

Minutes

RSU 26 Board of Directors Meeting
Orono Town Council Chambers
Tuesday, February 5, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

X Brian McGill, chairperson
X Jacob Eckert, vice-chair
X Mark Brewer
X Geoff Wingard

X Erin Ellis
 Katie King, Student Advisor
X Eli McGill, Student Advisor
 Ross Cobo-Lewis, Student Advisor Alternate

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order

Brian McGill called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Agenda Adjustments
 - i. Move item 7.b Facilities to 8.e - Facilities - Determine Scoping for PDT Drawings & Cost Estimation
 - ii. Agenda Adjustment: Add item 7.c - Preliminary Budget Discussion

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

2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. January 22, 2019 Minutes

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve minutes as presented with one correction, the street name mentioned in the minutes "Woodbridge," should be "Westwood." Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Payrolls – 15, 16
- b. Warrants – 15
- c. ME Pers – January 2019

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

4. Public Comment- none

5. Acknowledgements

- a. Geoff Wingard congratulated students at OHS for Variety Show, as well as the Student Council advisors and staff.
- b. Erin Ellis seconded congratulations on the Variety Show, and send good luck to OMS Cross Country skiers.
- c. Jake Eckert congratulates the OMS chess team
- d. Brian McGill sends kudos to the OMS math team, all facilities subcommittee members.
- e. Meredith Higgins thanks staff who worked hard on preliminary budget. She also thanks the group of teachers and administrators who went to a technology conference in Florida. Their dedication is appreciated and Ms. Higgins is looking forward to all they'll bring back and share.
- f. Mark Brewer thanks the OMS/OHS facilities committee, and thanks Leslie Winchester as the Class of 2020 class advisor for coordinating the recent Crockpot Challenge Fundraiser.
- g. Eli McGill mentioned the Student Council Variety show, which was primarily student led.

6. Presentations

- a. Superintendent Report
 - i. School Resource Officer Contract
 - 1. Happy with arrangement, and glad to have the SRO we have.
 - 2. School Board members should give Meredith Higgins any feedback on SRO contract as soon as possible, as she is signing it in the next couple days
 - ii. New minimum wage, adjustment needed for Ed Tech and Admin Asst substitutes, recommending that all sub jobs go to \$75/day

Motion: Brian McGill moved, effective retroactively to January 1st, all subs get paid \$75/day, Erin Ellis seconded.
Vote 5-0

- 1. Advertising has been begun for 2019-20 Student Advisors to the Board

- b. Auditor Presentation – Brantner, Thibodeau & Associates
 - i. Thanks the staff for their cooperation.
 - ii. Unmodified opinion
 - 1. Cleanest possible
 - iii. No finding this year
 - iv. Process for selling tickets at games-
 - 1. Tickets used as control-- good system
 - v. Kudos to Lynn Gray

7. Discussion Items

- a. OMS Principal Job Description
 - i. Bring back stipend position for athletics at OMS, replacing the majority of that piece of the principal job with curriculum development- Meredith assigning projects dealing with curriculum. Net fiscal impact is adding \$6000 stipend.
 - ii. Mark Brewer- wants to ensure the MS Principal takes the lead on supervising the coaching staff

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the OMS principal job as described with the separation of Principal and OMS Athletic Director, Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

- ~~b. Facilities-~~ Moved to item 8.e
- c. Preliminary Budget Discussion
 - i. 5.2% increase from last year
 - ii. Fewer optional items this year
 - iii. Items of Note:
 - 1. Year 3 of CBA
 - 2. More stipends
 - a. 8 pilot stipends this year
 - 3. Special Ed prices rise
 - iv. SpEd and facilities are biggest increases
 - 1. SpEd is mandated
 - 2. Deferred improvements are why Facilities Budget is so much
 - v. Brian McGill would like to see a math coach in the budget for 19-20
 - vi. Meredith Higgins notes that the Social Work position is a priority
 - vii. Geoff- about the 5th grade position. Supt. Higgins indicated that we had difficulty filling the half-time teaching position last year and tried just before school to hire a full-time Ed Tech, but the applicant pool was slim at that point. In looking at the current 4th grade numbers, we are recommending budgeting for a full time EdTech with the hopes that in advertising early, we can get a good applicant pool for this position.
 - viii. Mark Brewer asked if the legal fees could be lowered? Supt. Higgins replied that the

- ix. 2019-20 school year is a negotiation year, therefore the legal fees are needed.
Hope to have larger base in outlying towns to drive up tuition.

