

RSU 23 School Board Minutes

RSU 23 Board Meeting was held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall on September 21, 2023 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

John Suttie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Dave Boudreau, Craig Evans, Donna Moutsatsos, Student Representative Madison Shaw and Superintendent John Suttie.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Craig Evans and seconded by Donna Moutsatsos to accept the Minutes from the June 15th, 2023 meeting as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

Adjustments to the Agenda

Superintendent Suttie stated that the only adjustment would be regarding the copier lease agreements that were discussed at the Finance Committee meeting earlier that day.

Correspondence

None

Public Session

None

Jennifer Skinsacos later spoke about a safety concern regarding her children at Loranger Memorial School. Peter asked if she went to the Principal (as is stated in the school's policies) and did she feel that it was resolved? She stated that she did go through the proper channels but that she does not feel that it was resolved.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Suttie began by welcoming the new Student Representative, Madison Shaw. He then introduced the new School Resource Officer, Adam Jensen. Officer Jensen has already made a great first impression on our staff and students; welcome to the district.

School has gotten off to a great start, despite the hot weather. Teachers and students did a good job persevering through the temperature. Staff was diligent at trying to keep everyone cool and comfortable. Remote learning would not have been an option as all devices were not ready to go, so would have had to cancel a day of school. The first 2 days of school were a good kick off with professional development focusing on staff wellness. We have implemented programs to keep staff happy and well.

Superintendent Suttie read the list of new employees. He then reported that the whale wall has been refurbished and restored by OOB graduate, Russell Whitten. There was a ceremony last week honoring the finality of the wall.

Student Representative's Report

Madison started her report speaking about fall sports and giving various team updates. She then spoke about homecoming and spirit week. Madison finished by speaking about the recent visit by the Portland Wheelers, who visited the intensive needs classroom and spoke about their mission.

Board Presentation

Assistant Superintendent Eric Hanson officially welcomed SRO, Adam Jensen, and read his BIO. David Boudreau thanked the Chief of Police for working with us on this project and expressed his appreciation for all she did to assist. Assistant Superintendent Hanson then presented his Safety and Security Updates. He discussed the site visit from the Department of Homeland Security and introduced his presentation regarding those updates.

Old Business

None

New Business

David Boudreau reported that the Board met with the person that represented us in the bids for copier and printers. The 5 year contract is coming up. He mentioned that they went through all the bids to be sure everything is covered. He stated that the payments will be less and it was awarded to a local person, which is a win-win for everyone.

Craig Evans made a motion that the Board approve the proposed tax-exempt lease with MST Government Leasing, LLC, for the purposes of refinancing and funding photocopy equipment leases, in the amount not to exceed \$124,990.79 and an

interest rate of 5.25% through August 1, 2028. The motion was seconded by Donna Moutsatsos. All in favor. Motion carried.

Craig also made a motion for the Board to authorize Superintendent Suttie to execute and deliver the lease agreement on such terms and conditions as discussed. Motion seconded by Donna Moutsatsos. All in favor. Motion carried.

New job description - Accounts Payable & Payroll Specialist (added 3 bullets to the job)

A motion was made by Craig Evans to accept the new job description as written. Motion seconded by Donna Moutsatsos. All in favor. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Finance: David Boudreau stated that the Finance Committee met this morning and talked about printers and copiers, but already discussed and voted on previously in this meeting. He also discussed the tower concession stand at the football field, which will need to be replaced due to safety reasons. The Finance Committee has asked for more detail and has asked Superintendent Suttie to invite all board members to a virtual board workshop next Friday at 9:00 am with Kevin to ask specific questions to be more prepared in October. Replacing the stand and adding water would be roughly \$70-75,000 and to add 2 bathrooms, septic system, and make it ADA compliant would be approximately \$140,000. The Board would like clarification, which is why they would like the meeting to be held next Friday.

Building Needs: Donna reiterated much that Eric reported in his presentation and mentioned doors being completed, the use of key cards, first floor window tinting, high school new LED lighting, new carpeting in 2 classes, Loranger new kitchen door, Jameson new door on room #7, steam supply fixed in kitchen, and other miscellaneous projects.

Technology: Donna spoke about Emily Fish, Technology Specialist and Michael Lewis, high school Librarian. Students and staff devices successfully deployed at all schools. Other miscellaneous technology updates given. She mentioned the power outage caused from the lightning storm on August 4, 2023, in which we suffered equipment loss but that network repair and replacement(s) are underway. Also mentioned ML Work Orders. Next Technology meeting is October 17, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at the Loranger library. David asked about insurance for the devices. Superintendent Suttie reiterated that we do not charge insurance and that we do cover the cost of the ipads.

Curriculum: None

Board Remarks

Craig commented on the amount of new hires and that we truly are in a season of change and fresh perspectives. We should have an exciting year ahead. Welcome to Officer Jensen. Great collaborative community effort. Welcome to Michael Rodriguez and Madison Shaw.

Donna welcomed Madison Shaw and Adam Jensen and expressed her interest in how he splits his time and interacts with students.

Maddy thanked everyone for their warm welcome.

David welcomed everyone back to school and expressed his gratitude for the new high school Principal, Michael Rodriguez. He commented on the fact that most positions are filled. Superintendent Suttie assured him that we are still working on filling all of them, but meeting all students' needs at this time.

Adjournment

Motion by Donna Moutsatsos and seconded by Craig Evans to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Correspondence

Minutes prepared by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Cathy Couture
Executive Assistant to Superintendent

John Suttie
Superintendent