

Approved Minutes
Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link:
Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 6:00 pm

× Brian McGill
× Jake Eckert
× Mark Brewer

× Noah Charney
× Kevin Roberge

1. Opening

a. Call to Order

Brian McGill called the meeting to order

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Agenda Adjustment

i. Add 9h. MOU with OEA ESP unit to correct payscale error

Motion: Brian McGill moved to adjust the agenda to add 9(h), MOU with OEA ESP Unit to correct payscale error, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

2. Election of officers

a. Chair

Motion: Jacob Eckert nominated Brian McGill to serve as RSU 26 Board of Directors chair, Mark Brewer seconded, 4-0-1

b. Vice-Chair

Motion: Brian McGill nominated Jacob Eckert to serve as RSU 26 Board of Directors vice-chair, Mark Brewer seconded, 4-0-1

c. Curriculum (up to 2)

Motion: Brian McGill nominated Mark Brewer and Noah Charney to serve as Board representatives to the curriculum committee, Mark Brewer seconded, 3-0-2

d. Policy (up to 2)

Motion: Jacob Eckert nominated Brian McGill and Mark Brewer to serve as Board representatives to the policy committee, Noah Charney seconded, 3-0-2

e. JPDC (up to 2)

Motion: Mark Brewer nominated Brian McGill and Jacob Eckert to serve as Board representatives to the JPDC committee, Kevin Roberge seconded, 3-0-2

f. UTC

Motion: Brian McGill nominated Kevin Roberge to serve as Board representative to UTC, Mark Brewer seconded, 4-0-1

g. SPRPCE

Motion: Brian McGill nominated Jacob Eckert to serve as Board representative to SPRPCE, Mark Brewer seconded, 4-0-1

h. Building (up to 2)

Motion: Kevin Roberge nominated Brian McGill and Mark Brewer to serve as Board representatives to the Building Committee, Jacob Eckert seconded, 3-0-2

i. Wellness

Motion: *Brian McGill nominated Noah Charney to serve as Board chair of the Wellness Committee, Jacob Eckert seconded, 3-0-2*

j. DEI (up to 2)

Motion: *Mark Brewer nominated Brian McGill and Kevin Roberge to serve on the DEI Committee, Jacob Eckert seconded, 3-0-2*

k. Stipend

Motion: *Brian McGill nominated Kevin Roberge to serve on the Stipend Committee, Mark Brewer seconded, 4-0-1*

3. Consideration of the Minutes

a. March 8, 2022

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the March 8, 2022 minutes as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0*

4. Approval of Warrants

a. Payroll - 19

b. February Maine PERS

c. Warrant - 19

d. BAN - 54

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

5. Public Comment

- a. Laura Cost-Kirkpatrick, student, spoke in favor of keeping the MUSE block in the OHS schedule.
- b. Isaak Swartz, student, also spoke positively about keeping the MUSE block.
- c. Nick Newman, student, spoke favorably about MUSE and how it helps their schedule and overcoming conflicts for space in their schedule.
- d. Katherine Kotahla, student, fears that students would not be able to fit arts and music classes into their schedule if there were not a MUSE block at the high school.
- e. Rose Sunderland-McKay, student, spoke positively about arts education.
- f. Summer Sunderland, parent, thinks that it is important for Orono schools to reflect the values of the community and continue to support arts education.
- g. Erin Lanigan, parent, questions the timing of the proposed removal of the MUSE block combined with the reduction in instructional time of the OHS/OMS vocal music instructor.
- h. Emily Jackson Sanborn, parent and staff member, thinks that it is important to maintain a non-competing arts block in the high school schedule.
- i. Nancy Marks, parent, finds it unfathomable that the elimination of the MUSE block would coincide with the completion of the performing arts center.
- j. Rowan Jackson Sanborn, student, agrees with all of those who have spoken, and urges for MUSE to continue.
- k. Catherine Thibodeau, parent, advises against the removal of the MUSE block from the OHS schedule.
- l. Summer Sunderland, parent, spoke again on the mental health benefits of arts in the schools.

6. Acknowledgments

- a. Meredith Higgins, superintendent, welcomes Noah Charney and Kevin Roberge to the Board of Directors. Supt. Higgins also acknowledges Shana Goodall for her hard work over the Friday, March 18, PD day.

