

MINUTES
RSU 26 Board of Directors Meeting
Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2020, 6:00 pm

X Brian McGill
X Jake Eckert
X Mark Brewer

X Erin Ellis
X Leo Kenney

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order

Brian McGill called the meeting to order at 6:03

- b. Pledge of Allegiance
c. Agenda Adjustment

2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. June 16, 2020
b. June 23, 2020
c. July 1, 2020
d. July 22, 2020

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the June 16, 2020 minutes as presented**, Erin Ellis seconded*

***Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the June 23, 2020 minutes as presented**, Erin Ellis seconded*

***Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the July 1, 2020 minutes as presented**, Erin Ellis seconded*

***Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the July 22, 2020 minutes as presented**, Erin Ellis seconded*

***Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Payrolls – 3
b. Warrants – 26c, 3, 3ci,
c. ME Pers – July 2020
d. Bond - 18

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the slate of warrants as presented**, Erin Ellis seconded*

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

4. Public Comment

- a. An Asa parent has concerns about the number of children per classroom in second grade.
- b. Christina Twaits, parent, has concerns about RSU 26 students returning to school before UMaine students have returned to campus and been tested.

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Erin Ellis thanks all of the staff that started to come back.
- b. Leo Kenney sends thanks from a community member for the gift cards sent out from the RSU 26 community.
- c. Brian McGill appreciates the administrative and central office teams for their hard work all summer.

6. Discussion Items

a. School Reopening plans

- i. Meredith Higgins gave the school board a handout with fall 2020 classroom enrollment numbers
- ii. Symptom check document has been developed and is being distributed to families by each school
- iii. Plans for a positive COVID-19 case in the RSU 26 school system have been added to school and staff handbooks
 1. School with confirmed case will be closed for 2 days to enable cleaning and contact tracing.
 2. Plan will evolve with more information from the state
- iv. Core instructional framework
 1. All students will receive synchronous learning everyday.
 2. Return to long-standing grading practices
 3. Streamline delivery of instruction
 4. Each school will develop their own attendance practices
- v. The Board discussed the timing of RSU 26 student return coinciding with UMaine student return to Orono
- vi. Sports and extra-curricular plans
 1. Non-Athletic: Looking for input from co curricular sponsors on how their activity can work within a social distancing framework.
 2. Athletic:
 - a. Summer conditioning has gone well
 - b. Applying physical education 14' distance requirements to fall

- sports make it hard to see how sports can happen
- c. More information will be coming from the MPA on fall sports decisions
- d. Waiting for more guidance from the MPA

vii. Staffing change request

- 1. Asa is asking to increase the Asa Art teacher position from .83 FTE to a full time position for the 20-21 school year so make scheduling during remote learning times.
 - a. Part of the salary increase would be paid for from CARES funds

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **change the Asa Adams art position from .83 FTE to 1.0 FTE for the 2020-21 school year**, Erin Ellis seconded*

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

7. Action Items

a. Staff Nominations

i. Hiring Updates

- 1. Interviews for Asa K-2 remote teacher have been published, and interview will be held August 19
- 2. Melissa Barton has been hired for the tech assistant position.
- 3. In the process of reviewing applicants for the permanent substitute positions
- 4. Nursing assistant has been hired

ii. Hiring Recommendations

b. Policies

c. Approval of school physician

- i. With gratitude and appreciation, Meredith Higgins recommends Dr Dianne Kallen Breen for the position of RSU 26 physician

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve Dr Dianne Kallen Breen as the school physician for the 20-21 school year**, Erin Ellis seconded*

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

d. Approval of emergency response plan for SY 2020-21

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the emergency response plan for SY 2020-21**, Erin Ellis seconded*

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

- e. Add Board meeting date week of August 24th

Motion: Brian McGill moved to add a board meeting Wednesday, August 26 at 6:00 pm, Erin Ellis seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

8. Subcommittee Reports

a. Facilities/Building committee

- i. Contractor asks for a change order regarding the rear parking lot, changing from using reclaimed gravel in the existing lot to either a full reconstruction or a full reconstruction partially using existing material. The reclaimed gravel might settle differently than the new material.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the superintendent to approve the change order for the full replacement of subsurface for the back OHS parking lot, Erin Ellis seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

9. Other Business-

10. Future Agenda Items-

11. Public Comment-

- a. Patrick Rowe, parent, wishes that instead of relying on parents to remember to check their kids for symptoms before coming to school, parents would have to fill out an online Covid-19 screening tool.
- b. Stan Levitsky, parent, is concerned about all freshmen attending school on August 27 and the level of cleaning between freshmen attending on the 27th and all of cohort B attending school on Friday. He is also hoping that sports will not go away this fall.
- c. Sam Kunz, parent, made the point that although student athletes and their parents are making the decision to participate in sports, the people in the school system that they interact with have not signed up for the same risk
- d. Erin Lanigan, parent and staff member, is interested in how all-remote students will be getting an opportunity to meet their parents
- e. Christina Twaits, parent, echoes the sentiment that consistency is important for parents and students when making decisions about fall extracurricular activities. She also wonders about parents changing their level of comfort after assessing the levels of Covid activity when the UMaine students return.

12. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. August 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm

b. Tuesday, September 8, 2020, Board Meeting, 6:00 pm

13. Request for Information and Follow-up

14. Executive Session - 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) Labor Negotiations -

*Brian McGill moved to **enter executive session to discuss labor negotiations under 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D)**. Erin Ellis seconded.*

***Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

15. Adjournment -

*Brian McGill moved to **adjourn**. Erin Ellis seconded the motion.*

***Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:44

Approved October 6, 2020