

**KIDS REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #2  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**DATE:** THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023  
**PLACE:** RSU 2 CENTRAL OFFICE  
**TIME:** 6:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Donna Seppy; Vice-Chair Chris Myers Asch, Directors Jeff Bickford, Jean Blais, William Burgess, Leanne Burnham, Aimee Campbell O'Connor, Deb Large and Hillary Roberts-Johnson

**MEMBERS ATTENDING REMOTELY** (in accordance with 1 MRSA §403-B): None

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Rick Amero and Asst. Superintendent Kristie Clark; Principals Erik Gray and Gabrielle LaPerriere (remote), Sara Derosby (remote) and Doug Bourget (remote); Kelleen Longfellow, Finance Director; Dr Deb Murphy Special Education Director; Kate Spear, Transportation Director

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER/QUORUM PRESENT**

The Board Chair declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1.1 Introductions of student representatives

**2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 5, 2023**

Director Chris Myers-Asch **motioned** to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 5, 2023, Director Hilary Roberts-Johnson **seconded** the motion, **voted 9 yes 0 no.**

**3.0 ADJUSTMENT(S) TO AGENDA**

- Add to items 7.4, 10.4 and 10.6

**4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

4.1 Public Comment

4.2 MA Principal Erik Gray's report to the Board (below)

**5.0 OLD BUSINESS**

5.1 Approval of Policies

Director Bill Burgess **motioned** to approve the Policy Committee's recommendation of the following policies

- BEDH - Public Participation at Board Meetings
- BDE - Board Standing Committees (slight additional wording)

Director Jeff Bickford **seconded** the motion, **voted 9 yes 0 no.**

5.2 Superintendent Evaluation Tool

Director Leanne Burnham **motioned** to approve the Superintendent Evaluation Tool  
Aimee Campbell O'Connor **seconded** the motion, **voted 9 yes 0 no.**

## 6.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1 Approval of Nominated Personnel as New Hires  
Director Aimee Campbell O’Conner **motioned** to approve the following new hire.  
- Darcy Chase, Elementary World Language in RSU  
Director Bill Burgess **seconded** the motion, **voted 9 yes 0 no.**
- 6.2 Approval of Overnight and Out-of-Country Trips  
Director Jeff Bickford **motioned** to approve the following out-of-state trip.  
- HDHS Art and History trip to Boston - 11/16/23  
Director Jean Blais **seconded** the motion, **voted 9 yes 0 no.**
- 6.3 Approval of creating an Advisory Committee to review Class of 2024 academic achievement levels.  
Director Leanne Burnham **motioned** to approve the Advisory Committee Bill Burgess **seconded** the motion, **voted 9 yes 0 no.**
- 6.4 Nominations of Board representative to the academic achievement levels Advisory Committee (identified above). Bill and Chris expressed interest in participating and were nominated. **Voted 9 yes, 0 no** in favor of Bill Burgess and Chris Myers Asch to participate in the Advisory Committee (identified above)
- 6.5 Approval of Creating an Advisory Committee to explore the feasibility of a Federal Qualified Health Center (FQHC)  
Director Leanne Burnham **motioned** to approve the Federal Qualified Health Center. Director Bill Burnham **seconded** the motion, **voted 9 yes 0 no.** Aimee Campbell O’Connor and Hilary Roberts are nominated, **Voted 9 yes 0 no** in favor of Aimee and Hilary participating in the FQHC advisory committee.
- 6.6 Approval of District Strategic Plan  
Director Bill Burgess **motioned** to approve the Strategic Plan. Director Jeff Bickford **seconded** the motion, **voted 8 yes, 1 opposed.**
- 6.7 Approval of Budget Timeline for FY’25  
Director Chris Myers Asch **motioned** to approve the budget timeline for FY’25. Director Bill Burgess **seconded** the motion, **voted 9 yes 0 no.**
- 6.8 Discussion of Storm Days - Traditional and Remote
- Recommendation to solicit teacher and student feedback
  - Board supports Rick exploring the waiver for 10/26 & 10/27

## 7.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 7.1 Simmons Fund Advisory Committee - 10/10/23 – See minutes below
- 7.2 Budget and Operations Committee  
10/12/23 at RSU Central Office

**Committee Members:** Directors Jeff Bickford, Leanne Burnham, Hillary Roberts-Johnson; Board Chair Donna Seppy and Superintendent Rick Amero

**Committee Members Absent:** None

**Other Board Members Present:** None

**Others Present:** Finance Director Kelleen Longfellow, Assistant Superintendent Kristie Clark

1. Appointment of Committee Chair

Jeff Bickford nominated himself, seconded by Leanne Burnham. Jeff Bickford was appointed Chair by a vote of 4 yes, 0 no.

