

Approved Minutes

Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link:
Tuesday, February 15, 2021, 7:00 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

2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. February 1, 2022

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the February 1, 2022 minutes as presented, Mark Brewer seconded,*

Vote: *Elizabeth Hufnagel- abstain*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

Vote 4-0-1

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Payroll - 15
- b. Warrant - 15
- c. BAN 20

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

Vote: *Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

Vote 5-0

4. Public Comment

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Beth Hufnagel acknowledges the work that everyone has put into the equity audit, as well as the continued hard work of the staff through challenging times.
- b. Brian McGill thanked everyone, especially facilities director Bill Cody, for the way they handled the water problem at Asa Adams.
- c. Meredith Higgins thanked the sponsors of student groups that are back up and running this year

6. Reports

- a. Director Reports

- i. Lisa Smith, Director of Special Services
 1. Ms. Smith submitted a report for the Board to review
- ii. Meredith Diamond, Curriculum Coordinator
 1. Ms. Diamond submitted a report to the Board to review

- b. Superintendent Report
 - i. Meredith Higgins, Superintendent
 - 1. Trip to Ecuador
 - a. The travel company is continuing to successfully take trips to foreign countries, and have a testing protocol in place
 - b. Students have to be vaccinated to participate
 - 2. Flooding at Asa Adams
 - a. The source of the floodwater has been found, and steps are being taken to alleviate the problem in the future.
 - 3. Equity Action Committee
 - a. The district is preparing to form an equity action committee and will need two Board members to serve on the committee
 - 4. Space at Asa
 - a. Plans are under consideration to keep a portable classroom at Asa Adams while renovations are completed on the interior of the school

7. Discussion Items

- a. COVID Discussion
 - i. Return to School Plan Review
 - 1. Recommend to remove most of section 8, and just leave “The district will follow current state guidelines for handling the occurrence of a COVID+ case in the schools (SOP document).”
 - 2. Remove document dates
 - 3. Supt Higgins will bring a marked up SOP to the February 15 meeting
 - ii. COVID Dashboard
 - 1. A section has been added to the dashboard that was unveiled at the January 18 meeting. New section shows more historical data.
 - iii. Masking
 - 1. Maine currently has no masking mandate
 - 2. Formulating next steps for masking as COVID surges abate.
 - 3. The district encourages as many families as possible to consider vaccinating their children
- b. FY 23 Budget (handout)
 - i. Bringing specific numbers to the next Board meeting
 - ii. Budgeting factors:
 - 1. ED279 State subsidy is \$347,000 higher than last year
 - 2. The unassigned fund balance is over \$3 million
 - 3. Stable tuition numbers for 22-23 school year
 - 4. Additional local expense \$858,000
 - 5. Staffing changes
 - 6. Increased energy rates
 - 7. Bond payments
- c. 2022-23 Calendar First Draft (handouts)
 - i. Two calendars to consider
 - 1. Option A: Traditional calendar
 - 2. Option B: Calendar with weekly Wednesday 1 hour early dismissals
 - a. Gives an opportunity for more time to complete school initiatives
 - b. Weekly staff PD hours provide for more continuity and sustained work time

- 8. Action Items
 - a. Staff Nominations
 - i. none
 - b. Policies
 - i. First Reads

- 1. IHA - Curriculum

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **recognize the first read of policy IHA-Curriculum as presented**, Mark Brewer seconded,

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye | Mark Brewer- aye |
| Jacob Eckert- aye | Brian McGill- aye |
| Patrick Rowe- aye | Vote 5-0 |

- ii. Revisions

- 1. GCSA - Employee Computer Usage

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt the revisions to policy GCSA- Employee Computer Usage**, Mark Brewer seconded,

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- nay | Mark Brewer- aye |
| Jacob Eckert- aye | Brian McGill- aye |
| Patrick Rowe- aye | Vote 4-1 |

- 2. IJNDB - Student Computer Usage

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt the revisions to policy IJNDB - Student Computer Usage**, Mark Brewer seconded,

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|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye | Mark Brewer- aye |
| Jacob Eckert- aye | Brian McGill- aye |
| Patrick Rowe- aye | Vote 5-0 |

- 3. IHBAI - Independent Educational Assessment

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **adopt the revisions to policy IHBAI - Independent Educational Assessment**, Mark Brewer seconded,

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|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye | Mark Brewer- aye |
| Jacob Eckert- aye | Brian McGill- aye |
| Patrick Rowe- aye | Vote 5-0 |

- 9. New Course Approval Requests - OHS
 - a. Coming of Age - English Dept
 - b. Honors Physics - Science Dept
 - c. Science and You - Science Dept
 - d. AP Seminar - Social Studies Dept
 - e. Honors Geometry - Math Dept
 - f. Honors Algebra II - Math Dept
 - g. Theater Production - Visual & Performing Arts Dept

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the seven new courses at Orono High School as listed in the Agenda**, Mark Brewer seconded,

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye | Mark Brewer- aye |
| Jacob Eckert- aye | Brian McGill- aye |
| Patrick Rowe- aye | Vote 5-0 |

10. Substitute Teaching Pay Rate Increase

Motion: Brian McGill moved to **approve the increase to the substitute teacher pay**, Mark Brewer seconded,

Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

Vote 5-0

11. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

- i. Working through the I policies

b. United Technology Center

- i. Found a new director

c. SPRPCE

- i. Next meeting March 17

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

- i. Policies discussed by the committee were brought to tonight's regular meeting to be approved

e. Facilities/Building committee

- i. Next meeting February 16
ii. Looking into ESSER funds to improve the heating system at Asa Adams

12. Other Business

a. Cheerleader follow-up

b. Board Survey

13. Future Agenda Items

14. Public Comment

15. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. Tuesday, March 8, 2022 - Regular Meeting, in-person and via Zoom, 6 pm

16. Request for Information and Follow-up

17. Adjournment

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

Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

Vote 5-0

Meeting adjourned.