

RSU 23 Board Minutes

**RSU #23 Board Meeting held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall on
October 21, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting Called to Order

John Suttie called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Present: Dave Boudreau, Peter Flaherty, Donna Moutsatsos, Sally Beatty, and Superintendent John Suttie.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Sally Beatty and seconded by Peter Flaherty to accept the minutes from the September 16, 2021 meeting as written. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None

Correspondence

Received resignation from Janet Giguere, 5th grade teacher at LMS

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Suttie stated pool testing has increased since our last board meeting from 100 to about 280 kids. This week we have had a positive in each school and you can see that the pool testing is working in keeping our students in school 5 days a week. We finished our ARP grant and have received some feedback from the State. It was really only minor questions, changes and requests. Things are going really well on that front. He would be remised if he didn't tell you this weekend is a really big weekend in athletics. The girls soccer will have a playoff game against Mountain Valley, varsity football plays 1:30 at home, during this time at 11:40am our cross-country team will have traveled to Cumberland and that night our band will be performing at an event at Marshwood. He would like to bid a farewell to Michelle Violette. Michelle has served 2 terms. He believes she has been on the board 5 out of the 6 years he has been here. She has been a great advocate for special education students and a well-known member of the community.

Board Presentation

Joanne Dowd did a presentation on **Diversity Equity & Inclusion** (Please refer to recording of meeting to see the entire presentation)

Public Session:

Barb Roberge & Mark Knowles addressed the board to take a moment to thank everyone for serving on the school board. Just want to remind the board that we are a professional organization. We are not just a collective bargaining unit.

Old Business

None

RSU 23 Board Minutes

New Business

A motion was made by Sally Beatty and seconded by Donna Moutsatsos to accept the nomination of Alden Gregory as 5th grade teacher at LMS as presented. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Committee Reports

Finance: Dave stated that they met today and went over a few things. Cindy updated us on where we are with the budget and that we should be hearing from the auditors soon. They should be presenting to the board in November. We talked about the ARP grant and administration had two virtual meetings and emails went out to involve the public but not many participated. The application was submitted and now we are just waiting for approval. Hopefully we will hear back before the end of this month.

Building: Donna stated they met virtually. LMS had a fire inspection by the town. Rob and Matt walked through the building with the officials. Several things needed to be addressed. Several doors need to be replaced, pull stations need to be fixed and emergency lights need to be replaced. The full report was just given to us this week. At LMS in the kitchen, the dishwasher has not been drawing enough hot water because of the distance the water needs to travel. To fix this problem we will be putting in a hot water heater under the kitchen. At the high school, a bathroom is being installed, which will become the nurse's clinic. More cameras will be added at the high school. We are looking at replacing perimeter fencing to allow for more green space for students. The sprinklers at Jameson have been running on a temporary system after the old one failed and will need to be updated.

Technology: Donna stated that the beginning of the year went well and all the equipment got out to the students. There is much more interest in the insurance this year than last. Three more vision boards are being installed at Jameson

Board Remarks

Donna stated that it is coming to the end of one year and she is looking at it as this has been my learning year. There are a few areas where she wants to improve and a few areas where she wants to reach out and take a little more interest and initiative for a better school system. There are a few things she has had in the back of her head that she has talked to John and Dave about and they need to be sorted out. Shout out to the golf team who received a sportsmanship award again.

Peter wished good luck to the soccer, football and cross-country teams in the next couple of weeks. He was very impressed with the experience of this new hire. He wants to wish Janet the best of luck on her new position. She has been an outstanding 5th grade teacher here for many years.

Sally congratulated the golf team. That is a great award. Thank you, Joanne, for your wonderful presentation tonight. That was excellent. She also wanted to thank the administrators on the ARP grant and coming up with the ideas on how to spend the money. A lot of time and work has been put into that. Thank you for all you have done.

Dave stated that he was sure you probably have heard about school board members being harassed and targeted. We ask that any questions be asked in a thoughtful and respectful manner. There is a lot of stuff going on. We are fortunate where we live. Congratulations and good luck to the athletes this

RSU 23 Board Minutes

weekend. He has asked John to get the requirements to go into executive session. He wants to make sure everyone understands that. We are not too far away from starting the budget process. John will start to get the dates out for the budget workshops, etc.

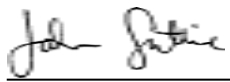
Adjournment

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Sally Beatty to adjourn the meeting at 6:38PM. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Minutes prepared by:

Helene Stevens,
Transcriber

Respectfully submitted by:



John Suttie,
Superintendent