

RSU 23 Board Minutes

**RSU #23 Board Meeting held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall on
January 19, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting Called to Order

John Suttie called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Present: Craig Evans, Barbara Roberge, Peter Flaherty, Donna Moutsatsos, and Superintendent John Suttie.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Donna Moutsatsos and seconded by Peter Flaherty to accept the minutes from the December 14, 2022 meeting as written. Voted unanimously. Motion Approved.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None

Correspondence

None

Public Session:

None

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Suttie stated that we have moved into the month of January, which we call the dog days of education. We are locked in and working hard to get through the dark months of the winter. Thank you to David Goyet who donated \$1000 to OOB high school special education program. He recently retired from Saco/Biddeford Savings and they are offered the chance to donate money to charity of their choice and he chose OOB HS as one of his charities. Thank you for that. Thank you to our staff who have been doing a great job to cover classes and loss of staff members during the flu season. People are starting to feel and get better so numbers are looking up. Ben and his staff did a great job working together to get things covered. Thank you to the members of our community that reached out and gave gift cards and money to our students during the holiday season. We have gotten many generous gifts from our community. Congratulations to Elise McNair and Landon Johnson both senior basketball players and they have both reached their 1000 points. That is a great accomplishment for them. They are both fantastic kids around school and great kids. I would like to welcome Matthew Cantara-Bisson as our student representative for the board. Known by most of us as MCB. You may recognize him from David's sub shop as well as a manager at the annual trail of terror at Aquaboggan. This year' theme is Crampus is coming. We don't know who Crampus is or was but Matt never gave it up. Thank you for being willing to join us.

Student Representative's Report

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Matthew stated the band and jazz band will be performing a concert on January 27th and February 3rd at Loranger. Jazz band students have been preparing for the Maine Music Educators Association Jazz Festival at Kennebunk High School on February 8th. On February 11th the jazz band will be performing at the Maine Band Directors Association Jazz Festival at Westbrook High School. Good Luck to them on that. Chorus has been going well this year gaining new students who are very interested in singing. They have been learning new songs and getting ready for their spring concert. All members have been enjoying our school year with new band director, Mr. Chasse who has been a great influence on our band and chorus students. The outing club has been a great hit for all OOB HS students since the beginning of the year. Ms. Johnson and Ms. Skovran have been planning and executing fun activities for our students. Recent activities include a canoeing and kayaking trip at Kennebunk Pond, a fall hike at Mt. Cutler, rock climbing and this weekend they will be going up to Camden Hill State Park for a weekend trip. JV boys are currently 2-5 and JV girls are currently undefeated. Both Varsity girls and boys are 10-1 and have qualified for the post season already. Throughout the past few months OOB High School has been under way with the multi-cultural awareness project. This project is to raise awareness of the variety of cultures in Maine. One example of the project has been our food tastings. Chef David has whipped up three different dishes for us to try already. In October he made an Indian dish, in November he made a traditional Native American dish and in December a traditional Hannukah dish. OOB high school students participated in Culinary Art II students and the multi-learning students went to Osaka, a Japanese restaurant in Portland where the owner demonstrated how to make noodles. Finally, they went ice skating at UNE ice arena where many of our new students have never ice skated before.

Board Presentation

Dr. Jim Babcock did a presentation on the CSTAG (Comprehensive School Threat Assessment) training that some RSU 23 employees partook in. (Please see online video for entire presentation).

Old Business

None

New Business

A motion was made by Donna Moutsatsos and seconded by Barbara Roberge to accept policy IHBAC: Child Find as written. Voted unanimously. Motion Approved.

Committee Reports

Finance: Craig stated the finance committee met Tuesday. We were updated on the budget and the good news is we are under budget currently. One thing to think of is the rising cost of food, which we cannot control. We have budget workshops coming up. Please reach out to the superintendent with any budget questions you may have. We have also discussed a few projects that are still in the beginning stages.

Building: Peter stated they didn't meet but we do have an update. Jameson school boilers didn't have a manual shut off valve. We have installed a piece that will do this on its own to avoid over boiling. Loranger has a new floor machine and we also added a window to the nurse's office with a shade for safety purposes. At Jameson, all of the classroom locks were changed over to a key system. Each

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teacher now has a key to their own classroom. The nurse's office at Jameson also had a window installed with a shade for safety purposes. Foot pedal in the boy's locker room sink has been replaced.

Technology: Donna stated there was nothing to report.

Board Remarks

Matthew stated thank you to the school board and the administrative team for allowing him to be a part of this. It is a great opportunity for him to participate.

Peter stated welcome MCB. You did a very good job tonight. Congratulations to the boys' and girls' basketball teams. They are tearing it up this year, which is exciting to see. Most of you know that I am involved in the scholarship foundation. After the first semester in order to get their check, they have to let us know how they did the first semester of college and tell us the courses for their second semester. He has heard from 7 students and out of their average GPA is 3.73. Shout out to the staff at OOB schools because that is a very impressive GPA.

Barb stated Happy New Year everyone. Thank you to Eric and Cindy for meeting with her about the budget. They were very helpful. Welcome to Matt or MCB. I hope you enjoy your new role. Thank you, Jim, for the presentation, that was very interesting. Thank you to Dave Goyet for the generous donation. Also, congrats to basketball players, Elise McNair and for reaching 1000 points.

Donna stated they call our community the diamond in the rough because of how supportive it is. Matt, welcome. She wanted to ditto everything everyone said. Big storm coming in tomorrow. I am sure some people are jumping up and down because tomorrow will be a remote day. We are all getting back to work and good luck with the next half of the year.

Craig stated congratulations to our sports teams and the individual achievements. There are some great things going on. What we have achieved here shows up later and we do not always see it. Happy to hear about the multi-cultural program. Finally, we have been talking a bit of self-evaluations for the board. Those are coming very soon. I found a tool that he would like to use and will email it to them in the coming days.

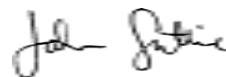
Adjournment

A motion was made by Peter Flaherty and seconded by Donna Moutsatsous to adjourn the meeting at 6:39PM. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Minutes prepared by:

Helene Stevens,
Transcriber

Respectfully submitted by:



John Suttie,
Superintendent