

RSU 26 Board of Directors Meeting  
Orono Town Council Chambers  
Tuesday, April 9, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

X Brian McGill, chair  
X Mark Brewer  
X Erin Ellis.  
X Clarice van Walsum, Student Advisor

X Jacob Eckert, vice-chair  
X Geoff Wingard  
X Kayin Jaksa, Student Advisor

**1. Opening**

**a. Call to Order**

*Brian McGill called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm*

**b. Pledge of Allegiance**

**c. Agenda Adjustments**

**i.** Add item 8d, School Calendar Revision and Make-up Day proposal and approval

**ii.** Add item 8e, Approval of May 3 Meeting date for Warrant Signing meeting

**iii.** Add item 7c, Approval of Student Board Representatives

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve agenda adjustment. Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

**2. Consideration of the Minutes**

**a. March 19, 2019**

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve minutes as presented. Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

**b. March 22, 2019**

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve minutes as presented. Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

**3. Approval of Warrants**

**a. Payrolls – 19, 20**

**b. Warrants – 19, 19ma, 19ci, 20**

**c. ME Pers – March 2019**

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve warrants. Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

**4. Public Comment- none**

**5. Acknowledgements**

**a.** Geoff Wingard read statement thanking OMS and OHS as well as regional first responders for events that happened on March 26 for the lockdown. (handout included in packet)

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to adopt Geoff Wingard's statement as a resolution of the Board. Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

**b.** Erin Ellis complimented Math Night at Asa Adams

**c.** Jake Eckert acknowledged both the Orono Middle School and Orono High School Show Choirs for winning States.

**d.** Brian commended the OMS math team

**e.** Meredith Higgins acknowledged those who helped with the March 21 Community Forum. Shana Goodall and National Honor Society members— Itai Boss, Lauren Melanson, Sam Cartwright, Leah Ruck, Alex Brown, Patrick Tyne, Krista Bass, Audrey Smith, and Connor Robertson-- for providing child care; Ben Jacobson for preparation of refreshments; Raechelle Cyr for organizing and advertising; Custodial staff for all that they do.

Thanks to those who stepped up on the March 22 teacher workshop day: Miranda Batchelder, Diana Smart, Deb White, Emily Jackson Sanborn, Brad Martin, Sean Malone, Lisa Earhart, Peter

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- Buener, Holly Gunn, Troy Wagstaff, Darren Akerman, Reg Ruhlin, Heath Kennie, Sam Runco, Chris Crocker, Margie Innis, Chris Luthin, Brian McGill and Mark Brewer
- f. Mark Brewer- Thanks to those that came out for OMS principal search committee

6. Presentations

- a. Superintendent Report – Meredith Higgins
- i. Lockdown-
    - 1. Thanks to first responders
    - 2. Thanks to staff for jumping in quickly to make sure students were safe.
    - 3. 3 things to take away from the lockdown:
      - a. Tweaks to RSU 26 Emergency Plan- things that you can't practice
      - b. Age appropriate safety protocols
      - c. Sharing more information with parents
  - ii. Adult Education Program
    - 1. Longtime director, Matt Tardie, passed away unexpectedly.
    - 2. Partnership between Hampden, Old Town, and Orono
    - 3. Coming together with superintendents of other partners to plan for the future
- b. STEM/University Partnership Report- Reg Ruhlin
- i. Jeff Owen is the staff member charged with finding ways to interact with the University of Maine.
  - ii. Students take classes, teachers bring in speakers, field trips to UMO, International program works with the University, Humanities collaborative, Graduation with Distinction. Arts programs and graduation held at UMO.
  - iii. University willing to work with RSU 26 in many ways
  - iv. Brian McGill- Perhaps a directory of UMaine partnerships would help? Incentive to make connection stronger.
  - v. Clarice van Walsum- recommends a “summit” between UMaine and RSU 26 staff to help bridge more organic relationships.
  - vi. Geoff Wingard- list of little things that are road blocks and how to overcome these
- c. Approval of Student Representatives Clarice van Walsum and Kayin Jakska

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve student representatives.** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

7. Discussion Items

- a. Facilities Project/Bond
- i. Review new information received from PDT on April 5<sup>th</sup>
    - 1. Handout with refined costs (packet), nothing has changed
    - 2. How to respond if the bond goes over \$17 million
    - 3. More information will be at April 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting
  - ii. Review timeline & process for bond referendum (handout)
  - iii. Informative brochure to be sent
    - 1. Trifold to mail, plus more information for Orono community
- b. Budget Discussion FY20
- i. Timeline review
    - 1. Meeting with town council on April 23
  - ii. Review updated expected revenues/expenditures
    - 1. Budget Worksheet Handout
      - a. Three pieces of information recently received:
        - i. Tuition Numbers: 36 tuition students increase of 11 from 2018-19