2. Budget Timeline

3. Review of Outing Club stipend request

This request was not recommended at this time.

4. Additional agenda item: Hall-Dale Track and Monmouth Academy Fields

Superintendent Rick Amero shared concerns brought forward by the Athletic Directors and Administrators regarding the condition of the track at HDHS and the sports fields at MA. The committee approved the request for the Superintendent and Capital Improvement Plan at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kristie Clark, Assistant Superintendent

7.3 Policy Committee  
10/19/23 at RSU Central Office

**Committee Members Present:** Committee Chair Aimee Campbell O'Connor; Directors Bill Burgess, Jean Blais(remote); Board Chair Donna Seppy; Superintendent Richard Amero, Jr.

**Committee Members Absent:** None

**Other Board Members Present:** None

**Others Present:** Assistant Superintendent Kristie Clark, Special Education Director Dr. Deb Murphy

Call to order at 5:36 pm

1. Review of RSU 2 Policies

- BEDH – Public Participation in School Board Meetings
  - o Recommends switching the first two sentences in the first paragraph and add “business” after “Board” in the second sentence and replace “school unit” with “RSU2” throughout the policy.
  - o Recommends the Public Comment Sign-up sheet (get final draft from Donna/Aimee)

- BDE - Board Standing Committees  
 Recommends adding the following language in section D *“In the event of a tie, the board chair or ex officio member shall cast 1 vote”* and the following language to the second sentence in E, *“The Board Chair and Superintendent shall be ex officio (non-voting) members of all standing committees, unless as designated in D above. Any Board member may attend...”*

Next steps:

- Policy IHBEA -Lau Plan
- Superintendent/Assist Superintendent will develop a proposal to bring to the full board for an advisory committee to review policy IKAB

Adjourned at 7:08pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Kristie Clark, Asst. Superintendent

7.4 CATC Advisory Committee

**8.0 FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

- Income and Expense Report

**9.0 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

- Curriculum updates

**10.0 SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

10.1 Newly Hired, Newly Appointed Personnel

Coaches:

- Mike Day, MMS 8th grade Boys basketball
- William Fairchild, 8th grade Girls basketball
- Wade Morrill, MA Boys Varsity basketball
- Dylan Lajoie, MA JV Boys basketball
- Molly Menice, MA Girls Varsity basketball
- Brett Witherell, MA Girls JV basketball
- Shawn Schultz, MA Wrestling
- Kyle Fox, MA JV/Asst. Wrestling
- Laurie Rowe - HDHS Varsity Girls Basketball
- Christen Garnett, HDHS JV Girls Basketball
- Chris Ranslow, HDHS Varsity Boys Basketball
- Shane Abbott, HDMS ‘A’ Boys Basketball
- Troy Gray, HDMS ‘B’ Boys Basketball

10.2 Resignation(s) / Retirement(s)

- Tamia Welch, part-time Library Tech III at DES
- Maureen Hopkins, Spec Ed Tech II at HDES
- Gina Marmanik, Special Ed Teacher at MMS
- Karina Decker, IT Tech in HD schools
- Monique Blake, transfer from Spec. Ed. Adm. Asst to Adm. Asst. to Supt.

- 10.3 Open Positions in the RSU
  - Van Driver at HDMS/HS
  - Special Ed Techs: DES 1.5, HDES 3, HDMS 2, HDHS 2, MMS 4, MA 1
  - Title One Ed Tech III at DES
  - Part-time Library Tech III
  - IT Tech in HD schools
  - K-5 Japanese or Spanish World Language
  - Special Ed Teacher at MMS
  - Central Office and Special Ed Secretary
  - Custodian at MA
  - Custodian at HDHS
  
- 10.4 Upcoming Board Events and Committee Meetings (subject to change)
  - Board Public Forum for Dresden - 11/27/23
  - Budget and Operations Committee Meeting - 11/9/23
  - Board Public Forum for Hallowell/Farmingdale - 11/13/23
  - Policy Committee Meeting - 11/16/23
  - Board Public Forum for Monmouth - 12/6/23
  - Regular Board Meeting - 12/7/23
  
