

Approved Minutes

Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link
Wednesday, August 18, 2021 6:00 pm

× Brian McGill
× Jake Eckert
× Mark Brewer

× Elizabeth Hufnagel
× Patrick Rowe

1. Opening

a. Call to Order

Brian McGill called the meeting to order

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Agenda Adjustment

i. Add item 8(d) Approval of \$1000 donation to the Asa Adams Library

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the agenda adjustments as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 5-0

2. Consideration of the Minutes

a. June 22, 2021

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the June 22, 2021 minutes as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 5-0

b. July 20, 2021

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the July 20, 2021 minutes as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 5-0

3. Approval of Warrants

a. Payroll - 2, 3

b. Warrant - 26D, 2, 3

c. Bond - 42

d. ME Pers - July

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the warrants as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 5-0

4. Public Comment

a. Catherine Thibodeau, parent, asks that School Board members think of all students in the school system.

b. Leigh Broughan, parent, is concerned about eating in the cafeteria without masks, as well as playing on the playground without masking.

5. Acknowledgments

a. Jacob Eckert acknowledges the donation from Books a Million in Bangor.

b. Elizabeth Hufnagel acknowledges all of the hard work from the RSU 26 staff to ensure a safe in person return to school for students

c. Brian McGill acknowledges Brent Fournier for his hard work on both the school opening and building construction over the summer

d. Patrick Rowe recognizes all the effort from the teachers to accommodate different modes of learning

e. Mark Brewer echoes the appreciation for all the hard work by staff over the summer

f. Meredith Higgins added her thanks to all staff that helped to make summer programming happen

6. Reports

a. Director Reports

i. Lisa Smith, Director of Special Services

1. Ed Tech openings

- 2. Influx of students registering for our schools
 - a. 198 registered students with an IEP, 44 are tuition
 - 3. Results of Audit
 - a. Corrective plan issued
 - b. No systemic issues
 - ii. Meredith Diamond, Curriculum Co
 - 1. Great success with summer programming
 - 2. Equity audit is officially underway
 - a. Data collection has begun
 - 3. Wabanaki Studies workgroup has continued to meet, and is gearing up for a robust 2021-22 school year
 - b. Superintendent Report
 - i. Meredith Higgins, Superintendent
 - 1. Food Service Summer Participation (handout)
 - a. Consistent need for food services in the summer
 - b. Consideration needs to be given for the future, as RSU 26 does not qualify for the USDA Summer Food Program in normal circumstances
 - 2. Hiring
 - a. All teaching staff positions have been filled
 - b. Need food service staff, custodian, Ed Techs, and substitutes
 - 3. Facilities
 - a. Sprint to the finish with construction project
 - b. Working hard to get buildings ready for the return of students
 - c. 77% complete
1. Discussion Items
 - a. COVID Update & Discussion
 - i. RSU26 Fall COVID Guidelines Recommendation
 - ii. Social distancing in cafeterias will be maximized
 - iii. CDC recommends universal masking in all schools
 - iv. Superintendent Higgins outlined the RSU 26 COVID Guidelines to the Board (handout)

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt the reopening guidelines as presented and as amended**, Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 3-2**

Motion: Patrick Rowe moved to **adjust wording of first paragraph, inserting “the Delta variant is 100% of the cases in Maine, and that will be taken into consideration while making decisions,”** Elizabeth Hufnagel seconded, **Vote 0-5**

Motion: Patrick Rowe moved to **adjust wording of first paragraph, inserting “that COVID 19 has evolved into a more highly transmissible virus and that evolution will be considered when adopting these guidelines”** Elizabeth Hufnagel seconded, **Vote 1-3-1**

Motion: Jacob Eckert moved to **add to the wording of the mask section that “mask use indoors is optional for students and employees and required for visitors,”** Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 1-4**

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **add “administration will develop mask break expectations and guidelines” to the masking section of the policy,** Jake Eckert seconded

Motion: Mark Brewer amended Brian McGill's motion to read **"administration will develop mask break expectations and guidelines and monitor implementation"** to the masking section of the policy, Jake Eckert seconded, **Vote 5-0**

Motion: Elizabeth Hufnagel moved to add **"Social distancing in the cafeterias will be maximized as compatible with the full return of schools but will not be required. An alternative space, providing six feet of spacing for lunch is available upon request to the building administrator at any time,"** Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 4-1**

Motion: Brian McGill moved to add **"outdoor learning opportunities will be encouraged at all grade levels"** as a separate **"Outdoor Learning"** heading under the **"Other Considerations"** section of the document. Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 5-0**

Motion: Patrick Rowe moved to **eliminate "vaccinated individuals or"** from the **Pooled Testing** section. Elizabeth Hufnagel seconded, **Vote 0-5**

Motion: Patrick Rowe moved to **strike the last two sentences of section 8.** Elizabeth Hufnagel seconded, **Vote 3-2**

Motion: Elizabeth Hufnagel moved to add **"vaccinated individuals do not have to quarantine unless symptomatic"** to the end of section 1. Elizabeth Hufnagel seconded, **Vote 4-0-1**

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **add the sentences at the end of section 8 back to the document.** Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 4-0-1**

Motion: Mark Brewer moved to add **"which will be provided by the district"** to the above amendment. Elizabeth Hufnagel seconded, **Vote 5-0**

2. Action Items

a. Staff Nominations

i. Hiring Recommendations

1. CoCurricular Nominations

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the slate of co-curricular nominations as presented with the addition of Caleb Akley,** Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 5-0**

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **amend the above motion and modify the slate of co-curricular nominations to also include Don Joseph as OHS assistant football coach,** Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 5-0**

b. Approval of Supervision & Evaluation Plan SY 2021-22

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt the Supervision & Evaluation Plan for SY 2021-22 as presented,** Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 5-0**

c. Approval of School Physician SY 2021-22

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve Diane Kallen-Breen as school physician, with appreciation ,** Mark Brewer seconded, **Vote 5-0**

d. Approval of \$1000 donation to the Asa Adams Library in Memory of Vicki Lynch

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the donation of \$1000 in memory of Vicki Lynch, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 5-0

3. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Policy Subcommittee
 - i. Beginning first Thursday of the month in September
 - b. United Technology Center
 - c. SPRPCE
 - d. Curriculum Subcommittee
 - i. Beginning second Thursday of the month in September
 - e. Facilities/Building committee
 - f. Wellness Subcommittee
4. Other Business
5. Future Agenda Items
6. Public Comment
 - a. Erin Lanigan, parent, asks that the Board consider closed captioning of Board meetings
7. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting
 - a. Tuesday, August 24, 2021 - Regular Meeting, via Zoom, 6 pm

Motion: Brian McGill moved to move the meeting scheduled for September 9 to September 8 at 7:00 pm, Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 5-0

8. Request for Information and Follow-up
9. Adjournment

Motion: Brian McGill moved to adjourn the meeting Mark Brewer seconded, Vote 5-0