

Approved Minutes

Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:00 pm

× Brian McGill
× Jake Eckert
× Mark Brewer

× Erin Ellis
× Patrick Rowe

1. Opening

a. Call to Order

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

- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Agenda Adjustment

2. Consideration of the Minutes

a. March 23, 2021

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the March 23, 2021 minutes as presented, Erin Ellis seconded*

Vote: *Erin Ellis- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

Vote 5-0

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Payroll - 20
- b. PERS - March
- c. Warrant - 20
- d. Bond - 34

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

Vote: *Erin Ellis- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

Vote 5-0

4. Public Comment

- a. Shana Goodall, OHS teacher and NHS advisor, thanked the community for the overwhelming amount of pasta and sauce (413 pounds!) donated to the school food pantry
- b. Mark Brewer read a letter in support of spring sports from the Wheeler Family who were unable to attend meeting
- c. Khawla Wise, parent, also spoke in favor of spring sports

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Erin Ellis acknowledged a performance by the Show Choir.
- b. Jake Eckert commended Kelley Dill and Sarah Kenney for working on the “Adopt a Senior” project
- c. Patrick Rowe thanks the staff that keeps the kids safe during the chaos of parent drop off
- d. Meredith Higgins acknowledged the OHS Social Studies department for their help in updating the application process for the student rep to the Board

6. Reports

a. Principal

i. Kristin Briggs, Asa Adams

- 1. Thanks to Karen Martin for her assistance with getting immunizations organized for staff
- 2. Lots of opportunities to visit classrooms and participate
- 3. Second trimester report cards were distributed, thanks for all the hard work put into the report cards from the staff

4. Thanks to the kitchen staff for providing breakfast at the March 19 teacher inservice day.
- ii. Richard Glencross, OMS
 1. Thanks to Chad Kirkpatrick and Kristen Espling for organizing a ski trip for OMS students
 2. Dr Glencross thanks Jessica Gonyea for her hard work at OM as she moves to Asa Adams to assist with special service needs there.
 3. Sixth graders participated in a “Virtual Archeology Day” through the Hudson Museum at UMO
 4. Postcards for Friendship project is winding down, but students have enjoyed exchanging letters with Russian and Ukranian penpals, and even had the opportunity to engage in meeting their peers virtually.
 5. Thanks to Troy Wagstaff and Peter Buehner for their help in getting the 8th graders registered for OHS
 6. Spring Sports are underway. All schools in the Penobscot Valley Middle League are participating
 7. Working in the logistics of the 5th grade step-up day
 - iii. Reg Ruhlin, OHS
 1. Mr Ruhlin recognized Thomaso Wheeler who was selected as the Forgien Language Association of Maine as the forgein language student of the year
 2. Congrats to OHS teacher Jen Branchflower for organizing students to participate in the Maine State Science Fair. Student Ruth White placed 3rd in her category, and won the NASA Earth Systems award. James Wheeler and Anna Malloy won the Reach award for outstanding research
 3. Cami Carter and Zach Arnold have been nominated for Penobscot County teacher of the year, and Ms Carter is moving on to the semi-final round
- b. Superintendent Report- Meredith Higgins
 - i. Varsity Girls’ Basketball coach, John Donato, has resigned. We thank him for his service to the RSU.
 - ii. MSMA Conference
 1. A representative from the national superintendent association explained the new round of national COVID relief funding at the MSMA conference, and warned superintendents to be leary of a potential spending cliff, paying for long term budget items with temporary finding.
 2. Updates on how new laws will affect local school districts
7. Discussion Items
 - a. COVID Update & Discussion
 - i. Vaccination Update
 1. Second vaccine clinic for staff is scheduled for April 10
 2. Approximately 77% of staff will be fully
 - ii. Full remote enrollment is trendy down for the 4th quarter
 - iii. Adapting to changes in close contact designation
 1. Changes will be less disruptive for families
 - iv. Continuing planning for summer programming
 - v. Transition into Fall 2021
 1. Districts are considering regional solutions to possible future remote learning
 - a. High school and middle school possibilities

- b. Lack of support for continued elementary remote learning.
- c. Remote options for the transitional 2021-2022 school year are not necessarily long term plans for remote learning in the district

b. FY22 Budget Update

- i. Budget worksheet updated with new insurance information
- ii. HS tuition students are enrolling as projected
- iii. Insurance
 - 1. Rate increase for FY 22 is 0%
 - 2. Should final decrease be noted in budget?
 - a. Usually remains in budget, as rate usually is not finalized in time
 - b. Leaving it in reduces yearly fluctuations in budget
 - c. Consensus of the Board to leave estimated insurance amount in the budget
- iv. MLTI
 - 1. Possibilities for payment of MLTI plan with
 - a. Approximately \$400,000 remaining in FY 21 budget that exceeds allowed carry forward amount
 - b. Use specific reserve account to pay for MLTI
 - c. Keep MLTI money in general account (unassigned account), making the funds more flexible
- v. Asa Kindergarten Teacher
 - 1. Discussions with staff
 - a. Set a target of no more than 17-1 student/teacher ratio
 - b. 43 currently enrolled
- vi. Budget currently stands at a .28 mil reduction
- vii. Board consensus is to plan for stable long term budget planning
- viii. Annual Budget Meeting
 - 1. Location possibilities
 - a. In OMS gym with Steam room as a backup
 - b. Outside

8. Action Items

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

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

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye
 Jacob Eckert- aye
 Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye
 Brian McGill- aye
Vote 5-0

b. Policies

- i. Second Reading
 - 1. EEBA - School Owned Vehicles

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **recognize a second read and adopt policy EEBA**, Erin Ellis seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye
 Jacob Eckert- aye
 Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye
 Brian McGill- aye
Vote 5-0

9. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Policy Subcommittee
 - i. Met April 1
 - ii. Finished up changes to policy EEBA
 - iii. Small language changes to IJOC
 - iv. Reviewed E policies
- b. United Technology Center
- c. SPRPCE
- d. Curriculum Subcommittee
 - i. Next meeting April 8
- e. Facilities/Building committee
 - i. Next meeting April 7
 - ii. Updated construction finish schedule
 - 1. Asa Admin area and classroom addition scheduled to finish June 4
 - 2. Asa Cafeteria- July 30
 - 3. Asa Bathrooms- August 10
 - 4. OHS Cafeteria- August 10
 - 5. OHS Classrooms- November 26
 - 6. Auditorium- January 2022
 - 7. Track Project- August 2
- f. Wellness Subcommittee

10. Other Business

11. Future Agenda Items-

12. Public Comment-

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. Tuesday, April 27, 2021

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 **go into Executive Session - 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D)**, Erin Ellis seconded

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

Vote 5-0

16. Adjournment

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

Vote: Erin Ellis- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Vote 5-0