- 10.5 Upcoming Evening Events at Schools
  - DES PTF meeting - 11/8/23
  - DES Family Conferences - 11/9/23
  - HDES Family Conferences - 11/9/23
  - HDMS Parent-Teacher Conferences - 11/8/23
  - MMS Parent-Teacher Conferences -
  - MMS PTO meeting -
  - MA Boosters meeting - 11/1/23
  - MA Fall Sports Award Night - 11/6/23
  - MA Parent-Teacher Conferences - 11/15/23
  - MA Fall Drama Production - 11/16-11/18/23
  - Other: Election Day (Remote Learning for HDES only) - 11/7/23

Other:

  - Veterans' Day observed - 11/10/23 [schools and offices closed]
  - Workshop Day - 11/21/23
  - Thanksgiving Day and Vacation Day - 11/23 and 11/24/23
  
- 10.6 School Field Trips [In-state / School Day]
  - HDES Grade 3 trip to Lazy Acres Farm - 10/18/23
  - HDHS Environmental Team and Civil Rights Team trip to Maine Youth Leadership Conference in Augusta - 11/13/23
  - HDHS JMG trip to Riverview Psychiatric Center - 11/15/23
  - HDHS Class of 2024 trip to Colby College Career Fair - 11/17/23
  - MA trip to Financial Fitness Fair at HDHS - 11/7/23
  - MA MELMAC College/Career Fair at Cony HS - 11/17/23

## 11.0 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Review committee forums

- Follow up school day
- Follow up teacher workshop day before April vacation
- CATC report

**12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION [1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A)]: Personnel Matters**

Director Aimee O'Connor motioned to enter Executive Session at 9:04 p.m., Director Burgess **seconded** the motion, **voted 9-0**. The Board exited the Executive Session at 9:55 p.m. Action taken: none taken.

**13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Director Burnham **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 9:55p.m., Director Burgess **seconded** the motion, **voted 9-0**.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Amero Jr.  
Superintendent of Schools

KC/mb

**Monmouth Academy Principal Erik Gray's Report to the School Board**

Hello from Monmouth Academy, home of the Mustangs.

I would like to highlight the following events/activities that have either taken place and/or will be taking place at Monmouth Academy.

**PSAT testing:** On October 11, 2023 we had nine students complete the PSAT here at Monmouth Academy.

**FALL NWEA Testing for 9th and 10th Graders:** 9th and 10th graders took the NWEA tests on October 17 and 18, 2023. Students tested in their math and English classes.

**Fall Parent Teacher Conferences:** Conferences this year will be on November 17, 2023.

**Day of Caring:** Monmouth Academy students and faculty participated in the annual Day of Caring on October 5, 2023. groups of Mustangs fanned out across the community to give back by volunteering their time and effort to support those that could use help. Many of the projects involved helping some of our elderly residents and the community members I spoke with were very impressed and appreciative of the hard work of our students and faculty.

**Guest Speaker from the Penobscot Nation:** On Wednesday, 10/25/2023, Monmouth Academy hosted Maulian Bryant of the Penobscot Nation as a guest speaker to talk about Native American History and some of the issues and racism Native Americans experience today in our society.

**Fall Sports Teams:** Very successful seasons for the MA Golf team, which finished 3rd in the MVC and 3rd in the state for Class C. The team included Monmouth Academy and Hall Dale High School student

athletes. Reece Beaudoin came in second in Class C Girls golf and will compete in the New England Regionals. The Monmouth-Hall Dale-Winthrop football team is currently 5-3 and gearing up for the playoffs. Girls' soccer finished the regular season with a 8-5-1 record and is the 5th seed for the playoffs. Boys' soccer finished the season with a 12-1-1 record, came in second place for the MVC, and is the second seed for the playoffs. Go Mustangs!

**FBLA:** Monmouth Academy Future Business Leaders of America are set for a great year again. Our membership includes about 29% of the student body this year, up from 25% last year. We are very proud of drawing students because of the leadership and community service options we provide. Four of our members are serving on the FBLA state board, as Secretary, Parliamentarian, Historian and President. We held our annual Car Wash & bake sale during AppleFest, earning money to support our philanthropic donations & members attending conferences. The annual Halloween Block Party planning is underway - we will again host the Trunk or Treat, games and a pancake supper! We are volunteering at monthly PTO meetings offering childcare and will be hosting a Community Supper in December. Eleven members are attending the National Fall Leadership Conference in Providence in November, attending workshops and networking events with other FBLA members from around the country. We look forward to using the lessons learned at the conference to continue growing our membership and offering engaging experiences for our members highlighting community service and leadership.

