

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING APPROVED MINUTES  
**MVHS CAFETERIA**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024 SCHOOL BOARD 6:30PM**

Live Viewing at: <https://meet.google.com/yok-odcy-hpg>

School Board Members Present: Greg Buccina, Peter DeFilipp, Darcy Klein(online), Dan Hodge, Veronica “Bonnie” Child, Erin Hinkley, Ed Bulger, Allison Long, Chad Culleton, Kristen Chapman

School Board Members Absent: Janet Brennick, Vacant- Hanover Rep., Vacant- Roxbury Rep.

Staff & Community Present: Deb Alden, Matthew Gilbert, Brian Carrier, Margaret Therriault, Jodi Ellis, Carrie Luce, Laura Johnston, Leah Kaulback, Ross Chicoine, Tom Danylik, Craig Milledge, Rachel Henderson, Amanda Provencher, Devin Roberts, Will Harnedy, Students, Staff, Community Members

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**1. Welcome- Jodi Ellis, Principal MES/RES**

- Grade 5 students and teachers are settled in at RES
- Thanked all those helping with the relocation to RES
- 12/12 and 12/13 Pre-K classes visiting Nursing Home
- 12/17 RES-Christmas concert at MVHS Auditorium 9:30 a.m.
- 12/18 MES-Christmas concert at MVHS Auditorium 9:30 a.m.
- Bee Apiary Products for sale at MES, First Saturday every month- Bee Apiary is open to the public
- Thanked Dixfield Discount Fuel, who sponsored students at MES(120) and RES(103)

**II. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

If yes:None

Motion:

Second:

**III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES**

Approve the minutes of the November 12th Meeting of the Western Foothills Regional School Unit No. 10 School Board Meeting Minutes as Written.

Motion: P. DeFilipp

Second: A. Long

Unanimous

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

(This is the time for the public to comment in-person at School Board Meetings)

Amanda Provencher- Disappointment in the lack of a Lease Agreement with Mexico, to get kids back to in-person learning. Expressed lack of support for administration and lack of

transparency from the Superintendent. Expressed desire to continue with Live Viewing of School Board meetings.

## **V. COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

Student Board Representatives Reports - MVHS- Michael Chase- **Absent**

Student Board Representatives Reports - BJSHS- Noah Smith- **Absent**

G. Buccina read a report from Noah:

- New sign at BJSHS looks great!
- First trimester is over with report cards going out soon
- Winter sports have begun
- 12/14 Craft Fair at BJSHS
- 12/11 Math Team- math meet at Edward Little HS
- Had a Music Program dinner with music, Christmas concert 12/10 with snow date 12/12, and Allstate Music Festival results of acceptances
- 12/11 HSES Christmas concert
- College applications, acceptances, and yearbook photos being turned in for Seniors

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

December 18th Finance Committee Meeting at **4:00** at **CO**

December 18th Policy Committee Meeting at **5:00** at **CO**

December 18th BG&T Committee Meeting at **6:00** at **CO**

December 24th Christmas Eve Day Central Office **CLOSED**

December 25th Christmas Day Central Office **CLOSED**

January 1st New Years Day Central Office **CLOSED**

January 13th School Board Meeting at **6:30** at **MVHS Cafe**

January 15th Curriculum Committee Meeting at **4:00** at **BJSHS**

January 15th Personnel Committee Meeting at **5:00** at **BJSHS**

January 15th Policy Committee Meeting at **6:00** at **BJSHS**

January 27th School Board Meeting at **6:30** at **MVHS Cafe**

## **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Personnel Committee- Job description and sub wages on agenda as notices.
2. Policy Committee- “B” policies, BG-R, JLCE, IGA, STIPEND School Board meetings- Technology.
3. Finance Committee- Meeting scheduled for 12/18.
4. Building & Grounds Committee- Meeting scheduled for 12/18.
5. Negotiations Committee update- Technology & District-Wide Staff on agenda for vote. Will begin the Teacher contract in January 2025 and will need 4 Board members to be on the team.
6. Region 9- Outdoor recreation camp at a local pond, received a recognition award, and positive feedback on the new director.
7. Region 11- Tech Challenge on January 8th from 3:00- 5:00.

Cont.

8. Curriculum Committee- Attendance reports data review, administration of NWEA/MTYA assessments, reflective practices by grade level, literacy, PD calendar, CNA review.

