

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #37

October 18, 2023

A regular meeting of the MSAD #37 Board of Directors was held at 7:00 p.m. on October 18, 2023 at the DW Merritt Elementary School to consider and act on the following business:

Board Members Present: Chris Chartrand, Dan Kane, Debra Murphy, Shelby Greene, David Perham, Kimberly Look, Ronald Kennedy, Tiffany Strout, Leann Beal, Bethany Hartford, Grace Kennedy

Board Members Absent: Steve Dunham

Other persons present: Ken Johnson, Eric Brooks, Carol Ann Lisee, Lorna Greene, Todd Emerson, Marla Bagley, Jonathan MacLeod, Lucille Willey, Lynn Lyford, Elmer Morris, Cameron Worcester, Sara Ippolito, and other citizens.

MINUTES

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Chair Debra Murphy. She noted that Director Dunham was excused.
Pledge of Allegiance
2. **RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 REGULAR MEETING**
ACTION: Motion by Chris Chartrand, second by Grace Kennedy to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2023 regular meeting as printed. Director Hartford abstained; all others voted to approve the minutes.

3. **RE: REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Including Legislative Updates)**
INFORMATION: Supt. Johnson began with an update on the sprinkler system issue at the CWCIT. The estimated figure is not yet available. We need to agree on a date to begin the work to update the system. June of 2024 was suggested, which Supt. Johnson thinks is a good start date. We also need to confirm if we will empty out the space currently being used to store items. If we continue to use this space as storage, there will be a considerable increase in the fire prevention cost. The space is not currently up to code if we continue to use it for storage. Supt. Johnson asked the board if there had ever been discussion about how the space would be used. Director Chartrand said it was hoped to be used as more instructional space as programming expanded. Kim Look provided additional details regarding the layout of the space and how it had been used in the past.

Tiffany Strout asked why this is now out of compliance. Chris Chartrand explained that when the plans were originally established, they were in compliance with the code. However, as we added on space and with changes in the law, we became non-compliant with the code.

Lucille Willey, Director of the CWCIT advised she has submitted and been approved by the State to add two more programs to our offering, Plumbing and Heating although we will probably not be able to offer these in FY 25.

Supt. Johnson advised that there is a liability policy in place for which we could be reimbursed up to \$85,000 for the increased cost of the sprinkler system. He also indicated the current pumps and tanks are sufficient for a limited modification of the sprinkler system.

A motion was made by David Perham, second by Chris Chartrand and voted (697 yes, 257 abstain, 52 absent) to go forward with the sprinkler system expansion with the "attic" space not being used for storage. (Yes votes: Chris Chartrand, Dan Kane, Debra Murphy, Shelby Greene, David Perham, Ronald Kennedy, Bethany Hartford, and Grace Kennedy. Abstain: Kimberly Look, Tiffany Strout and Leann Beal. One absent-Steve Dunham)

Supt. Johnson noted the Curriculum sub-committee will meet before the board meeting to discuss the Social Studies curriculum. They will have additional to provide the board at the next meeting.

He will also be attending several upcoming conferences with a CTE site visit coming up on November 6 and 7.

4. RE: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INFORMATION: Supt. Johnson reported we have about 82% of the budget remaining after a quarter of the fiscal year has passed. Our spending is on track with our budget.

5. RE: ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (Including Professional Development, ESEA, and G/T)
INFORMATION:

Eric Brooks, Harrington Elem. Principal reported 129 students currently enrolled. The anti-bullying presentation the students attended was very well received. The school had its annual soup competition, of which Dawn Fickett and Sara Ippolito judged with Grade Two's Corn Chowder being the winner. State testing is currently underway.

Lorna Greene, DWM Principal reported 92 students. The EdGE program has begun and currently has 33 students. Music class has 20 student participants. Cross Country went well this year, with 33 student athletes. A new Student Council was voted in, and they are planning many events. Principal Greene noted that the anti-bullying presentation saw all of the District K-6 students at DWM which has not happened in quite a few years. For professional development, each school will be participating in an anti-bullying project. ESEA has 134 students. Gifted and Talented students have visited the Downeast Institute, and the Maine Outdoor School will be having presentations.

Carol Ann Lisee, Milbridge Elem. Principal reported having 121 students. K-2 cross country girls placed first this year. The school has 9 students in the junior high band. And grades 4 through 6 have finished their NWEA testing. The Altrusa Foundation came to the school to donate books to the students. School pictures have been taken.