**Monmouth Academy Drama Club:** The MAD Players (the Monmouth Academy Drama Team) are hard at work preparing for their first performance of the year, "The Underground Venus," a play based on Mark Twain's short story, "The Capitoline Venus." They will perform November 16, 17, and 18 at the Theater at Cumston Hall in Monmouth.

**Homecoming Week and Dance:** Monmouth Academy had its Homecoming Week (September 18 to September 22) with dress up days, sporting events, and culminating with a very well attended Homecoming Dance on the evening of 9/22/2023.

**Monmouth Academy Student of the Month for September/October 2023:** Our September/ October 2023 Student of the Month is Mallory Langlois!

**Upcoming Field Trips:**

- 9th Graders → Maine State Leadership Conference at Hyde School on October 27 with FBLA members and 9th graders
- November 17, 2023: 10th/11th Graders attend Cony College/Career Fair; Time- TBD- stay tuned!
- 10th and 11th Grade Cony/CATC College & Career Fair on 11/17

### Simmons Committee Agenda 10/10/23

Voting Members: Mark Tinkham (Principal), Chris Ranslow (AD/Dean); Joey Gilbert (Farmingdale res rep); Millie Rauch (Hallowell res rep); Chris Asch (Hallowell rep); Hillary Roberts (Farmingdale rep); Dan Burdin (Booster Pres); Jarod Richmond (Coach rep)

Non-Voting Members: Kelleen Longfellow (Business Manager); Randy Parenteau (Maintenance Director); Addison Tinkham (student rep); Keegan Cary (student rep)

There many new members to the committee:

1. The role and function of the Simmons Committee. (Mark)
  - a. Mark reviewed the history of the Simmons Committee and the purpose of the fund
2. Rules and bylaws governing Simmons (Mark)
  - a. Mark explained who the voting members of the committee are and the role of each player.
3. Budget update (Kelleen)
  - a. Received \$55,786.06 disbursement
  - b. Current balance \$90,501
4. Projects completed (Chris)
  - a. Three phase lighting in place
  - b. Lights
  - c. \$9300 for coop (Hockey, Football, swimmer)
  - d. \$7000 for new baseball and softball fences
5. Simmons commitments for the 23-24 SY (Chris)
  - a. \$10-12K for cooperative teams
6. Establishing a 5-year plan
  - a. Track (23-24) - Redo of track
    - i. Quote from 2019 (Current is \$550-600K)
  - b. Tennis Courts (22-23) - \$300K
    - i. Maureen Drouin (LCFW Grant) Fund up to \$490K Land and water conservation
    - ii. Site visit on 10/23 at 10:00
    - iii. Raise money and go to tax players
  - c. Weight room design (24-25)
  - d. Turf (24-25)
  - e. Standards/nets behind soccer goals (23-24)
  - f. Storage shed (24-25)
    - i. The equipment indoors is becoming damaged.
      1. Purchase of equipment \$30k
    - ii. Need to find a storage unit for current
  - g. Snack shack - bathrooms (24-25)
  - h. Side by Side (24-25)
    - i. Host cross country meets
  - i. Fencing (25-26)
  - j. **Ice machine** (24-25)
  - k. **Portable Sound Machine** (24-25)
  - l. Backfield bleachers (25-26)
  - m. **Hoop replacement** (23-24)
  - n. Lights for outdoor court (25-26)
  - o. Indoor batting cage (24-25)
  - p. Redo locker rooms



7. Hillary Johnson - motion to address safety needs and allocate the necessary resources for track.  
Mats and landing systems up to \$35,000  
Joey seconded - motion carries. 7-0
8. Joey -motion to set aside \$25K for rebuilding of snack shack and storage shed via the Maine Cabin masters (Jarod second). Motion carries 7-0
  - a. Initial step of building the dream
  - b. Dog pound
  - c. Mark will create and submit a grant proposal to Maine Cabin Masters.
9. Q & A
10. Adjournment
11. Next Meeting: Tuesday January 16 @ 6:00 pm in the HS library