



RSU 23 School Board Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2026

RSU 23 School Board Meeting held at Old Orchard Beach Town Hall on May 21, 2026

I) Call to Order

Board Chair Craig Evans called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Board Chair Craig Evans, Board Vice Chair Barbara Roberge, Board Member Peter Flaherty, Board Member Santino Perrone, RSU 23 Superintendent John Suttie

Members Absent: Donna Moutsatsos, Ransom Randall

II) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III) Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Santino Perrone and seconded by Peter Flaherty to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2026 meeting as written. All in favor. Motion approved.

IV) Adjustments to the Agenda

Superintendent Suttie requested to add the approval of the May 18 Budget Referendum Minutes to the agenda under *New Business*.

V) Correspondence

None

VI) Public Session

None

VII) Superintendent's Report

- The Budget Referendum was approved on May 18, 2026
- Superintendent Suttie commended the RSU 23 Transportation Department for its hard work and dedication to RSU23 students.
- State Board of Education Meeting (SBE), May 15, 2026
 - a. The SBE is working on new rules for Chapter 61, which addresses funding for school construction. The SBE recognizes that RSU23 is next on the new building list and is prepared to grant approval.
 - b. The SBE is in favor of not increasing cost-sharing for any schools on the current priority list.

- c. LD 1892 “An Act to Establish Procedures for School Construction Projects” failed to pass in the legislature in April - RSU 23 will explore the prospect of local legislators sponsoring a new bill to raise the debt ceiling on school construction funding to help expedite the RSU 23 building project.
- d. Important upcoming dates:
 - o June 5 @ 8 AM Special Olympics at OOBHS track
 - o June 7 @ 2 PM Graduation Ceremony at Seaside Pavillion
 - o June 15 @ 8 AM Eighth Grade Graduation and Step Up Night at Regina Football Field (If raining it will be held indoors at LMS gymnasium).
 - o June 10 @ 6 PM Last School Board Meeting

VIII) Student Representative’s Report

None

IX) Board Presentations

None

X) Old Business

None

XI) New Business

1. Policies: First Readings - Barb Roberge presented the proposed revisions to Policies BEDH and JICJ:
 - a. BEDH - *Public Comment at School Board Meetings* -
 The updates outline the following expectations for public participation:
Group Representation: To ensure the efficient use of meeting time, groups addressing the board are asked to designate a single spokesperson.
Speaker Protocol: All speakers must be formally recognized by the Board Chair and are required to speak from the podium without walking around.
Decorum: Speakers must refrain from using indecent language or engaging in disruptive conduct.
 - b. JICJ - *Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices in Schools*
 The proposed policy revision aligns with Maine’s new statewide "bell-to-bell" mandate. The updated policy will prohibit the use of cell phones and all other personal electronic devices by students in grades Pre-K through 12 for the entire duration of the school day (from the starting bell to dismissal).
2. Approval of Probationary Teacher(s)
 - a. Second Year Probationary Contract: Heather Marom, Morgan Bassett, Olivia Hamilton, Cassandra McKiel, Alexander Munro, Beth Amaral, Olivia Nicole, Marcy Duhamel, Theresa Rosen, Caroline Kiddie, Alan Raymond, Andrew Rosado.

Motion for second year probationary contract approval made by Santino Perrone.
 Seconded by Peter Flaherty. All in favor. Motion approved.

- b. Continuing Contract: Alise Anson, Anabel Boyer, Samantha Dery, Haley Duncan, Heather Freeman, Ann Marie Henderson, Jayne Howe, Amy Leahy, April

Peterson, Sarah Preston, Carey Rasco.

Motion for continuing contract approval made by Peter Flaherty, Seconded by Barb Roberge. All in favor. Motion approved.

3. Approval of Budget Referendum Meeting Minutes dated May 18, 2026

Motion for approval of Budget Referendum Meeting Minutes made by Santino Perrone. Seconded by Barb Roberge. All in favor. Motion approved.

XII) Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee:

Peter Flaherty reported that we are 5.4% below budget at this time.

Revenue has exceeded expectations in MaineCare and CDS billing. An additional subsidy from the state of \$145,000 will be received by the end of June for Multilingual and Superintendents Agreements which had not been budgeted. Request for Proposals (RFPs) for the LMS boiler replacement will go out the week of May 25th and Emergency Contingency Funds will be used to fund the \$150,000 - \$200,000 boiler project.

2. Building Needs Committee:

No report

XIII) Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Santino Perrone to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 PM and seconded by Peter Flaherty. All in favor. Motion approved.

Minutes prepared by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Margot Margarones
Board Secretary

John Suttie
Superintendent of Schools