

# RSU 23 Board Minutes

RSU #23 Board Meeting held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall (Virtual Meeting) on  
April 16, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.

## **Meeting Called to Order**

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

Title 37B Statement was read by Dave Boudreau.

## ***The Pledge of Allegiance was recited***

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Christopher LaSalle and seconded by Michelle Violette to accept the minutes from the March 26, 2020 board meeting. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

## **Adjustment to the Agenda**

Add Approval of modified internship plan and waiver of community service for class of 2020

## **Correspondence**

None

## **Public Session**

None

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Suttie stated that starting tomorrow our staff and students will be on vacation for April break until Monday 27<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he knows many of our staff are looking forward to unplugging and taking a break. It has been a long month for our staff and they are looking forward to a break. Food service will continue to deliver meals to students in our district throughout vacation. After vacation we will continue to work on our district distance learning plan, as well as our normal end of year rituals such as dances, prom and graduation. We have ideas but nothing set in stone and it all hinges on the social distancing guidelines from the governor. He did want to say to the public that many of us have been affected by this pandemic and tomorrow he will be sending out a link with a free and reduced lunch application. We encourage everyone to fill one out even if they think they do not qualify. It helps us with data.

## **Board Presentation**

Joanne Dowd presented RSU #23's Distance Learning Plan. She stated the district took a whole student approach and worried about their wellbeing first and foremost. (See Video for full presentation)

## **Old Business**

None

# RSU 23 Board Minutes

## **New Business**

A motion was made by Michelle Violette and seconded by Christopher LaSalle to approve RSU #23's Distance Learning Plan as presented. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Christopher LaSalle and seconded by Sally Beatty to approve RSU #23's End of 2019-2020 School Year Plan as presented (Students last day June 5<sup>th</sup>, Teachers June 12<sup>th</sup> and Support Staff June 17<sup>th</sup>). Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Christopher LaSalle and seconded by Michelle Violette to approve new hire Kate Hersom as Jameson Elementary Principal. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Michelle Violette and seconded by Sally Beatty to approve RSU #23's 2020-2021 School Calendar as presented. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Christopher LaSalle and seconded by Michelle Violette to approve policies BEDH: Public Participation at Board Meetings and GCOA: Supervision & Evaluation of Professional Staff as written. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Christopher LaSalle and seconded by Sally Peter Flaherty to approve RSU #23's 2020-2021 Budget as presented. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Christopher LaSalle and seconded by Michelle Violette to approve 2020-2021 Adult Education Budget and RSU #23's local contribution as presented. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Christopher LaSalle and seconded by Peter Flaherty to approve the modified internship plan and waive community service requirements for the class of 2020. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

## **Committee Reports**

Technology committee: Chris stated that they had no updates on the technology committee. They had to cancel their meeting for April and no update beyond that.

Finance committee: Dave stated that they met this week and discussed a few things. One was where we are in the budget. This year we are in good shape. We will not have a vote in May for next year's budget so we have to plan on continuing next year's budget as it was the same as this year. He feels confident we can do that. They also discussed stipends and they will not be paying spring sports stipends because their season was canceled by the MPA. The funding remains earmarked for RSU 23 athletics programs.

Building committee: Peter stated that the building needs committee met on Tuesday. Mark Beaudoin presented the committee with a very long list of projects to complete for the 2019-2020 year and he is well within budget to get those completed. It is very ambitious but Mark is good and will get them done.

# RSU 23 Board Minutes

## **Board Remarks**

Sally stated she would really like to put out a big shout out to our food service people who have been working diligently to get the food out to our families through all of this. They have been there every day. Also, Joanne, what a wonderful job you have done setting up our virtual learning and making sure our staff and families are comfortable.

Michelle stated it's her understanding that the food service workers and the transportation workers are foregoing their April break. Thank you to them for doing that but also to everyone in the district. She is proud of our district with what we have done proactively and for each other. It makes her proud. She is happy with the budget we have put forth. Her gave her thanks to everyone for all they are doing.

Peter stated that he would like to reiterate what other board members have said about all the hard work being done during this trying time. Thank you to all of staff for what they do daily.

Chris stated he wanted to acknowledge the distance learning plan and all the work that was put into assembling that. He is amazed and proud of all the work you guys have done. You would assume you knew what to do and you just did it. He knows it is not easy and clearly you put a lot of work into it. Congratulations to Kate Hersom. I was on the interview committee and was very impressed. Caroline and the RSU food service have been doing amazing work. I follow them on Facebook and see what they are getting accomplished. It is amazing.

Dave stated that he thinks we have a phenomenal team. Things are being done that we don't even know. It is impressive. He talks to John and Eric at least once a day. For everything we hear about they are dealing with 20 more things. This is not an easy time for administration. Everyone is doing what they have to do to make this work. Every decision being made is in the best interest of our students and staff. It's refreshing to hear how wonderful we are doing. Very proud of who we have for a team. Just want everyone happy and healthy.

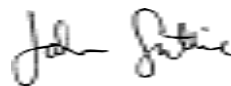
## **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Christopher LaSalle and seconded by Sally Beatty to adjourn the meeting at 7:02PM. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Minutes prepared by:

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Helene Stevens,  
Transcriber

Respectfully submitted by:



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John Suttie,  
Superintendent