they will be able to use all year long. We are working to tighten up our dismissal procedures and we are trying to stagger those times with the younger kids to make sure they are being handed off in a safe way.

Loranger – George Shabo: We had a very smooth start to the school year. We have also adopted the S.T.A.R. Pledge. We have a lot going on at Loranger with different start and release times as well as five different lunches. Our open house was very busy and well attended. Every child in grade 6-8 has an iPad. The iPad parent meeting was well attended. Our schedules are running very smoothly. Thank you to the many parents that were present during the first week of school to help with the student drop off. Challenges – lower parking lot where the parents are no longer allowed to drive through is being heavily monitored. Playground equipment is older and we need to think about addressing the older equipment and we are not fully equipped for the 3rd grade level. There has been a lot of work done but there is still more to be done. One of our major challenges is the heat in the building etc. and teachers were allowed to move to an alternative location. Grades 6-8 fall sports are in full swing. Band and Chorus have 60-70 students participating. We also have Field hockey, girls soccer, boys soccer and football.

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Transportation Report – Opening day of school – Thank you to the Drivers for being able to shift gears to take care of all of our students. Thank you to the parents who helped on the first week of school. We had a small glitch with the VOC students but we were quickly able to come up with an alternative plan so it is fiscally responsible. Thank you to the teachers for helping identify the Kindergarten students and making it easy to identify them. The Dayton run is going fine. We were able to hire someone who had previously done Dayton before and she is doing both Saco and Dayton.

Old Business

Update on modular buildings – Jay Kelley – Teachers were moving into the modular today, Dick Martin was finishing the wall separating two rooms. We have public works coming down to fix the walkway. Last week, Schiavi came in and put a new roof on the building last week. The T.I.D.E.S modular prep work has begun. We will be able to connect the sewer and water to the existing plumbing. We will be getting 8 more trees and they will be being planted shortly. If we stay on schedule, the building will be being delivered on the middle of the month.

Harriman Architect Update – Peter Flaherty – there is a two-phase study and we have received part one of the phase. Jeff Larimer walked the buildings with his team and listed all of the deficiencies. He will be visiting with the facilities committee in September and going through the entire report at that time. Peter would like for Harriman to provide a virtual tour of the schools so that people may watch if they are unable to attend one of the meetings.

New Business

Approval of New Lease agreement with Gorham Savings Bank: The original agreement was approved in June. Since that time, the amount of money that we were able to calculate in order to have internet connectivity/ sewer/water/electricity has increased. We feel that over the course of the year we will be able to fund the increase. It is a 7-year lease with a total of \$37,000 per year. Going forward, can we absorb this in our budget aside from this year.

I move that the resolution entitled, "Resolution to Authorize lease purchase of 6 modular classroom units in the principal amount of \$240,000 be adopted in form presented to this meeting."

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Stuart Hogan to accept the new lease agreement from Gorham Savings Bank for modulares including incidentals. Voted unanimously. Motion Approved.

2nd Reading of the Policies:

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Stuart Hogan to approve the 2nd reading of policies ECB Pest Management, GCI Professional Staff Development, IHBGA Homeschooling as written. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

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Committee Reports

None

Executive Session:

Enter Into Executive Session

A motion was made by Michelle Violette and seconded by Stuart Hogan to enter into executive session at 7:25PM for the purpose of discussing Superintendent Evaluation Goals for the 2015-2016 1 M.S.R.A. § 405(6)(A) with no action. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Adjourn Executive Session

A motion was made by Jerome Plante and seconded by Michelle Violette to exit executive session and re-enter into regular session at 8:30PM with no action to be taken. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Michelle Violette and seconded by Stuart Hogan to adjourn the meeting at 8:31PM. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Minutes prepared by:

Pam Ouellette,
Transcriber

Respectfully submitted by:



Lloyd Crocker,
Superintendent