

## Approved Minutes

Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link  
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:00 pm

× Brian McGill  
× Jake Eckert

× Mark Brewer  
× Patrick Rowe

### 1. Opening

- a. Call to Order
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Agenda Adjustment
  - i. Add 8.f. Approve Change Events for Paving Projects

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve the agenda adjustment as presented, Mark Brewer seconded*

**Vote:** *Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

**Vote 4-0**

*Mark Brewer- aye*

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to accept the resignation of Board Member Erin Ellis with regret, Mark Brewer seconded*

**Vote:** *Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

**Vote 4-0**

*Mark Brewer- aye*

### 2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. May 25, 2021

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve the May 25, 2021 minutes as presented, Mark Brewer seconded*

**Vote:** *Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

**Vote 4-0**

### 3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Payroll - 24
- b. Warrant - 24
- c. Bond - 38

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

**Vote:** *Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

**Vote 4-0**

### 4. Public Comment

- a. Catherine Thibodeau urges the Board to reconsider the number of tickets allowed to graduating seniors, as well as masking mandates for the graduation ceremony.

### 5. Acknowledgments

- a. Jake Eckert congratulated everyone involved in the OMS/OHS production of “15 Reasons Not to Be in a Play.”
- b. Patrick Rowe acknowledged Asa Adams School for its field day/water slide day activities.
- c. Mark Brewer acknowledged all of the students who are participating in end of school year athletic activities and performances.
- d. Brian McGill conveyed a deep gratitude to all teachers and staff for the amazing school year.
- e. Meredith Higgins acknowledged the meaningful contributions of Erin Ellis as a member of the school board.  
Supt. Higgins congratulated everyone for getting through the last few HOT days before summer vacation.

## 6. Reports

### a. Principal Reports

- i. Kristin Briggs- Asa Principal
  1. Thanks the Orono Fire Department for their help with the water slide
  2. Spending time welcoming new kindergarten families to Asa.
  3. NWEA testing is complete
- ii. Richard Glencross- OMS Principal
  1. Scholar Leader celebration- Zoey McLaughlin and Benjamin Sidelko attended the online Middle School scholar leader celebration with Dr Glencross
  2. 8th Graders were feted June 7 in an outdoor recognition ceremony
  3. Virtual 5th grade step up night was help on June 1
  4. Russian/Ukrainian pen pal project wrapped up with video conferences with the students from Moscow and Kiev
  5. Native American basketmaker, Gabrial Fray, came to OMS to demonstrate his craft.
  6. NWEA testing is complete.
  7. OMS/OHS drama performances w
  8. Kudos to the OMS A Baseball team who won the regional championship
- iii. Reg Ruhlin- OHS Principal
  1. Anna Drinkert and Liam Farrell will be the student graduation speakers, and teacher Don Joseph will speak at graduation
  2. Thanks to the Drama Department for their hard work producing “Scenes and Songs” and “15 Reasons Not to Be in a Play”
  3. Underclassman awards will be given out on the last day of school
  4. Graduation will be held Sunday, June 13
  5. MAine Science Exam was held on Wednesday, June 2

### b. Student Report- Hasnain Mohmand

- i. Concerns and Recommendations from students
  1. Students would like to continue the “mask break” time even as masks are phased out, and receive a 5-10 minute break in the middle of each class
  2. Students would like to do away with masks all together, with either a mandatory vaccination or rigid social distancing requirements
  3. Students ask how student athletes are staying safe without masks
  4. Another student would like to maintain the schedule from the 20-21 school year

### c. Superintendent Report- Meredith Higgins

- i. Summer Programing
  1. Collaborating with UMaine
    - a. Onsite programming: June 28-July 29
    - b. UMaine Partnership: June 21- August 27 for K-5
  2. Significant summer construction

## 7. Discussion Items

### a. COVID Update & Discussion

- i. New MPA Guidance
  1. Working on guidance for summer programming
  2. Looking for community guidance on masking
  3. State has removed all community sports guidelines, and participants should follow CDC guidelines

- ii. New survey sent to parents to document student vaccination rate data
- iii. Graduation
  - 1. Indoor-- Stay in family pods, masked, limit to 6 tickets available to each graduate
  - 2. Outdoor-- Space all chairs 3 feet apart, unmasked once people are seated, each senior gets 8 tickets
- iv. Planning for Fall
  - 1. Remote Learning - Fall 2021
    - a. Developed documented criteria needed to participate in remote learning need in Fall
    - b. External options are needed for longer placements
    - c. Become a component of the Back to School plan
  - 2. Summer Planning
    - a. Form stakeholder committee
      - i. 12-15 Committee members, representing all stakeholders through all 3 schools
        - 1. Board member needed

