

School Administrative District 8 Board Meeting

October 19, 2022

5:15 PM Business Meeting/5:30 Regular Meeting

Middle School Wing

Board Members present: Alexandra McCarthy, Board Chair, Rachel Noyes, Sarah Crossman, Sue Dempster and **Penny Lazaro(absent)**

Administration present: Monte Selby, Superintendent/Principal, Bryan Feezor, Assistant Principal and Tina Davidson, Business Manager

- I. Call of the Roll – 5:31
- II. Revisions to Agenda – New Business A. Bus Discussion
- III. Approval of minutes - September 21, 2022 Regular Meeting - R Noyes motion to accept September 21, 2022 minutes/S Crossman seconds (4-0) and October 12, Board Workshop – S Crossman motion to accept October 12, 2022 minutes/A McCarthy seconds (4-0)
- IV. Persons desiring to address the Board - None
- V. Board Chair – Ali reported that she has spoken with a group of high school students about any interest in sitting in on the Policy Committee. Students need community service hours and this would be a great way for them to earn their hours. The board had a brief discussion about their board workshop they had on October 12th with MSMA’s Steve Bailey the Executive Director. They each had a different experience in what they took away and would love to set up another session with Steve Bailey to continue topics that were on his agenda but ran out of time. Ali also reported that she had attended a LGBTQ webinar that Drummond Woodsum put on. There was a reminder to the board that they need to watch the Freedom of Access training videos. This training is done yearly.
- VII. Personnel – Monte Selby informed the board that Dan Ganoza, Athletic Director had offered Deja Doughty the High School Varsity Girls Coach position.
- VIII. Superintendent of Schools Report –
 - A. Alison Pols gave an overview to the board of “in the life of” a Special Ed Director, Case Managers, Special Ed Teachers and Educational Technicians and what their daily, weekly, monthly duties looked like.
 - B. Thomas Buescher, Gifted and Talented – Thom gave a brief description of how the Gifted and Talented program works. His job is more direct contact with teachers and not to teach the student. He helps teachers in placing the student in the best program that would fit for them whether it be service in the classroom with additional work, new work or moving to another grade level. NWEA scores are one way of identifying that student. He also talked a bit about creating the Visual Performing Arts program along with Heather White, Art Teacher, Bill Trevaskis, Music Teacher and Caity Quinn, Theater Teacher last spring.

- C. Monte discussed the Middle School Conference that he and several other staff members attended on October 7th, 2022. Heather White and Bill Trevaskis presented at the conference. It is always a good thing when you can interact with teachers and Principals who may have some of the same challenges, new ideas and curriculums for Middle School students.
- D. Reported that the bus charger had been installed and that there would be a training on October 21st, 2022 for potential bus drivers and a few school staff members will also sit in. MACE(Maranacook) Adult Communication Education) holds classes for those that want to get their CDL with the bus driving certificate. They have been able to offer the class all expenses paid from a grant coming up the first of November and then again in January and have reached out to RSU 8 to see if anyone would be interested. This would provide the education and driving time needed to an individual and once complete would be completely ready to start driving the bus.

IX. Principal's Report – Bryan Feezor, Assistant Principal presented the Principals report tonight.

- A. Grade 8 trip to Katahdin – The 8th grade went on their annual trip to Katahdin with Miss Cohn and chaperones. They were able to go up in the Penobscot Narrows Bridge and Observatory, took time for a canoe excursion, played board games and card games. The day that they were to climb the mountain, it was raining very hard and had to stop at Chimney Pond due to inclement weather. Bryan did say that the kids had a great time and are hoping that they will be able to attend in the next few years as high school chaperones in hopes of climbing to the top!!
- B. Open House – Hoping to come up with ideas that are more inviting in the future.
- C. Pecha Kucha – the high school is working on Pecha Kucha. They have been inviting different community organizations in for the students to learn more about their community and find ways to fill their community service hours.
- D. Book fair – Shout out to Taylor Leach for a very successful book fair this fall.
- E. Soccer season – The high school and middle school were able to make up teams this year even though the numbers are low in both high and middle. There were times that the boys would travel and play with only 8 athletes. Congratulations to all athletes and coaches!!
- F. Island Readers and Writers -Students were able to enjoy visiting with authors again this year.
- G. Farnsworth – Heather White has 7th grade students involved in a program over at the Farnsworth Museum this year. At the end of the year, the museum will present the kids work.
- H. 5th and 6th Grade students are currently at Tanglewood.
- I. Kris Osgood is taking a group of students to Washington DC next month to learn more about the Holocaust. This was made possible by the Widow Island Fund.
- J. Diversity Club – the students will be attending a leadership retreat in the next few weeks. They are also planning to bring back Holidays Around the World for the school again this year. There is a lot of excitement from staff and students around this. This club was also made possible by Widow Island Fund.

X. Questions of Board Members - None

XI. Policy Consideration

A. Policy Supervision and Evaluation of Professional Staff- Second Read – R Noyes motion to move Policy Supervision and Evaluation of Professional Staff to the November meeting/A McCarthy seconds (4-0)

B. Policy EEAEA Student Transportation Employee Requirements Training and Responsibilities - Second Read - A McCarthy made a motion to approve and adopt policy EEAEA Student Transportation Employee Requirements Training and Responsibilities/R Noyes seconds (4-0)

XII. Old Business

A. Policy Committee - Establish committee - Tonight the board established a Policy Committee which will consist of 2 board members, 2 teachers and the superintendent. They will meet on the second Wednesday of each month to work on the policies that will be brought to the board for their meetings. Ali McCarthy will head the committee which will entail organizing the list of all policies that have been recently reviewed and audited by Charlotte Bates of MSMA (Maine School Management Association). With each policy needed, Charlotte gave feedback as to whether the policy was OK, needing a few word changes or some that needed new language added due to legislature change over the years. Updating all of our policies will take some time but the board feels good about starting this work that has been hard to get done with all of the changes in administration, board members and COVID. Rachel Noyes wanted noted that the first policy that they will work on and bring back to the board will be the Supervision and Evaluation of Professional Staff.

XIII. New Business

E. Bus Discussion – Monte wanted to inform the board about the pick-up procedure when the bus starts its runs around the island. The board would like to stay with the same procedure the school had when there was a bus route. That was no pick-up within a mile, stay on tar roads and also added that in the past one of the bus drivers used Facebook as a way to get a bus update or any changes to the schedule out to parents and would like to see if this would be possible again. The bus is still waiting on 4 cameras to be installed in the bus, a training that will happen on October 21, 2022 and then have hopes to get the bus route going next month. Updates will be on the schools Facebook page and in the Wind.

XIV. Set date for November 2022 regular meeting – November 16th, 2022

XV. Adjourn -7:16