

Approved Minutes

Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link:
August 23, 2022, 6:00 pm

× Brian McGill
× Jake Eckert
× Mark Brewer

× Noah Charney
× Kevin Roberge

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Agenda Adjustment
 - i. Add 7(b) Updated CDC Guidance & COVID Guidelines

Motion: Brian McGill moved to add item 7(b) Updated CDC and COVID Guidelines. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Noah Charney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. August 9, 2022

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2022 meeting as written. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Noah Charney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Payroll - 4
- b. Warrant - 26E, 4
- c. BAN - 25

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the slate of warrants as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Noah Charney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

4. Public Comment

- a. Teddi-Jann Covell, Orono resident, is unhappy with the placement of a storage shed has been relocated to a different place on the campus that is in view of her home.
- b. Don Joseph, Orono resident, also spoke on the current placement of the track building.
- c. Mo Tyne, OHS Junior, asked for the reasoning behind the removal of the service learning hour requirement.

5. Acknowledgments

- a. An anonymous donor gave money to the Food Services Program.

6. Reports

- a. Director Reports
 - i. Lisa Smith, Special Services Director

1. The number of students in need of special services has increased over the past

year. Ms. Smith will be monitoring the situation to make sure that all needs are being met for each student.

- ii. Susan Smith, Director of Learning
 - 1. Looking forward to advancing progress made in the areas of DEI, as well as continuing work with the Wabanaki studies group, the leadership team, and the Technology and Governance committees.

b. Superintendent Report

- i. Meredith Higgins, Superintendent
 - 1. Staff return to campus on Thursday, August 25.
 - a. Required trainings, emergency preparedness, and staff feedback on the DEI plan will be discussed in the morning workshops.
 - 2. Students in grades Pre-K through 6 and 9 will return to class on Monday, August 29. The remaining students will return the following day.
 - 3. New website is up and running.
 - 4. A new crossing guard will be at the intersection of Westwood and Main Streets.
 - 5. Field Update
 - a. Football field will not be used this fall due to the amount of large rocks just under the surface.
 - b. District wants the field redone by the contractor.
 - c. The contractor has accepted responsibility and cost, as well as the cost of loss of field use.
 - d. University of Maine will host games for all three teams losing their field.
 - 6. Athletic equipment storage shed
 - a. Neighbors from the Mountain View area of Orono are unhappy with the placement of 3 storage sheds.
 - b. The Orono Planning Board finds that the placement of each of the sheds is to code.

7. Discussion Items

- a. DEI Action Plan Review & Discussion
 - i. Meredith Higgins presented the first draft of the DEI (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion) Plan as developed by the DEI Leadership team.
 - 1. “We believe all students should be able to say, ‘I feel safe, and I belong here’ in RSU 26 schools.”
 - 2. Three Key Priorities:
 - a. Community
 - b. Cultural Consciousness & Competency
 - c. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
 - 3. Student Success Plans for all students, taking a broader look at the whole student, helping students pursue their passions.
 - 4. Communication is an important first step in making the action plan work.
- b. Updated CDC Guidance & COVID Guidelines
 - i. Superintendent Higgins highlighted the changes in the new RSU 26 COVID Guidelines for fall 2022.
 - ii. The COVID dashboard will be expanded to include grade level positive cases, giving parents a better understanding where COVID cases might be circulating.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the changes to the COVID plan as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Noah Charney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

8. Action Items

a. Staff Nominations

i. Hiring Recommendations

1. Co-Curricular nominations

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the slate of Co-Curricular nominations as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Noah Charney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

b. Approval of Donations

i. \$1,000 Donation from the Orono Health Association

ii. \$1,000 Donation from the Mockingbird Foundation

iii. \$5,813.87 Donation the Claim the Stage Fundraiser

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve all three of the donations listed. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Noah Charney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

i. The first meeting of the 22-23 school year will be September 1, at 3:30.

b. United Technology Center

i. Next meeting will be September 1.

c. SPRPCE

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

i. First meeting of the year will be September 8, at 3:30.

e. Facilities/Building committee

i. Roofs and siding projects are finishing up.

f. DEI Leadership Team

i. Brought the Action Plan to the Board for feedback, and will be bringing it to the larger community in the new school year.

10. Other Business

11. Future Agenda Items

a. Change October 4th meeting date to avoid a holiday conflict.

12. Public Comment

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting
 - a. September 6, 2022 - 6:00PM Board meeting

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

15. Adjournment

Brian McGill moved to adjourn the meeting. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Noah Charney- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Vote 5-0

Approved September 6, 2022