

**Approved Minutes**  
**RSU 26 Board of Directors Meeting**  
Zoom Meeting  
Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 6:00 pm

× Brian McGill  
× Jake Eckert  
× Mark Brewer

× Erin Ellis  
× Leo Kenney

1. Opening

a. Call to Order

*Brian McGill called the meeting to order at 6:04*

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Agenda Adjustment

i. Add item 8(c) Van Purchase Approval- CRF2 Funds

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to accept the agenda adjustment, Erin Ellis seconded***

*Vote: Erin Ellis- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye*

*Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

*Leo Kenney- aye*

***Vote 5-0***

2. Consideration of the Minutes

a. October 20, 2020

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the October 20, 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 – 9

b. Warrants – 9, 9a

c. Bond - 24

d. BAN - 3

***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 - none

5. Acknowledgments

a. Erin Ellis compliments everyone for “keeping it together” during this stressful time.

b. Brian McGill seconds Ms Ellis’ sentiments.

c. Meredith Higgins acknowledged school nurse Karen Martin for all of her hard work this year.

d. The Board recognizes a \$400 anonymous donation to the Orono Middle School Cross Country Team.

6. Reports

a. Athletic Report on Fall Sports -

i. Steve Van Dolman, OMS Athletics

1. Kids had a good experience

2. OMS coaches reminded other coaches of mask and social distancing guidelines.

3. Problem with parents not being able to go to games, and only one coach at games. Another responsible adult is needed at the games to be able to respond to injuries and illness.
- ii. Mike Archer
  1. Challenges
    - a. Some issues with social distancing during game breaks and after the game
    - b. Lack of locker rooms was a problem
    - c. Busing to and from games with equipment was a challenge.
    - d. Kids were disappointed that they couldn't support other OHS teams
    - e. Kids were disappointed that parents were not allowed at banquets
  2. Positives
    - a. Golf team won state championship
    - b. Using the Northern Light symptom app was a real benefit over the summer
    - c. People are thinking creatively-- What CAN we do, not dwelling on what couldn't be done
- b. Special Services Director- Lisa Smith
  - i. Sandy Seavy has been asked to represent the Penquis region on the State English Learner Advisory Council
  - ii. Subscription to Learning Ally, an audiobook resource. Currently 116 students enrolled
  - iii. Meeting with staff in all three schools
  - iv. Hoping to create a new position- 504 Coordinator-- to be filled by current staff to make a more efficient observation and evaluation system.
- c. Curriculum Director- Meredith Diamond
  - i. Currently identifying areas in the district where technology can aide teachers with problems they are incurring now, as well as anticipating needs for the next few months
  - ii. Continuing to give opportunities for antiracism and equity training
  - iii. District-wide study of *The Distance Learning Playbook*
- d. Superintendent- Meredith Higgins
  - i. CRF spending
    1. Grateful for the funding to provide equipment and technology needed for remote and hybrid teaching
    2. Main areas of CRF expenditures
      - a. Technology
      - b. Facility Upgrades
      - c. Staffing
  - ii. MSMA Conference
    1. Changes in the student assessments for the State of Maine
  - iii. FY 22 Budget Update
    1. State agencies have been charged with reducing budgets by 10%
    2. We expect to enter the FY 22 in a better financial position than most because of our increased enrollment.
- e. MSBA Delegate Report
  - i. All four resolutions were passed with a few amendments

## 7. Discussion Items

- a. School Reopening plans
  - i. Update & Next Steps Discussion
    1. Plans have been made to bring 4th and 5th grade students back full time when the time is right
    2. Due to the rising cases of Covid-19, it is recommended that RSU 26 holds off on the next steps of bringing more students in school full time.
      - a. After discussion, the Board agrees that it is appropriate to pause adding

more students to the school building load at this time.

b. Crossing Guards

- i. There have been inconsistencies in the presence of crossing guards this year, especially at the corner of Main St and Westwood.

1. Supt Higgins has spoken with Chief Ewing, and he is working to address the issue.

8. Action Items

a. Staff Nominations

- i. Co/Extra-curricular Recommendations

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the slate of co-curricular nominations as presented**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

**Vote 5-0**

b. Policies

- i. Revisions

1. AC - Non-Discrimination/Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action Policy

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **recognize a first read of policy AC**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

**Vote 5-0**

2. ACAA & ACAA-R - Harassment & Sexual Harassment of Students Policy & Complaint Procedure

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **recognize a first read of policy ACAA & ACAA-R**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

**Vote 5-0**

3. ACAD - Hazing

4. JICK - Bullying

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the revision of policies ACAD & JICK**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

**Vote 5-0**

5. JEA - Compulsory attendance

6. JHB - Truancy

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the revision of policies JEA & JHB**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

**Vote 5-0**

7. JLCD - Administration of medications

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the revision of policy JLCD**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Brian McGill- aye

**Vote 5-0**

8. GCF - Professional hires

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the revision of policy GCF**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

**Vote 5-0**

c. Van Purchase Approval- CRF2 Funds

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the purchase of a nine passenger (10 person) van**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

**Vote 5-0**

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

i. Next meeting is scheduled for December

b. United Technology Center

i. One section has gone fully remote due to widespread contact spread with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19

c. SPRPCE

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

i. Next meeting is Thursday, November 12

e. Facilities/Building committee

i. Interior finish committees are forming and color selections are being made.

ii. Construction Schedule

f. Wellness Subcommittee

10. Other Business- none

11. Future Agenda Items- none

12. Public Comment-

a. A parent commented that it would be nice to have a heads up as to how children who have been full-time from the start of the year will be treated if the county gets labeled "yellow"

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

a. Tuesday, November 17, 2020, Board Meeting, 6:00 pm

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

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

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **enter Executive Session under 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) Labor Negotiations**, Erin Ellis seconded

**Vote:** Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Leo Kenney- aye

**Vote 5-0**

16. 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***

***Meeting adjourned at 8:42***