Leann Beal asked if the issues with State testing were due to connectivity. Mrs. Greene indicated her school's issues were due to both connectivity and issues with the State. Mr. Brooks said his were with the State while Mrs. Lisee indicated that hers were with the State, as well.

Todd Emerson, Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School, reported having 315 students. 7th grade attending the EdGE leadership training program. NWEA testing is underway. Grades 9 and 10 held a joint bottle drive which was the biggest to date, earning just under \$6,000. Mr. Emerson was happy to announce the intercom is up and running at this time although there are still some adjustments which are needed. Both the girls Volleyball and boys Soccer are DAC champions this year. Boys Golf qualified for the state and won 2nd place with the PVC. The Volley for the Cure raised \$8,500 this year and will be giving it to one of our past employees, Gabby Montoya whose daughter has cancer.

6. RE: SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. Athletics/Student Activities- Dan Kane voted in as Chair.
- b. Curriculum & Instruction- Supt Johnson is planning to meet with the Curriculum team prior to the next board meeting and they will have some suggestions regarding the Social Studies curriculum.
- c. Negotiations & Grievance- none
- d. Policy & By-laws- none
- e. Facilities, Maintenance, Safety & Transportation- none

7. RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS

INFORMATION: Elmer Morris requested any information on the Maine Civil Liberties policy update. Supt. Johnson noted he is still waiting for some information and has no update at this time.

8. RE: AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

ACTION: Motion by Chris Chartrand, second by David Perham, and voted (unanimously, with no abstentions) to table this article as there are no adjustments necessary.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. RE: ACCEPTANCE OF SNOWPLOWING BID FOR CTE TRAINING SITE

ACTION: Motion made by Chris Chartrand, second by Leann Beal and voted with one abstention (Ron Kennedy), to accept the bid from Snow Be Gone to plow the CTE training site at Cherryfield Foods. The bid was \$800 per storm with addition of \$300 for salt/sand if approved. Kim Look noted that she had heard the company did not want salt put down but that sand was OK. Supt. Johnson will have someone follow up with Cherryfield Foods to confirm this.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. RE: HIRING LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE HEALTH TEACHER AT NHS

ACTION: Motion by Chris Chartrand, second by Dan Kane and voted (unanimously, with no abstentions) to approve the hiring of Ashley Guptill as the long-term sub for health at NHS.

2. RE: HIRING JR. HIGH BASKETBALL/CHEERING COACHES

ACTION: Motion by Chris Chartrand, second by Shelby Greene voted (unanimously, no abstentions) to accept the slate of coaches proposed by Supt. Johnson:

School	Jr. High Boys' Basketball	Jr. High Girls' Basketball	Jr. High Cheering
DW Merritt	Joe Ocampo	Sally MacLean with Anna Mathews as volunteer assistant	Amanda Kowalsky
Harrington	Cameron Worcester	Lurena Perry	Lisa Hinkle
Milbridge	Richard Parker	Donald Parker/Madison Leighton (co-coaches)	Brienne Fraser

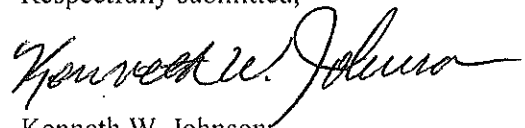
3. RE: HIRING SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

ACTION: Motion by Chris Chartrand, second by Dan Kane and voted (unanimously, no abstentions) to approve hiring of the following substitute teachers as recommended by the Superintendent: Joyce Gray, Elizabeth Olcott, and Clair Weinberg.

4. RE: ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Motion by Tiffany Strout, and voted (unanimously, with no abstentions) to adjourn the meeting at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth W. Johnson
Superintendent of Schools

OCTOBER 18, 2023 MEETING SUMMARY

A. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

2. APPROVED minutes of September 27, 2023, regular meeting
8. NO AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS needed

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACCEPTED bid by Snow Be Gone for plowing/sanding of CTE training site.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVED hiring long-term substitute, Ashley Guptill, for health teacher at NHS
2. APPROVED hiring Boys' Jr. High Basketball Coaches—Joseph Ocampo (DWM), Cameron Worcester (HN), and Richard Parker (ML); Girls' Jr. High Basketball Coaches—Sally MacLean (DWM) with Anna Matthews as Volunteer Assistant, Lurena Perry (HN), and Madison Leighton and Don Parker (ML Co-coaches); Jr. High Cheering—Amanda Kowalsky (DWM), Lisa Hinkle (HN), and Brienne Fraser (ML)
3. APPROVED hiring substitute teachers: Joyce Gray, Elizabeth Olcott, and Clair Weinberg