

RSU 23 Board Minutes

RSU #23 Board Meeting held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall on
November 29, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

David Boudreau called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Present: David Boudreau, Christopher LaSalle, Peter Flaherty, Michelle Violette, Carol Marcotte and Superintendent John Suttie.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Election of Chair & Vice Chair

A motion was made by Carol Marcotte and seconded by Peter Flaherty to nominate David Boudreau as Chair. Voted unanimously. Motion Approved

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Carol Marcotte to nominate Christopher LaSalle as Vice Chair. Voted unanimously. Motion Approved.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Chris LaSalle to accept the minutes from the October 18, 2018 board meeting. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Adjustment to the Agenda

Table the approval of title change from assistant principal to assistant principal/assistant superintendent.

Correspondence

None

Public Session

John Nye, OOB resident and union president got up and spoke on five points he felt were really important to staffing changes and looking first at the needs of our students and quality of education before making changes.

Michael Coleman, OOB resident, parent and taxpayer got up and spoke of some concerns he had. One was the fact that last years high school seniors still do not have their yearbooks. He was also very concerned about our per student costs. According to state figures, he felt that we are about \$3000/\$4000 above state average, yet our MEA results are not acceptable. He also spoke about our special education students and the needs of them are not being met.

Sean Stanton, OOB resident, parent and taxpayer got up and spoke of his experience working at LMS. He wanted to speak about the fact that he thinks it's really sad to discuss future contracts for administrators when the heart of our schools are struggling and we are not supporting them as we should. We are losing good staff all the time and he has faith that we are working super hard to change this.

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Gail Ryder, OOB resident got up and wanted to support the contracts being settled for ed techs and teachers. She has been subbing for OOB the last five years. She feels we have some incredible staff that work with our very needy children. She would encourage people to visit staff in classrooms to see what work they do on a daily basis.

Tony Lucchese, OOB resident and teacher at the high school, got up and talked of his support for the high school administration and he has never felt as supported or valued as he does in OOB. The core that the people in the middle are of tremendous value, those people cannot do their jobs if they are not guided by administration.

Beth Nason, high school guidance counselor, got up and wanted to speak of her support of the administration at the high school. She feels like in her time she has been able to “come alive”. I have been able to do my job and feel like I am doing it well. I feel for the people at LMS and that they do not feel supported.

Rachel James, OOB resident and parent got up to speak about how the special education services have been cut back more and more every year and her son has had to adapt. She does not feel like that is fair as they have a hard time learning as it is, so we should not be making things harder for those students with special needs.

Superintendent's Report

John spoke about our MEA scores being lower and that they are not where we want. They have gotten better every year. He introduced Hannah LaCourse, the student school board rep. She is a drum major for OOB HS marching band. John stated that Wreaths Across America is going to be visiting Jameson on Monday, December 10th and the public is invited to attend. The assembly is set for 9:45 at Jameson. Two snow days have been used already. It is increasingly becoming a concern with staff, students and businesses. He is meeting with York County Superintendents on December 13th to discuss how we can make up days. Budget development schedule is on our district website.

Board Presentation

Tim from RKO presented to the board this year's RSU 23 audit findings. He talked about how there were no significant deficiencies or findings. They found a few employees that were lacking proper document for wage increases. The activity fund reconciliation was another finding. When they tested the funds, bank reconciliations were not done in a timely manner. They were unable to reconcile variances. They like to see things reconciled on a monthly basis and they were not seeing that. They had missing documentation, checks made out to “cash”; they do not like to see that at all. They found a few instances where the person who made the purchase approved purchases. Also there were a few instances where tax was paid on purchases and we are a tax-exempt company. He spoke of how we have a surplus of \$743,000 and the state has a limit of how much you are allowed to carry over (3%). Overall things were not bad at all

John and Eric gave a brief overview of our 2 year NEASC progress report. We have completed 60% of the visiting committees recommendations. We are proud to knock off over half of the recommendations in two years. They reviewed the recommendations of NEASC and how things have been implemented and working well for the high school.

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Hannah reported on what was happening at the high school. This month at the high school has been very eventful. We started with the Marching Band receiving a gold medal. The Interact club hosted a food drive. Both girls and boys basketball teams have started their season. The jazz band has also started. She believes that the students have adapted to the cell phone program without any complaints and it has been effective. Our new history teacher, Mr. Ganley has started this week.

Old Business

None

New Business

A motion was made by Carol Marcotte and seconded by Michelle Violette to accept the nomination of Robert Ganley as high school social studies teacher. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Chris LaSalle and seconded by Peter Flaherty to approve superintendent's contract and evaluation as presented. (Michelle Violette abstained from voting). Voted unanimously (4-0). Motion approved.

Peter Flaherty read first readings of policies EEAEF: Video Cameras on Transportation Vehicles, ECAD: Security Camera System, and ECAD-R: Security Camera System Administrative Procedure.

A motion was made by Chris LaSalle and seconded by Carol Marcotte to accept policy GCSB: Use of Social Media by School Employees as written. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Committee Reports

Dave reported out on the finance committee who did not meet this month but we will be meeting next month.

Peter reported on the building committee that did not meet because we are still waiting on the evaluation of our roof system for our schools so we can continue on our process to decide which projects are most important.

Chris reported on the technology committee who met Tuesday of this week. There was a lot of discussion this month around the districts computer hardware as they continue to age. We do recognize any changes we make need to be communicated early. We also discussed the computer labs in all the schools. Looking ahead for this year we are going to use some additional funds to update older staff equipment and servers.

Board Remarks

Carol stated very briefly she wanted to say thank you to everyone for coming. Most importantly she understands what is going on in the schools at this time. Teaching and learning can be challenging and she appreciates all you do for our children.

Chris wanted to say welcome to Hannah and he likes the updates of what's going on. Thank you for the opportunity to be vice chair. Thank you, that's cool. He would like to create a welcome packet

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for new board members. He is working on putting that together. He has created an electronic board calendar with all the events of the year listed for all to see. Thank you to everyone that came tonight and stuck around.

Peter wanted to say welcome Hannah and she has big shoes to fill. Her brother Nick was on the board a few years ago. He mentioned Jameson school and how difficult it is teaching at that level. I spent 2 hours in a K classroom two weeks ago volunteering and it was a ball. Jameson school could really use some volunteers. Mike met with community friendly group and they are going to work on getting some volunteers. Lisa Kid (long time PTO person) she is the owner of Café 64 and she organized along with several business owners a group of people to support Jameson School any way they can. Thank you to her, Chamber of Commerce, Beachology, and others that donated.

Dave told other board members to email him their interest in subcommittees so we can put those back together. Welcome back to Michelle, we had fun working together a few years ago. Welcome to Hannah. Lastly, I want to apologize for losing my cool. I know the board members very well here and I know we are looking out for the best interest of our students. I should not have lost my cool but I took it to heart and we do care. This is a great district to be a part of.

Michelle stated "what a welcome back". She wanted to thank the voters of OOB for electing her and she'll try not to go on too long. It is the community, the passion and the support of education that brought her back. She thinks the Wreaths Across America and backpack program are awesome. We have NEASC happening with other things going left and right. We all have the same goal, which is what is best for our students. Lets continue working together to make this happen. Thank you for having me back.

Hannah wanted to thank the board for having her tonight and having her as the student representative.

Executive Session

None

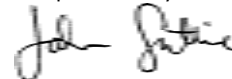
Adjournment

A motion was made by Michelle Violette and seconded by Chris LaSalle to adjourn the meeting at 7:47PM. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Minutes prepared by:

Helene Stevens,
Transcriber

Respectfully submitted by:



John Suttie,
Superintendent