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- ii. Insurance numbers: savings of \$70,000
- iii. Refining other revenue sources (special education, international students, etc.)
- iii. Discuss list of potential reductions
  - 1. Meredith Higgins went item by item through a handout with list of potential budget reductions
  - 2. Board members went through list voting on which items should be cut.
  - 3. Discussion:
    - a. Instructional coach- CUT
      - i. Meredith Higgins: See what the need is after the realignment of the OMS principal job.
      - ii. Brian McGill: would like a math instructional coach
      - iii. Mark Brewer: Asa has made great strides in math—not convinced a coach is needed
    - b. Flatlining supplies- BUDGET \$3000 FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL, CUT \$19000
      - i. Meredith looked at the supply budget- supply has increased 62% since 2014, money has been left over each year
      - ii. Portion out the budget increase, not necessarily flatlining it.
      - iii. \$5000 is part of the Asa iPad request
    - c. Stipends- CUT FILLING FOR EVERYTHING RECOMMENDED EXCEPT THE GAMING CLUB
      - i. Discussion of some stipend positions with waning student interest
    - d. STEM/UMaine Partnership- CUT HALFTIME POSITION
      - i. Stipend v. part time teacher position
        - 1. Stipend model can be spread through the schools
        - 2. Spend time in the fall visioning out the UMaine partnership
    - e. Asa Rugs and Tables- CUT
      - i. Erin Ellis: Where do these fall in the maintenance schedule?
        - 1. These will be added to maintenance schedule in the next few years
    - f. SEL (Social/Emotional Learning) Books- KEEP
      - i. Mark Brewer: Shared touchstone is essential
      - ii. Erin Ellis: Key area that needs to be addressed
    - g. Soccer Uniforms- KEEP
      - i. Mark Brewer: Uniforms are falling apart, and skipping this year pushes all uniform purchase off cycle.
    - h. Reduced bike repair budget of \$600, and talk with Chad Kirkpatrick
    - i. **Cut budget \$173,322, increase from fiscal year 2018-19 \$23,547**
  - 4. Capital improvement budget: new budget item with upgraded PA and phone system
    - a. Take \$100,000 out of unassigned to cover capital improvement and difference in 2020 vs 2019 budget.
- c. OMS Principal Search Update- no update

8. Action Items

- a. Staff Nominations
  - i. Co-curricular Recommendations

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve staff nominations as presented.** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

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ii. OMS Principal Hiring Recommendation (if available)-none

b. 2019-20 School Calendar Approval

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve 2019-2020 school calendar.** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 4-1

c. Policies

i. First reads

1. BDA - Board Organizational Meeting
2. BDG - School Attorney/Legal Service

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **mark policy BDA as first read.** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **mark policy BDG as first read.** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

ii. Second reads

1. IKEB - High school credit for middle school students

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **adopt policy IKEB.** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

d. School Calendar Revision and Make-up Day proposal and approval

- i. Seniors have fallen below the necessary days needed for graduation
- ii. Handout with plan to build in make-up hours

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the calendar revision and make-up day plan.** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

e. Approval of May 3 Meeting date for Warrant Signing meeting

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **add a Board Meeting May 3 at 4:00.** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

9. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Policy Subcommittee
- b. United Technology Center- snowed out
- c. SPRPCE- approved annual budget
- d. Curriculum Subcommittee- meeting on Thursday, looking to next year
- e. Facilities- flatware coming back the Monday after break
- f. Wellness Subcommittee

10. Other Business- none

11. Future Agenda Items- none

12. Public Comment- none

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. Tuesday, April 23, 2019, Orono Town Council Chamber, 5:00 pm - Meeting with Town Council
- b. Tuesday, April 23, 2019, Orono Town Council Chamber, 7:00 pm - Regular Board Meeting

14. Request for Information and Follow-up- none

15. Executive Session 1 - MRSA 405(6)(F) - Lockdown Debriefing

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **go into executive session under 1 - MRSA 405(6)(F).** Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

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*Entered executive session at 9:45*

*Returned from executive session at 10:40*

**16. Adjournment**

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to **adjourn meeting**. Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

*Meeting adjourned at 10:41*