

Approved Minutes

Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link:

Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 6:00 pm

× Brian McGill
× Jake Eckert
× Mark Brewer

Noah Charney
× Kevin Roberge

1. Opening

a. Call to Order

Brian McGill called the meeting to order at 6:00.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Agenda Adjustment

i. Add 8c. Approval of Selected Property & Casualty Insurance Bid

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to add item 8c. Approve of Selected Property & Casualty Insurance Bid, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0*

2. Consideration of the Minutes

a. April 5, 2022

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the April 5, 2022 minutes as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0*

3. Approval of Warrants

a. Payroll - 22

b. Warrant - 22

c. Bond- 56

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the slate of warrants as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0*

4. Public Comment

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Meredith Higgins thanks all of the parents, students, and organizations that showed appreciation for teachers and staff during teacher appreciation week. Supt Higgins also thanks all of the RSU 26 staff for all they do. Superintendent Higgins also thanks Jen Parker for all of her hard work and organization in the pooled testing effort.

6. Reports

a. Principal Reports

i. Kristin Briggs, Asa Adams

1. Charlotte's Web festivities are ongoing through the school
2. Everyone enjoyed a visit from the UMaine Women's Soccer team
3. Thanks to all who worked to make teacher appreciation week special for everyone.
4. Asa Adams is in the process of NWEA testing, and 5th grade will begin the State science assessment May 11
5. Kindergarten screening will be held

ii. Sam Runco and Meredith Diamond, OHS

1. Thanks to all of the parents and students for the amazing staff appreciation week.
2. JMG students presented the first "Thrifty Thursday"
3. The RSU 26 community is excited as they begin to use the new

- b. Superintendent Report
 - i. Meredith Higgins, Superintendent
 - 1. Caitlyn Lynch resigned from her position.
 - 2. Lead testing report was sent to the RSU 26 community on Wednesday.
 - a. Information was added to the website with details
 - b. Faucets with above acceptable lead levels have been retested
 - c. Working with a company to begin investigating best remediation strategies

7. Discussion Items

a. COVID Discussion

- i. Superintendent Higgins outlined the number of COVID positive cases in the schools
 - 1. COVID cases have risen at Asa.
 - 2. Penobscot County has been designated as “red” by the CDC, indicating a high transmission rate.
 - 3. Most individuals in the RSU 26 community have been able to return after the 5 day quarantine period
 - 4. No obvious evidence of transmission in the school.
 - 5. Nurse Karen Martin does not recommend a return to universal masking.
- ii. Take home test kits will be sent home to students and staff members
 - 1. District will be reaching out to parents as to how they want their test kits to be delivered.
- iii. Fresh air will be turned up to 100% exchange rate beginning May 11
- iv. More teachers are using outdoor classroom space

8. Action Items

a. Staff Nominations

- i. Co-Curricular nominations
- ii. Hiring Nominations
 - 1. Director of Learning - Susan Smith
- iii. Executive Session - per 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Appointment of officials/appointees/employees

Motion: Brian McGill moved to enter executive session under 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Appointment of officials /appointees /employees, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Brian McGill moved to authorize the hire of, and for the Superintendent to enter into a contract with, Susan Smith as the Director of Learning, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

iv. Probationary Teacher Recommendations

Motion: Brian McGill moved to enter executive session under 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Appointment of officials /appointees /employees, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the renewal of a one year contract for Don Joseph at OHS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the extension of a one year probationary contract for Darci Campbell at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the extension of a one year probationary contract for Castine Barry-Grant at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the extension of a one year probationary contract for Eliza Ford at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the extension of a one year probationary contract for Katie Quirk at OMS and OHS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the extension of a one year probationary contract for Rochelle Bohm at OHS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the extension of a one year probationary contract for Emily Francis at OHS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the extension of a one year probationary contract for Jennifer Mahoney at Asa Adams and OMS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Jordan Talty at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Olivia Murphy at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Jennifer Easler at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Jennifer Murauckas at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Erin Murphy at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Kathleen York at OHS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Jared Webb at OHS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Mathy Terrill at OHS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Jessica Gonyea at Asa Adams, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the movement to continuing contract for Katherine Edes at OMS, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

b. Approval of FY23 Budget Warrant Articles

- i. Annual Budget Meeting will be held May 24 at 6:00 in the new Performing Arts Center

Motion: Brian McGill moved that the Vote entitled, "Vote to Call and Approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting and the Budget Validation Referendum and to Authorize the Notice of Amounts Adopted," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

c. Approval of Selected Property & Casualty Insurance Bid

- i. Recommended that RSU 26 maintains insurance through MSMA
1. MSMA bid includes higher or no aggregate limits and lower deductibles
 2. Builders risk insurance is included
 3. Target Solutions, a training platform is included in the package

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contract with MSMA Property Insurance as presented in their bid, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

- i. Continuing to work through policy review, currently on the "I" policies

b. United Technology Center

- i. The Bridge Academy, which allows UTC students to graduate with a bachelor's degree was discussed
- ii. No additional support is needed from the sending districts

c. SPRPCE

- i. Next meeting will be Thursday, May 12, 2022

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

- i. Long term plan for curricular review and revision

e. Facilities/Building committee

- i. Close to a certificate of substantial completion of PAC
- ii. Finishing up projects across the campus
- iii. Beginning transition to self-managed projects
- iv. Working with track consultant for field and drainage problems

f. DEI Leadership Team

- i. Day long meeting with the DEI team helped get everyone on the same page, and the Team will transition to 2 hour weekly meetings
1. Core focal areas were identified
 - a. Curriculum
 - b. Cultural Responsiveness
 - c. Community
 2. Moving to bring an action plan to the Board before summer break

10. Other Business

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Public Comment

- a. Deb White, teacher, asked how long the lead in water has been a problem in the district on behalf of the students in her advisory.

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. Tuesday, May 24, 2022 - Annual Budget Meeting, in person Orono Performing Arts Center, 6 pm
- b. Tuesday, May 31, 2022 - Regular Meeting, in-person and via Zoom, 6 pm
- c. Tuesday, June 7, 2022 - Board Meeting Goal Workshop
- d. Tuesday, June 14, 2022 - Data Workshop (tentative)
- e. Tuesday, June 21, 2022 - Regular Board Meeting

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

15. Adjournment

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to adjourn the meeting. Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 4-0*