8. Action Items

- a. Staff Nominations
i. Co-curricular Recommendations

Motion: Brian McGill moved to ***co-curricular nominations as presented***, Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

- b. Board approval of Grant Funds
i. Orono Education Foundation

Motion: Brian McGill moved to ***approve of OEF distribution of funds in the amount of \$4,953.40 from the Bert A. MacKenzie Fund, \$1,327.81 from the Dorothy Wilson Fund, and \$810.00 from the Orono Educational Fund.***
Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

- ii. Maine Community Foundation Grant to Asa Adams

Motion: Brian McGill moved to ***approve of MCF grant to Asa Adams***, Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

- c. PowerSchool Contract Approval
i. Start-up costs found in budget, a transfer is needed as an audit adjustment

Motion: Brian McGill moved to ***approve PowerSchool Contract, authorizing Meredith Higgins to sign***, Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

- d. ESP (Educational Support Personnel) Wage Adjustment
i. MOUs- found in packet
1. Error in step spreadsheet, and fixing the pay scale for the steps in people off the chart.

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

- e. Facilities - Determine Scoping for PDT Drawings & Cost Estimation
i. Timeline for referendum and outlined in Board Packet
ii. Geoff Wingard- PAC
1. Reduced the scope of the PAC
2. Seating for 400 people- 350 fixed seats and 50 flex seats
3. Reduced size of the stage
4. Backstage support spaces remain
5. Makes it so Orono PAC can host events, revenue generating
6. 700K over Board's target budget.
iii. Erin Ellis- Asa
1. Cafeteria separate from Gym space.
2. More space for Specials-- meeting space, teaching spaces, small group spaces, Special Ed
3. New kitchen, putting cafeteria beside gym
4. Addition at the front to house office, conference room, nurse & specialist spaces
a. Adds safety to the school, vestibule to talk to admin before entering the school
5. Price includes new siding for the school in self managed project
iv. Jake Eckert- Athletics
1. New track and building for concessions/restroom
v. Mark Brewer- OMS/OHS

1. Unfair things included in their budget (Central office, square footage)
2. OMS- few plans to change, PDT thinks that OMS will be a good candidate for improvement funds
3. Repairs
 - a. Tier One- Pressing concerns pointed out by PDT
4. Renovating Steam area for relocation of Central Office
5. New kitchen space along with new kitchen equipment
6. Cafeteria- new or renovating- significant work either way
7. Overhaul of OHS Admin space
 - a. New secure entry
 - b. "Making" space
8. Band room, chorus space (out of Steam Room, near new PAC space)
9. New parking
10. New construction for 4 new classrooms
- vi. \$29 million in original cost from PDT, Board aimed for \$14.4 million, committees are at \$20 million
 1. Costs are generalized, hope that cost will come down with getting more specific cost estimates
 2. Cost estimates are in dollars per square foot
- vii. Erin Ellis wants to see numbers before reducing the scope any more.
- viii. Mark Brewer thinks that the Board is not in a position to take anything out until we have the numbers, then then subcommittees need to be prepared to make hard decisions.
- ix. Brian McGill and Meredith Higgins will convey sentiments to PDT, next steps will be taken to get more concrete numbers.
- x. Meeting with all committees present will be held February 25.

9. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Policy Subcommittee
 - i. Meeting Thursday, small tweaks to several policies
- b. United Technology Center
 - i. Meeting coming up
- c. SPRPCE
- d. Curriculum Subcommittee
 - i. Meeting February 14
- e. Facilities
- f. Wellness Subcommittee
 - i. No meeting
 - ii. Great job
 - iii. First yoga class for teachers on Friday, February 1

10. Other Business

- a. Brian McGill shared the town position on a bill in legislature this session which allows for dissolution of single town RSU's. The Town Council has taken the position of supporting this bill with the caveat that dissolution will be put up to a town vote, not a top down decision. He also indicated he reached out to the School Board Chairs of two other districts impacted by this - Madison & Old Orchard Beach. He has only heard back from Madison's Board Chair who was unaware of the bill, but concerned about it.

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Public Comment

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at the Orono Town Council Chambers at 6 p.m.

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

15. Executive Session (1 - MRSA 405(A) - Superintendent evaluation

Motion: Brian McGill moved to enter Executive Session under (1 - MRSA 405(A), Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0

Entered Executive Session at 8:15

Exited Executive Session at 9:09

16. Adjournment

Motion: Brian McGill moved to Adjourn , Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 4-0 (Geoff Wingard left the meeting)

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10