9. Superintendent's Report-

- **Budget Development** - She went around to each Board member and hear thoughts on what is most important to each of them as we go into developing the budget for next year (December 9th)

E. Hinkley- Expressed a desire for a "flat budget".

Al. Long- Expressed not wanting any staff positions lost through the budget process and a priority on care and maintenance in all RSU 10 buildings.

C. Culleton- Agreed with E. Hinkley and A. Long, but did mention there are contracted annual increases that may not allow for a "flat budget".

K. Chapman- Expressed following the Capital Improvement Plan according to statute. She suggested article comparison reviews and explanations on cost centers.

V. Child- Expressed agreement with all items mentioned by other Board members.

- **Status of MVMS relocation -**

- 5th graders are in-person (as of Dec. 3rd) at Rumford Elementary thanks to RES staff, 5th grade staff and custodians from across the District including the NV area!!
- Finishing up the relocation and storage at MVHS as well as cleaning, waxing and painting. Next will be partitions and moving 7th/8th grade items and classroom set up. We are hoping for 7th/8th grade students to be in-person on Monday, Dec. 16th.
- At the Old Mexico building mold mitigation is about complete both upstairs and down. Painting of the areas that are cleared has been happening. The State Fire Marshal has approved the plan with Harriman and Landry French is working to get everything lined up to complete it as soon as the Mexico belongings are moved out. Next they will complete the downstairs Food Pantry and then the Food Pantry moves and the upstairs can be completed. We are trying to follow exactly what the State is requiring and what they have agreed to pay for so that it doesn't cost us from our local budget.
- **MVCS** - They are still maintaining the momentum to have us in before 2026. Dec. 3rd took MVCS staff on a tour. They will schedule other tours as we want. Does the School board want to take one before a School Board meeting

Cont.

sometime? Furniture “kick-off” had to be rescheduled from 12/5 to 12/9. The meeting was very positive and gave staff an opportunity to weigh in on some choices and ask questions.

K. Chapman- Asked if work could be done at the Mexico PD without a Lease Agreement?

Superintendent Alden and G. Bussina- Expressed that the Town of Mexico gave their permission to do so.

V, Child- Elaborated on the work being done and efforts put forth to get the building ready ASAP for students and teachers.

- Traditional Snow day on 12/5 - probably didn’t need the full day and could have had a 2-hr. delay, however there was concern with one of plow breakdowns and getting things cleared before the bus drivers have to leave their jobs clearing snow and drive buses. Currently, the last day of school will be June 11th.
- Recently received a grant from Full Plates Full Potential for a new “milk cooler” for MVHS.
- RES received an MEEA Mini Grant awarded \$3000, to purchase boots, snow pants, hats, and mittens, to help create an outdoor learning “gear” closet.
- The River Fund Maine and Sunday River Resort Partner to Expand Winter Sports Access announced another successful collaboration with Sunday River Resort to provide increased ski and snowboard access to hundreds of children and young adults in the region. The Community Access Pass Scholarship Program provides students whose families meet income requirements with free daily access to the Sunday River slopes.
- Superintendent Alden mentioned scheduling a dinner and Board member training, on January 27th, prior to the school Board meeting.

## **VII. SUPERINTENDENT’S CORRESPONDENCE**

### Administrative/Department Reports:

~~JMG-Larry Thornton/Students~~ Mr. Thornton had to cancel. Presentation rescheduled for January 13th Board meeting.

### Resignations/Retirements:

The Superintendent has accepted the resignation of Travis Farrar, Bus Driver/Custodian at BJSJS, effective 11/29/24.

The Superintendent has accepted the resignation of Ian Brennick, Special Education, Ed Tech I at MES, effective 11/29/24.

Cont.

The Superintendent has accepted the resignation of Brittne Chandler, Special Education, Ed Tech I at MES, effective 11/29/24.

The Superintendent has accepted the resignation of Noah Patenaude, as MS JV Boys Basketball Coach at BJSBS.

Appointments:

The Superintendent has appointed Melanie McDiffett, as **INTERIM** Winter Cheerleading Coach at MVMS **2024-2025 season ONLY**.

The Superintendent has appointed Kalen Chase, as JV Boys Basketball Coach at MVHS.

The Superintendent has appointed Shawn Prokey, as HS JV Girls Basketball Coach at BJSBS.

The Superintendent has appointed Alyssa Henderson, as MS Girls Varsity Basketball Coach at BJSBS.

The Superintendent has appointed Patrick Dunham, as MS Boys Varsity Basketball Coach at BJSBS.

New Hires (don't need Board approval):

The Superintendent has hired Laura Tuttle, as a Special Education, Ed Tech I at MVMS.

