

RSU #26 Board of Directors Meeting  
Orono Town Council Chambers  
Tuesday, June 19, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

- x Brian McGill, chairperson
- x Jacob Eckert, vice-chair
- x Mark Brewer
- \_ Michelle Smith
- x Erin Ellis
- x Eli McGill, Student Advisor
- x Katie King, Student Advisor
- x Ross Cobo-Lewis, Alternate Student Advisor

### 1. Opening

#### A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### B. Pledge of Allegiance

#### C. Agenda Adjustments

- add 8.E. Approval of Assessment Warrants and Installment Schedules
- add 6.A.iii. Student Representative on Facilities Committee
- add 8.B.ii. Second Reading GCF – Hiring

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the agenda with adjustments**, and Mark Brewer seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 (Ellis not present for vote)

### 2. Consideration of the Minutes

#### A. June 6, 2018

There were no corrections suggested.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the minutes as is**, Jake Eckert seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0 (Ellis not present for vote)

### 3. Approval of Warrants

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the warrants as presented**, and Jake Eckert seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 (Ellis not present for vote)

### 4. Acknowledgements

- Congratulations on making it through the School Year!
- Thank You to everyone running the Extended School Year Programs in all three buildings.
- Graduation was a success – many nice comments have been given to Reg Ruhlin and his staff, and to all the seniors!
- Thank You to Leah Tuffley for taking notes tonight.
- Congratulations to all students and teachers
- Board Member Michelle Smith's last night...her resignation is for the end of June. She's moving to NY – very exciting! Thank you for the 3 full years of service and your valuable discussions.

## 5. Public Comment

Jim Bulteel, OHS English Dept: Expressed concerns about not hiring for the vacant Part-Time ELA position. He spoke of the impact he and his colleagues believed would not benefit OHS students. He presented some anecdotal data about class sizes and choices of electives. He expressed concern for larger ELA class sizes. He expressed that the department is looking for opinions from the board which programs they will have to cut out – if the part-time position. Brian briefly commented about the Board's reasons for contemplating not filling a vacant position at this time.

Alan Cobo-Lewis, parent: Thanked the school board members for their swift actions with recent issues (see June 6 minutes for more details)

## 6. Presentations (Video starts here)

### A. Superintendent

Reported on:

- 1.) a recent donation from NHS – 5 picnic tables from fundraisers to replace ones that needed to be replaced. This is an internal club, not external donation, so the donation does not need to be approved by the board. Valued around \$800 – thank you to Ms. Goodall and those students.
- 2.) Sean Malone and Meredith Higgins have been working on an RSU26 YouTube channel, separate from the town's channel. They will continue to work on increased social media – all streamed through the website. The town will be asked to post our link on their website.
- 3.) Spring Sports Review (packet item) – celebration of accomplishments.
- 4.) 2 resignations: Leah Tuffley worked in Special Services for 12 years, and Darcie Fournier worked at Asa Adams for 15 years, 9 years as PE Teacher and 6 years as Principal (Executive session can be granted if asked for by a board member for the administrator position).
- 5.) Sean Malone & Meredith – participated in a webinar regarding copiers – discussion about contracts and the list of current needs was reviewed. All present “voted” in favor of moving forward as Meredith and Sean have presented and suggested they should. Lawyers have reviewed all the paperwork and offered feedback. Meredith talked through the bid that was received today.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **authorize the superintendent to negotiate a contract with KNBS** and for the board chair, or in his absence the vice chair, to sign that contract if the terms are acceptable. Erin Ellis seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0

- 6.) Comprehensive Needs Assessment – Section 6 needs more work, it's a good starting point. There are some areas we would like to enhance our data collection. Made sure the goals would tie into our Federal Grants. Due July 1, 2018. Many members participated.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **support the submission of a version of the comprehensive needs assessment** with minor changes. Mark Brewer seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0

Mark Brewer appreciated Meredith Higgins for not choosing to simply go through the motions on this project. She worked diligently to make the process and information meaningful. Mark says this is a great example of the great teamwork that can happen.

- 7.) Summer Hiring Policy GCF – there are two options for summer hiring (after June meeting thru 1 week prior to August meeting): Option one is a 5 day memo approach or option two is to call a special meeting. Would like a shorter time, so as to avoid losing candidates.

Motion: Brian moved to **authorize hiring with a consent process as described in the policy, but modified to be a 2-day window instead of 5 days**. Mark Brewer seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0  
A special board meeting will still need to be called for the open Principal position.

8.) Replacement of student representative on the Facilities committee. Both student representatives were interested. Both are invited to attend the 6/20/18 meeting and we will do an informal process over the summer to formally assign a student representative.

## 7. Discussion Items

- E. OHS English Teacher Vacancy (Part-time): The Board asked Reg Ruhlin to come to the stand and speak the consideration of whether or not to fill the vacancy.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **request the administration NOT to fill the half-time ELA position for the coming year. Mark Brewer seconded the motion.** Mark Brewer commented that he feels the current model that the ELA department uses should still be able to happen, it will have a about 6 less choices, but there are still many choices available. Don Joseph spoke in favor of filling the half-time position. Brian noted that this decision has nothing to do with quality of the programming in the ELA department. It is purely a financial risk to fill that position at this time. Vote: 4-0

- E. ESEA – Federal Grants submitted every summer. Projection of how we will use these funds will be submitted to the school board. Title 1 no changes, slight changes in Title 2, Title 4 will focus on STEM K-8. This discussion serves as the public hearing.

