

RSU 23 School Board Minutes

RSU 23 Board Meeting held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall on January 16, 2025, @ 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Santino Perrone and seconded by Barbara Roberge to accept the minutes from the December 19, 2024, meeting as written. All in favor. Motion approved.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None

Correspondence

None

Public Session

None

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Suttie reported that last week He, Eric Hanson, Mark Beaudoin and Matt Foster met to discuss getting LMS on one schedule and discussed what transportation needs will be for this change. Next month's Board meeting will have a presentation regarding this.

On January 8th, RSU 23 honored long time LMS Library Media Specialist, Jackie Drown, who passed in November. We dedicated a plaque and it was nice to honor someone who put a lot of her life into the school system.

The Seagull Foundation is finally live and donations are now open. We will be accepting donations through March, 2026. If you have questions, please reach out.

On February 7th, we will have a dental clinic sponsored by UNE. Transportation will be provided.

Thank you to staff, students, and the community for a smooth transition to the next half of the school year. I think we are all looking forward to warmer weather and longer days.

Student Representative's Report

None

Board Presentation

Superintendent Suttie spoke about the 2024 State Championship 8 man small school football team, who were present at the meeting. He commented that we are very proud to be here tonight honoring this team. You have made your community proud and you are nice kids, humble, hard-working and resilient and you look after your school and your classmates. You are very impressive and good friends to all. Congratulations! (See video for full presentation).

Dean Plante thanked the Board for having the team at the meeting. The community has rallied from start to finish. Thank you to the administration, Board and town for supporting us.

Craig Evans expressed his congratulations.

Santino Perrone congratulated them all. This has never been done in our school's history. 2 gold balls in such a short time period. To the seniors – you have left a mark on the high school and the town and will never be forgotten for your commitment and hard work. Thank you for always having good sportsmanship. You deserved it.

Peter Flaherty commented - wow, what an amazing team to watch. You will be proud of yourselves for the rest of your lives. Congratulations.

Barbara congratulated the football team and asked to be introduced to the rest of the team. They stood and said their names and grade.

Old Business

None

New Business

Assistant Superintendent, Eric Hanson, reported on the approval of the updated School Psychologist job description, which was last revised in 2020. The highlighted items emphasize the revolving goal psychologists are covering in Maine schools. Dr. Jim Babcock paved the way for many of these items. Assistant Superintendent Hanson described some of the changes and how they will affect the position. He mentioned the partnership with USM. We have a current intern and Heidi Butler, Special Education Director, is working to continue that in the future. Finally, clinical supervision for our social workers. The School Psychologist will have a monthly meeting with the school social work team.

Craig Evans commented that they are good additions and there were no questions.

Donna Moutsatsos made a motion to accept the School Psychologist job description, seconded by Santino Perrone. All in favor. Motion approved.

Peter Flaherty made a motion to accept the new hire, Jennifer McVeigh as School Psychologist, seconded by Donna Moutsatsos. All in favor. Motion approved.

Santino Perrone read the first readings of policy BB – School Board Legal Status, BBBA – Board Member Qualifications, BBBE – Board Unexpired Term Fulfillment/Vacancies, and BDB – Board Officers.

Barbara Roberge then read the second readings of policy EGAD – Copyright Compliance, EGAD-R – Copyright Compliance Administrative Procedure, IJNDB – Student Computer and Internet Use and Internet Safety, IJNDB-R – Student Computer and Internet Use Rules.

Peter Flaherty made a motion, seconded by Santino Perrone, to accept all second readings of policies as presented. All in favor. Motion approved.

Committee Reports

Building Needs Committee – Peter Flaherty reported that they met with Kevin Girard and Mark Beaudoin yesterday. They discussed the grounds work in the winter time – maintaining the fields and grounds around the school. The High School pavilion will be ready to use for the spring. It will be a little bit bigger than the one at LMS. The tennis courts are complete. The concession stand will hopefully happen in 2026. The DOE visited all 3 schools, which went very well. There was some trouble with the heat at LMS (boiler pressure), but was repaired.

Curriculum Committee – None

Finance Committee – Peter Flaherty reported that they met yesterday as well. At this time of the year, 47.1% of the budget has been spent. One bump with Anthem insurance, as it is a little higher than what was budgeted. At 117% now, but is typical of the whole country now.

Technology Committee – None

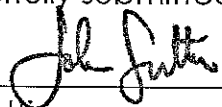
Adjournment

A motion was made by Donna Moutsatsos and seconded by Santino Perrone to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m. All in favor. Motion approved.

Minutes prepared by:

Cathy Couture
Executive Assistant to Superintendent

Respectfully submitted by:



John Sutfie
Superintendent