

School Administrative District 8 Board Meeting
Wednesday March 12, 2025
5:15 pm Business Meeting / 5:30 Regular Meeting
Location: VH Middle School

Board members present: Alexandra McCarthy, Board Chair, Sarah Crossman, Vice Chair, Penny Lazaro and Matt Crosier Sue Dempster-Absent
Administration: Katrina Kane, Superintendent, Tina Davidson, Business Manager, Tara McKechnie Principal and Bryan Feezor Assistant Principal

1. Call of the Roll – 5:30 PM
2. Approval of Minutes – February 19, 2025
Motion: A McCarthy Second: M Crosier Vote: 4-0
3. Approval of March 12, 2025 Agenda –
Motion: A McCarthy Second: S Crossman Vote: 4-0
4. Bullying Prevention Presentation
Pat Paquet – Grades K-5
 - Mindfulness with Kelly Richards
 - Social and emotional collaboration with students during morning meetings
 - Social cues, strategies to solve problems and empathy and what that looks like
 - Reading buddies with middle and high schoolMiddle School – Grades 6-8
 - Half-way café, sit with students that you would not normally sit with
 - Mini café day where they will continue to build impact vs. intent. Working on the two vocabulary words and their meanings.High School – Grades 9-12 Kris Osgood, Susan Philbrook and Dave McKechnie
 - Gathered students and talked about what bullying was, how to report and doing a poster contest on what their knowledge around bullying. The winner will have their poster printed and hung in the high school hallway. Some students do not like reporting bullying incidents. A board member suggested a bullying box where you could anonymously drop your complaint in.Uniform Arts – Bill Trevaskis, Music Heather White, Art Susan Philbrook, French
 - Prevention at early ages makes a bigger impact for life. In music, they acted out a scenario and applied it to music. All teachers felt that coaches should also get bullying training as there is a lot that goes on, on the fields and court.
5. Visitor Comments -None
6. Personnel – Joanna Reidy and Kyle Day 1:1 Ed Techs
7. Board Chair – Moved LED lighting, New Business after Personnel.
8. LED Smart Lighting Conversion Presentation – Affinity LED Lighting is a local New England Lighting company with products locally assembled and serviced in New Hampshire. As well as Affinity, Efficiency Maine has also partnered with them and the Vinalhaven School. Affinity was able to secure a \$19780 incentive from Efficiency Maine to help towards the cost of the project. The Vinalhaven School will be converted to 97% smart lighting.
Motion: A McCarthy motion to approve the proposal from Affinity LED Lighting and to authorize the superintendent to begin municipal lease purchasing process.
Second: S Crossman
Vote: 4-0

9. Superintendent Report –

- Federal Funding - At this time, the Department of Education has only announced that the only federal funding that has been lost to Maine is the Fresh Local Produce. DOE is watching all federal grants and sends out regular updates to schools in Maine.
- ED279 – provides the detailed EPS calculation for each SAU(RSU) in Maine.
- Cafeteria flooring – work will be taking place to replace sections of the cafeteria floor during March break.
- Baseball – not enough interest this year, decided to cancel this year after looking over MPA's rulings. Rowing is being advertised and several students are interested.
- Al Koenig ordered bleacher parts and will be replacing this spring/summer

10. New Business

- a. Student Use of Cell Phones – A discussion was had about the use of students' cell phone use during the school day. A lot of districts are moving towards a company that sells the Yonder Pouch. This is a secure, lockable bag designed to keep phones and other devices out of reach during designated phone free times. It uses a magnetic locking mechanism to ensure the pouch remains closed until unlocked by a staff member.

Motion: A McCarthy motion to purchase Yonder Pouch and work with Administration and staff towards bell to bell phone ban. **Second:** P Lazaro **Vote:** 4-0

11. Old Business

- a. School Calendar 25-26 First Read

Motion: A McCarthy **Second:** M Crosier **Vote:** 4-0

12. Questions of Board Members - None

13. Future Agenda Requests – JICK-R Policy

14. Set Date for April 2025 Budget Workshops & Board Meeting – April 16, 2025

15. Adjourn: 8:16 PM