7. Reports

a. Director Reports

- i. Lisa Smith- Special Services Director
 1. All education technician positions are filled!
 2. CORE sent a letter to Lisa Smith and Sam Runco, thanking them for the social worker services provided this school year.
- ii. Meredith Diamond- Curriculum Coordinator
 1. The Equity Team is beginning the task of developing an action plan from the equity report.
 2. Worked with faculty across buildings to learn to work with advanced learners.
 3. Tech Committee has a draft statement of philosophy.

b. Superintendent Report

- i. Asa attendance waiver request (October 6, 2021 & February 9, 2022)
 1. Superintendent Higgins is seeking a waiver for the 2 days this school year missed by only for Asa students.

Motion: Brian McGill moved for the Board to approve the writing of a letter asking for the Maine Department of Education to waive the school days missed only by Asa Adams students, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- ii. Solar credits proposal
 1. Discussion of solar credits moved to Action Items
- iii. Asa Principal & Curriculum Coordinator Interview Committees
 1. Board members are needed to serve on the hiring committees
 - a. Asa Principal
 - i. Noah Charney
 - ii. Kevin Roberge
 - b. Director of Learning
 - i. Mark Brewer
 - ii. Brian McGill
- iv. OHS Schedule Study Report
 1. Meredith Diamond presented the findings and recommendations of the OHS Schedule Committee
 2. Committee has been working since late fall to develop the best daily schedule for students
 3. MUSE block is not being used effectively by most students
 4. The recommended schedule for 22-23 will change to an 8 block schedule with alternating days.

8. Discussion Items

a. COVID Discussion

- i. The second round of March vaccination clinic is scheduled for the week of the 7-11
- ii. Schools are now mask optional

b. Board self-evaluation reflection

- i. Discussion postponed to April 5, 2022 meeting

c. FY 23 Budget (handouts)

- i. Changes since last Board meeting:
 1. Fine-tuning expenditures and expenditures
 - a. Revenue projections are up for tuition students

- b. Added expenditures for heating and fuel costs
- ii. Handout with cost-saving budgetary measures
- d. FY 23 Calendar (handout)
 - i. Proposed calendar with monthly half days and a change in Thanksgiving break week

9. Action Items

- a. Staff Nominations
 - i. Co-curricular nominations

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the slate of co-curricular nominations as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- b. Policies
 - i. Second Read
 - 1. IHA - Curriculum

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the adoption of policy IHA- Curriculum, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- ii. Revision
 - 1. AD - Educational philosophy and mission

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the adoption of policy AD- Educational philosophy and mission, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- 2. IIB - Class Size

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the adoption of policy IIB- Class Size, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- 3. IJOA - Field trips and student travel

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the adoption of policy IJOA- Field trips and student travel, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- c. SRRF Award - Asa Ventilation Project

Motion: Brian McGill moved that the vote entitled, "Vote to Authorize \$72,011 School Revolving Renovation Fund Loan Forgiveness Grant Financing," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that the Secretary file an attested copy of said vote with the minutes of this meeting, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- d. Honeywell Project Development Agreement

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the superintendent to sign a contract with Honeywell, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- e. ESP Job Description Revisions
 - i. Educational Technician
 - ii. Administrative Assistant
 - iii. Food Service
 - iv. Custodian
 - v. Technology Assistant

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the modified job descriptions for Educational Technician at three levels, Administrative Assistant, and Technology Assistant, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

- f. Stipend Approvals
 - i. OHS Softball Assistant Coach
 - ii. Special Olympics
 - iii. Robotics

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the addition of an assistant softball coach position, the creation of a new stipend position for Special Olympics, and to make permanent the robotics position, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

g. Solar credits contract

Motion: Brian McGill moved that the Vote entitled, "Vote to Authorize the Purchase of Net Energy Billing Credits," be adopted in form presented to this meeting, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

h. MOU with OEA ESP unit to correct payscale error

Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the chair of the Board to sign of the MOU as presented, Mark Brewer seconded, 5-0

10. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

i. Graduation requirement policies

b. United Technology Center

c. SPRPCE

i. Two budgets passed at the last meeting

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

i. Establish a calendar for regular curriculum review

e. Facilities/Building committee

i. Discussed self-managed construction priorities

f. DEI

i. Forming subcommittee with representatives from across cohorts

11. Other Business

12. Future Agenda Items

13. Public Comment

14. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

a. Tuesday, April 5, 2022 - Regular Meeting, in-person and via Zoom, 6 pm

15. Request for Information and Follow-up

16. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved 4/5/22