

MINUTES
RSU 26 Board of Directors Meeting
Zoom Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 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

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Payrolls – 4
b. Warrants – 4
c. Bond - 19

*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

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Erin Ellis sends thanks to everyone who went back to school today.
b. Leo Kenney thanks all RSU 26 staff for a great first day- job well done!
c. Jake Eckert, Mark Brewer, and Brian McGill agree with the sentiments shared by the other Board members
d. Meredith Higgins sends thanks to all staff for getting the school year off to a great start.
 i. Supt Higgins also thanks Bowman Construction who helped to get the first day of school off safely and with a smooth start
 ii. Jess Moore, Asa music teacher secured donations to help teach music with social distancing:
 1. Buckets donated from LaBrees bakery
 2. Zildjian, the musical instrument company, donated two boxes of drumsticks to the Asa music program.

6. Discussion Items

- a. School Reopening
 i. Kids had a great first day
 ii. Additional four days at the beginning of this school year with teachers was invaluable for instructional planning, classroom preparation, and establishing protocols
 iii. Everyone has been working hard getting facilities ready for the beginning of school

1. Automatic bathroom fixtures are in the works
- iv. Preparing outdoor classrooms for students
 1. 20x20 tents have been set up
 2. 30x30 tents have been ordered
- b. Co/Extra-Curricular Discussion
 - i. Non-sports based extra-curriculars are in planning stages. Activity sponsors are working with their school principals to formulate plans as to how to proceed with social distancing
 - ii. The MPA have given the go-ahead for all high school sports
 1. Still have 3 week preseason to prepare
 2. All sports have a modification plan to make all sports safer during the pandemic.
 3. Fall cheering decisions are tabled for the time being
 4. Summary of board members' opinions on fall sports:
 - a. Brian McGill would like all sports to continue either with competition or local practices with social distancing modifications
 - b. Mark Brewer is supportive of all the sports going forward
 - c. Meredith Higgins is concerned about reconciling the rules and structures of the school day with the laxer rules of fall sports. She struggles with going ahead with football, as there are few adaptations recommended
 - d. Leo Kenney is very supportive of moving ahead with sports with the guidelines set by the MPA
 - e. Jake Eckert is in support of fall sports
 - f. Erin Ellis is supportive of sports teams practicing and playing within the school, but is not supportive of competing against other schools

Motion: Brian McGill moved that golf proceed at OHS under guidelines of the Maine Principal Association, Leo Kenney seconded

*Vote: Erin Ellis- nay
Jacob Eckert- aye
Leo Kenney- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye
Brian McGill- aye
Vote 4-1*

Motion: Brian McGill moved that cross country at OHS and OMS under guidelines of the Maine Principal Association, Leo Kenney seconded

*Vote: Erin Ellis- nay
Jacob Eckert- aye
Leo Kenney- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye
Brian McGill- aye
Vote 4-1*

Motion: Brian McGill moved that field hockey proceed at OHS and OMS under guidelines of the Maine Principal Association, Erin Ellis seconded

*Vote: Erin Ellis- nay
Jacob Eckert- aye
Leo Kenney- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye
Brian McGill- aye
Vote 4-1*

Motion: Brian McGill moved that soccer proceed at OHS and OMS under Maine State Community guidelines-- local practices only, no competition, Erin Ellis seconded

*Vote: Erin Ellis- aye
Jacob Eckert- nay
Leo Kenney- nay*

*Mark Brewer- nay
Brian McGill- aye
Vote 2-3 Motion Fails*

Motion: Mark Brewer moved that soccer proceed at OHS and OMS under guidelines of the Maine Principal Association, Jake Eckert seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- nay

Jacob Eckert- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Brian McGill- nay

Vote 3-2

Motion: Brian McGill moved that football proceed at OHS and OMS under Maine Community guidelines-- local practices only, no competition, Erin Ellis seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Jacob Eckert- nay

Leo Kenney- nay

Mark Brewer- nay

Brian McGill- aye

Vote 2-3 Motion Fails

Motion: Mark Brewer moved that soccer football at OHS and OMS under guidelines of the Maine Principal Association, Jake Eckert seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- nay

Jacob Eckert- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Brian McGill- nay

Vote 3-2

7. Action Items

a. Staff Nominations

i. Co/Extra-curricular Recommendations

Motion: Brian McGill moved that the Board approve the slate of Co-curricular nominations as presented. Erin Ellis seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Vote 5-0

b. Approval of Supervision and Evaluation Plan for SY 2020-21

i. Updates

1. Student Learning Objectives- language change to reflect change DOE law

2. Probationary Teacher Cycle- beginning 20-21 Probationary Cycle will return to 2 years, reflecting change in Maine law

ii. Exploring changes that might be enacted if the schools revert to fully remote learning

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the 20-21 Supervision and Evaluation Plan as presented. Erin Ellis seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Vote 5-0

c. Approval of Orono Education Association Teacher/Professional Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement 2020-2023 Proposal

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve Orono Education Association Teacher/Professional Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement 2020-2023 as negotiated and presented. 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. Foundations being poured for new construction
- ii. Supt Higgins shared a cumulative document of change orders with the Board.

9. Other Business-

10. Future Agenda Items-

11. Public Comment-

- a. Shana Goodall, teacher, mentioned that the social/emotional health of band and drama students need to be addressed and modified so that they can proceed to the same extent that fall sports have been.
- b. Patrick Rowe, parent, points out that safety measures are in place to slow the spread of Covid-19, not to stop it. He wonders if parents will be able to change their choice from in person learning after learning that fall sports will be proceeding.
- c. Sam Kunz, parent, thinks that proceeding with sports is a huge mistake, and is disappointed with the decision of the Board. Sam also commends RSU 26 staff for his child's great first day.
- d. A parent spoke out that she is disappointed in the decision to pursue fall sports, especially since the same level of precautions will not be met.
- e. Maggie Tipping, parent, points out that the kids playing sports is an unwise and high risk decision.
- f. Mariah Hayden, parent, is also disappointed in the decision of the Board, and wishes that they had sought other avenues to support student social/emotional wellbeing.

12. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

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

13. Request for Information and Follow-up

- a. Mark Brewer requests that the Board follow up on changing the date of the November 3 meeting.

14. Adjournment

Motion: Brian McGill moved to adjourn the meeting. Erin Ellis seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Vote 5-0

Approved October 6, 2020