

**Approved Minutes**  
**Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link:**  
**Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 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

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to add an executive session after item 14 under M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) Confidential Personnel Matters, Mark Brewer seconded***

***Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye***

***Mark Brewer- aye***

***Jacob Eckert- aye***

***Brian McGill- aye***

***Patrick Rowe- aye***

***Vote 5-0***

2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. February 15, 2022

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the February 15, 2022 minutes as presented, Mark Brewer seconded,***

***Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye***

***Mark Brewer- aye***

***Jacob Eckert- aye***

***Brian McGill- aye***

***Patrick Rowe- aye***

***Vote 5-0***

- b. February 15, 2022, Equity Audit Workshop Minutes

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the February 15, 2022 Equity Audit Workshop minutes as presented, Mark Brewer seconded,***

***Vote: Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye***

***Mark Brewer- aye***

***Jacob Eckert- aye***

***Brian McGill- aye***

***Patrick Rowe- aye***

***Vote 5-0***

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Payroll - 18  
b. Warrant - 18  
c. BAN - 15

***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

- a. Shana Goodall, teacher and president of the Orono Education Association, asks that everyone have compassion for those that choose to still wear a mask after it is not mandated.  
b. Leo Kenney, parent, asks that the school board continues to follow State guidance and make masks optional beginning March 9.  
c. Kevin Roberge, parent, urges RSU 26 to consider the timing of spring break at the University of Maine before changing the rules surrounding masking on campus.

- d. Catherine Thibeault, parent, fears that keeping masking requirements in place will lead to lazy or improper mask wearing.
- e. Leigh Broaghan, parent, echoes the sentiments of Mr Roberge, and would like the district to wait a few more weeks before switching to a mask optional policy.
- f. Mo Tyne, student, spoke of people with compromised immune systems, and thinks that a mask optional policy would be detrimental to them.
- g. Paul Bamford, parent, thinks that people should have the freedom to choose whether they wear a mask.
- h. Mike Bamford, parent, is in favor of a mask optional policy.
- i. Wyeth Lamotte, student, is in favor of keeping the masking policy as-is.
- j. Stacy Dougherty, RSU 26 staff member, asked if pooled testing and contact tracing would still be performed if masking was no longer mandatory.

## 5. Acknowledgments

- a. Patrick Rowe acknowledged everyone in the community that reached out to him to voice their opinions on masking.
- b. Brian McGill thanked Patrick Rowe and Elizabeth Hufnagel for their time spent on the school board, as they are not running for reelection.
- c. Meredith Higgins, also thanks Mr Rowe and Ms Hufnagel for their service.

## 6. Reports

### a. Director Reports

#### i. Kristin Briggs, Asa Adams Principal

- 1. Lots of celebrations: Valentine's Day, museum, sledding
- 2. School-wide reading celebration
  - a. Activities through the middle of May surrounding the book *Charlotte's Web*
- 3. Read Across America Week
  - a. Many Colored Days
  - b. Wacky Wednesday
  - c. Dress as your favorite character
- 4. Kindergarten registration begins March 17

#### ii. Richard Glencross, OMS

- 1. Half-way through the 3rd nine weeks of classes. Progress reports will go out to parents on March 9
- 2. Looking at ELA acceleration opportunities for the 22-23 school year
- 3. Finished the NAEP assessment with 8th grade
- 4. Liam Waring, Leo Hasbrouck, Reid Quirk, and Brynja Capone-Zeman for representing OMS well at the league bee. Congrats to Liam who took home the top prize.
- 5. OMS had a cupcake fundraiser to support Ukraine and raised over \$200.

#### iii. Meredith Diamond, OHS

- 1. Lots of athletic accomplishments, see week in preview for an overview.
- 2. OHS Show Choir won a gold award at the regional competition.
- 3. OHS student Riley Murray is the UTC student of the quarter. Riley and fellow UTC student Jeremy Marks will be representing the school in the State SkillsUSA competition.
- 4. Continuing to work on daily schedule ideas to best suit the needs of the students
- 5. Excitement from students about the new courses offered.
- 6. Nearing the end of the NEASC reflection process

### b. Superintendent Report

#### i. Meredith Higgins, Superintendent

- 1. DEI Leadership Team

- a. Board Representatives needed
  - i. Brian McGill will serve on the committee until the next Board meeting with new Board members
- 2. Kristin Briggs, Asa Principal, has resigned from her position, effective at the end of the school year.

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **authorize the superintendent to accept the resignation of Kristin Briggs, Mark Brewer seconded,**

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

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

7. Discussion Items

a. COVID Discussion

i. Vaccination Data

- 1. Asa: 67%
- 2. OMS: 75%
- 3. OHS: 74%
- 4. Staff: 94%
- 5. Total School Community: 76.6%

ii. Masking

- 1. State CDC now recommends making masking optional in schools
- 2. Administration recommends moving forward with masking being optional indoors beginning March 21, and effective immediately at Asa recess. Masks continue to be mandatory when returning to school after a positive diagnosis.

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to **continue to follow the COVID plan put into place during the summer of 2021, specifically noting that masks will become option outdoors on March 9, and optional indoors beginning March 21, Mark Brewer seconded,**

**Vote:** Elizabeth Hufnagel- nay  
 Jacob Eckert- aye  
 Patrick Rowe- nay

Mark Brewer- aye  
 Brian McGill- aye  
**Vote 3-2**

b. FY 23 Budget

i. Enrollment projections (handout)

- 1. Budgeting for 18 tuition students for the 22-23 school year
  - a. 15 applications have already been received
- 2. Mark Brewer asks that English class sizes be looked at to see if they are the best use of resources.

ii. Budget Impact by Category (handout)

- 1. Four categories
  - a. Salary
  - b. Capital improvement
  - c. Inflation
  - d. Non-negotiable
- 2. Mark Brewer asks the administration for a prioritized list of needs

c. Curriculum Coordinator Job Description

- i. Change of title to reflect duties of the position
  - 1. Director of Learning
- ii. Description updated to reflect types of leadership needed for the position

8. Action Items

a. Staff Nominations

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to approve the slate of co-curricular staff nominations as presented Mark Brewer seconded,

**Vote:** Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

**Vote 5-0**

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

- i. Reviewed graduation requirement policy and “I” policies

b. United Technology Center

c. SPRPCE

- i. Next meeting on March 17

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

- i. Next meeting March 10

e. Facilities/Building committee

- i. Meeting scheduled for the week of the 14th  
ii. Auditorium on schedule to be finished on schedule  
iii. Retention ponds to be addressed in the spring

10. Other Business

- a. Elizabeth Hufnagel asked about the water problem at Asa Adams

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Public Comment

- a. Shana Goodall, teacher, encourages the Board to start the process of getting a student representative again. Ms Goodall also thanks Patrick and Beth for serving on the Board.

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. Tuesday, March 22, 2022 - Regular Meeting, in-person and via Zoom, 6 pm

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

**Motion:** Brian McGill moved to enter into executive session under M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) Confidential Personnel Matters, Mark Brewer seconded,

**Vote:** Elizabeth Hufnagel- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Jacob Eckert- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Patrick Rowe- aye

**Vote 5-0**

15. Adjournment

Out of executive session at 8:59

**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 at 8:59.**