The Superintendent has hired Julie Madison, as a Special Education, Ed Tech III at HSES.

Employee Probationary Period Completions:

Jason Brown- BD/Custodian at MVMS- 11/20/24

Roger Richard- PT- Custodian at MVMS- 11/28/24

Sharon Searles- Nutrition Services- Production Mgr. at BJSBS- 11/28/24

Policy Regulations and Job Descriptions (don't need Board approval):

Personnel Committee:

Special Services Support Secretary-Job Description-REVISED 11/20/24

Other Substitute Rates of Pay- Reviewed- NO CHANGES

Substitute Teacher Rates of Pay- Reviewed- NO CHANGES

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

None

D. Klein- BED- Asked why this wasn't back on the agenda?

D. Alden- Explained history of BED and gave each Board member previous minutes and draft Policy BED.

Cont.

Continued discussion from Board members on this item with regard to the adoption process and policy. Also, questions regarding conflicting language in Policy BG-R to Policy Committee for discussion and review.

Superintendent Alden and G. Buccina will get clarification on BG-R, and will discuss with the Policy Committee.

#### **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Act to Approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the RSU10 Board of Directors and Technology & District-Wide Staff.

Motion: C. Culleton      Second: P. DeFilipp

K. chapman- Asked a question about the Transportation Specialist with regard to this bargaining agreement.

Superintendent Alden- Explained that WFEA was not in agreement to remove this position from the bargaining agreement it was currently under.

Unanimous

2. Act on First Reading of IGA- Curriculum Development And Adoption.

Motion: V. Child      Second: P. DeFilipp

Unanimous

3. Act on First Reading of IHBK- Life-Sustaining Emergency Care.

Motion: V. Child      Second: P. DeFilipp

K. Chapman- Had concerns with language with regard to DNR and interpretation of the language.

Superintendent Alden- Explained what she believed to be the implied interpretation.

D. Klein- Agreed with what she believed to be the implied interpretation.

Unanimous

4. Act on First Reading of JLCE- First Aid And Emergency Medical Care.

Motion: C. Culleton      Second: V. Child

Unanimous

#### **X. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

P. DeFilipp- Asked about ski equipment at MVMS and the possibility of donating it to Black Mountain of ME?

G. Buccina and Superintendent Alden- Suggested this person reach out to the Athletic Director for RSU 10.

E. Hinkley- Asked about the application process for the Assistant BG&T Director position and the number of applicants.

Cont.

Superintendent Alden- 3 applicants, 2 internal(1 resigned) and 1 external.

(confirmed with BG&T 12/11/24 pt, there were 6 applicants- 3 internal (1 resigned) and 3 external.)

## **XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Move to Enter Executive Session to Consider Student Disciplinary Matter Pursuant to 1 MRS § 405(6)(B).

Motion: V. Child                      Second: G. Buccina                      at 7:37 p.m.

Unanimous

### **EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion: V. Child                      Second: A. Long                      at 7:51 p.m.

Unanimous

### **RESULTS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

(ONLY if vote is required)

Act on Reentry of Expelled Student from School After Action and Develop of a Reentry Plan for the Student as Required by Law and has been completed.

Motion: G. Buccina                      Second: V. Child

Unanimous

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

2. Move to Enter into Executive Session Pursuant to 1 MRS § 405 (6)(A) to Consider a Personnel Matter.

Motion: A. Long                      Second: C. Culleton                      at 7:52 p.m.

Unanimous

### **EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion: C. Culleton                      Second: G. Buccina                      at 8:23 p.m.

Unanimous

### **RESULTS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

(ONLY if vote is required)

Act to Approve the Superintendent's Recommendation of, **James Hodgkin**, as the the Assistant BG&T Director, at a salary of **\$70,000**.

Director for the District.

Motion: G. Buccina                      Second: C. Culleton

Passed                      Opposed: E. Hinkley

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

3. Move to Enter into Executive Session Pursuant to 1 MRS § 405 (6)(C) to Consider the Condition, Acquisition, or Use of Real Estate.

Motion: G. Buccina                      Second: D. Hodge                      at 8:25 p.m.

Unanimous

Cont.

**EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion: A. Long

Second: V. Child

at 8:47 p.m.

Unanimous

**RESULTS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

(ONLY if vote is required) NONE

~~Act to Approve a Lease Agreement with the Town of Mexico.~~

~~Motion:~~

~~Second:~~

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: C. Culleton

Second: V. Child

Unanimous at 8:48 p.m.