## 8. Action Items

- A. Staff Nominations & Resignations:

- i. Hiring Recommendations

1. Central Office Administrative Assistant – Raechelle Edmiston-Cyr

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **hire Raechelle Edmiston-Cyr** as the Central Office Administrative Assistant, seconded by Erin Ellis. Vote: 4-0

- ii. Co-Curricular nominations (see list): The list includes all of the OHS Fall Stipends and all of the OMS Stipends for the year – that are known thus far.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt the slate of co-curricular nominations as presented,** seconded by Erin Ellis. Vote 4-0

- iii. Principal Resignation Discussion (from 6.A.4. above):

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **go into Executive Session under 1 MRSA 405(6a) Employment of Personnel,** seconded by Mark Brewer. Vote 4-0 (7:40p-7:44p) Meredith will involve as many people as possible during the hiring process, per policy GCF-R, Hiring Administrators. The board would like her to move ASAP. Mark Brewer thanked Darcie Fournier for her years of work.

- B. Policies

- i. Second Reading – ACAA-A – Transgender Student Guidelines: Changes were made to D2 and D3, as well as some language in E1 regarding training staff.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt policy ACAA-A as amended,** seconded by Erin Ellis. Vote: 4-0 The district will look at software issues with student names. Drummond Woodsum has also given some guidance and templates to use for student plans and staff development.

- ii. Second Reading – GCF – Hiring: No changes since first reading.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt policy GCF, GCF-R, GCFA-R, GCFB-R, GCFC-R, and GCFD-R as presented,** seconded by Erin Ellis. Vote: 4-0 Mark Brewer reminded them to edit blank sections 5 and 6 from GCFA-R.

C. Lunch Prices 12018-2019

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the lunch price changes for 2018-19 as presented**, and Erin Ellis seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 Ben Jacobson, Food Services Director, did a nice job outlining the need for an increase. Meredith talked about adult meal prices.

D. Goals for 2018-2019: Discussion led to the following list of goals:

- Facilities (traffic, parking lot lights)
- ~~Scheduling~~ (board agreed to drop as a formal goal, but continue to monitor)
- Fiscal sustainability
- Building cross stakeholder teamwork/collaboration
- ~~Community/University connections and relations~~ (combine and re-name Alumni and external relations)
- ~~Communication outside school community (alumni, social media)~~ (combine and re-name Alumni and external relations)
- **Alumni and external relations**
- Sustainable curriculum process
- Continuing to hire excellent ~~teachers~~ staff
- **Develop K-12 framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills** (lifelong work habits, soft skills, growth mindset, social/emotional intelligence, character building...)

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt this list of goals as discussed**, seconded by Erin Ellis. Vote 4-0

E. Approval of Assessment Warrants and Installment Schedules

Motion: Brian McGill made a motion **that the warrant on assessment of tax and the assessment schedule and notice of installments for the Town of Orono, prepared by the Treasurer for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 be approved and be issued in form presented to this meeting and that the Treasurer be authorized and directed to deliver to the Town of Orono its warrant for assessment of tax and it's assessment schedule and notice of installments.** Erin Ellis seconded this motion. Vote: 4-0 Discussion: \$15,000 correction

## 9. Subcommittee Reports

- A. Policy
- B. United Technology Center
- C. SPRPCE
- D. Curriculum Subcommittee
- E. Facilities – Meeting tomorrow night. A sense of priorities will be ordered – PDT will hear feedback before developing more options. Meredith listed the 11 high level categories that the committee will be prioritizing at the meeting, the board would like to see the finalized list before it goes off to PDT. The next step for PDT is our feedback as to which area(s) we want them start working up some preliminary plans. Needs have emerged from the stakeholder feedback, the needs analysis report and the engineering reports. Next Step: Prioritized list from facilities committee will be circulated to the board members in July.

## 10. Other Business

**11. Future Agenda Items**

**12. Public Comment**

**13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meetings**

- A. August 7, 2018 – Board Meeting @ 6:00pm, Town Council Chambers
- B. July Meeting may be scheduled
- C. November 6, 2018 is election night, move to November 13, 2018?

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **change the 11/6/18 meeting to 11/13/18, regular time and location**, seconded by Mark Brewer. Vote 4-0

**14. Request for Information and Follow-up**

**15. Executive Session 1 MRSA 405(6a) Investigation of Complaints**

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **go into executive session under 1 MRSA 405(6) (A)**, seconded by Erin Ellis. Vote 4-0.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:47 p.m.

**16. Executive Session 1 MRSA 405(6a) Investigation of Complaints**

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **go into executive session under 1 MRSA 405(6) (A)**, seconded by Mark Brewer. Vote 4-0.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.

**17. Adjournment**

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m.**, and Mark Brewer seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Meredith Higgins