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **move Hiring Recommendations ahead of the Review of Goals Workshop**, Mark Brewer seconded

**Vote:** Jacob Eckert- aye  
Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye  
Brian McGill- aye  
**Vote 4-0**

Staff Nominations

- b. Hiring Recommendations
  - i. OHS Special Education Teacher - Karen Frye

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the hiring of Karen Frye as OHS Special Education teacher**, Mark Brewer seconded

**Vote:** Jacob Eckert- aye  
Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye  
Brian McGill- aye  
**Vote 4-0**

- ii. OHS Special Education Teacher - Emily Francis

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the hiring of Emily Francis as OHS Special Education teacher**, Mark Brewer seconded

**Vote:** Jacob Eckert- aye  
Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye  
Brian McGill- aye  
**Vote 4-0**

- iii. Asa Special Education Teacher - Danelle Farrell

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the hiring of Danelle Farrell as Asa Adams Special Education teacher**, Mark Brewer seconded

**Vote:** Jacob Eckert- aye  
Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye  
Brian McGill- aye  
**Vote 4-0**

- iv. Asa Speech Language Pathologist (.40) - Jennifer Mahoney

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the hiring of Jennifer Mahoney as Asa Adams Speech Language Pathologist (.40)**, Mark Brewer seconded

**Vote:** Jacob Eckert- aye  
Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye  
Brian McGill- aye  
**Vote 4-0**

- c. Review of goals workshop

- i. Board Goals for the 2021-2022 were discussed and condensed to the following recommended goals

1. Manage COVID 19 response and transition for social-emotional, education and safety well-being of students and staff
2. Continue construction efforts
3. Conduct a meaningful DEI audit resulting in an action plan for the district
4. Engage the community (student, family, staff) in development of a shared vision of best use of technology in our schools
5. Complete a study (with community engagement) to ensure the high school schedule best fits district needs and values
6. Put renewed effort into recruiting tuition students at OHS to capitalize on novel opportunities
7. Add “and retain” to the ongoing fundamental board responsibility on hiring excellent staff

~~8. Action Items~~

~~a. Staff Nominations~~

~~i. Hiring Recommendations~~

- b. Approve Orono Education Association Educational Support Professional Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement (July 2021-June 2024)

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

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **approve the Orono Education Association Educational Support Professional Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement (July 2021-June 2024)**, Mark Brewer seconded

**Vote:** Jacob Eckert- aye  
Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye  
Brian McGill- aye  
**Vote 4-0**

- c. Accept donation of \$1000 from Mechanics Association charity fund for the Backpack food program

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **accept the \$1000 donation from the Mechanics Association with gratitude**, Mark Brewer seconded

**Vote:** Jacob Eckert- aye  
Patrick Rowe- aye

Mark Brewer- aye  
Brian McGill- aye  
**Vote 4-0**

d. Approve contractor/contract for OHS Office Renovation Project

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve contractor/contract for OHS office renovation project, Mark Brewer seconded*

**Vote:** *Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

**Vote 4-0**

e. Approve MLTI student device purchase

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve MLTI student device purchase, Mark Brewer seconded*

**Vote:** *Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

**Vote 4-0**

f. Approve Change Events for Paving Projects

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve change events for paving projects, Mark Brewer seconded*

**Vote:** *Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

**Vote 4-0**

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

b. United Technology Center

c. SPRPCE

i. Last meeting of the 2020-2021 School year was held May 27

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

e. Facilities/Building committee

f. Wellness Subcommittee

10. Other Business

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Public Comment

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

a. Tuesday, June 22, 2021 - Regular Meeting, via Zoom, 6 pm

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

15. Executive Session - 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) Discussion of confidential personnel matters (Administrator Evaluations)

16. Executive Session - 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) Personnel Matters

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to go into Executive Session - 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A), Mark Brewer seconded*

**Vote:** *Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

*Mark Brewer - aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

**Vote 4-0**

17. Executive Session - 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) Discussion of confidential personnel matters (Superintendent Evaluation Board Discussion)

18. Adjournment - 9:51

*Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adjourn the meeting**, Mark Brewer seconded*

*Vote: Jacob Eckert- aye*

*Patrick Rowe- aye*

*Mark Brewer- aye*

*Brian McGill- aye*

*Vote 4-0*