

Minutes
OMS/OHS Library
Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link
November 14, 2023, 6:00 pm

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| × Brian McGill | × Kevin Roberge |
| × Jake Eckert | × Marissa McLaughlin |
| × Mark Brewer | × Dorsa Tajvidi |
| × Noah Charney | |

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Agenda Adjustments
 - i. Add 8.b.iii - Husson University IT Dept donation of 4 APC Smart-UPS Battery Backups and item 7.c. Election Date Discussion.

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

2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. October 24, 2023

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the October 24, 2023 minutes as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0*

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Warrant- 9
- b. Payroll- 9
- c. BAN- 45
- d. Bullet Bond- 3

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

4. Public Comment

- a. Lisa Dermer, RSU 26 parent, voiced her opinion on the math curriculum that was on the agenda to be voted on at the evening's meeting.

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Jacob Eckert acknowledged the donation of \$100 in lumber from Home Depot to Jennifer Branchflower and the Secret Garden Club for planting beds.
- b. Brian McGill congratulated the OHS Varsity Football team on winning the State championship game. Congratulations also go out to Ruth White and the girls and boys cross country teams for their winning seasons.
- c. Kevin Roberge thanked everyone at Asa Adams for their hard work in making a successful teacher conference evening.
- d. Marissa McLaughlin congratulated the cross country teams and especially Ruth White who won the New England Cross Country Championship.
- e. Superintendent Meredith Higgins congratulated Ruth White on her 3rd consecutive New England cross-country win. Ruth is the first runner from Maine to achieve this feat. Ruth will be signing her letter of intent to continue her running career at Boise State. Ms Higgins also salutes the varsity football team on their State Championship win. Superintendent Higgins also thanked Angie Kohtala and JMG students for prepping and painting the outside doors to the high school.

6. Reports

- a. Principal Reports
 - i. Kerri Wyman, Asa Adams
 1. The UMaine women's basketball team came to visit and help out in Mr Case's PE classes.

2. Thanks to Asa librarian Erin Murphy for making the book fair a huge success! Ms. Murphy ensures that every student gets a book from the fair regardless of their ability to pay.
 3. Parent teacher conferences were held on November 8th and 9th. Conferences were held in person online. Families were eager to meet with teachers to discuss progress during the first trimester of the school year., and there was a strong turnout.
 4. The new band room and OT spaces are nearing completion.
- ii. Richard Glencross, OMS
1. OMS Students were recognized for academic performance, fall athletics, and fall co-curricular participation on Thursday, November 9th.
 2. Former NFL player Mike DeVito and members of the University of Maine football team hosted a modified NFL Play 60 event for OMS students. UMaine team members coached students through various stations to encourage the importance of physical activity.
 3. Student success plans have been distributed, and will inform student programming and support during the 2023-24 school year.
 4. The first night of parent conferences was held on November 14. More than 50 families attended, and more are expected on night 2.
- iii. Sam Runco and Meredith Diamond, OHS
1. Congratulations to all of the OHS sports teams who competed over the fall season!
 2. Congratulations to Kase Walston who is the UTC Student of the Quarter.
 3. A financial aide night was held to help families navigate paperwork needed for financing college.
 4. The first parent advisory group will be held on November 20 through Zoom.
 5. Planning is beginning for the 2024-2025 school year and the courses to be offered.
 6. A team from OHS will be participating in the Maine Quiz Bowl on Maine Public.
- b. Superintendent Report
- i. The additional classrooms are nearing completion at Asa and should be available for occupancy after the Thanksgiving holiday.
 - ii. The Central Office project is underway. Demolition is wrapping up and the framing of offices is beginning.
 - iii. The Wellbeing Workgroup held their first meeting, and will be bringing findings to the Board in late winter.
 - iv. COPS Grant - Matching Grant from US DOJ
 1. RSU 26 was awarded a COPS Grant from the Department of Justice for \$666,208, with a 25% matching grant
 2. The money from this grant would cover:
 - a. Replacing the PA system
 - b. An emergency alert system
 - c. Generators for the schools to assist with communications
 - d. Expanding the security camera system
 - e. Door access controls and security
 - f. Professional development

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the acceptance of the COPS Grant. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

7. Discussion Items

a. OHS Swimming & Wrestling Update - Mike Archer

- i. A swim team opportunity will be reinstated at OHS with the creation of the Penobscot River Hawks, a cooperative team with Old Town and Foxcroft Academy.
- ii. A wrestling program has been developed with a cooperative of seven schools which will meet at the Hampden Grange to practice.
 1. Transportation is the responsibility of the athletes and their parents.
 2. Orono will transport the entire team to 2 meets, allowing for minimal transportation costs.
 3. Meet fees will minimal as they will be split between 7 schools.
 4. Coaches are waiving compensation for the team's inaugural year.
 5. 5 Orono student-athletes are interested in participating on the team.

b. Technology & Math Curriculum

- i. Susan Smith presented a slide show detailing the proposed Technology and Math curriculum.
- ii. The Board discussed the curricula presented.

c. Election Date Discussion

- i. The Town of Orono is considering changing the date for the election of town council members, and the Board discussed changing the date when School Board officials are elected.
 1. The School Board is not mandated to hold its election at the same time as the Town Council.
 2. The election is currently held in March, garnering only a few hundred votes.
 3. The election possibilities are to hold the elections in June or November instead of March.
 4. The current election taking place in March is not an ideal time to onboard members because it is the middle of budget development.

Motion: Mark Brewer moved to request that the Orono Town Council place the School Board of Directors election in June. Jacob Eckert seconded. Vote 4-1

8. 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. Vote 5-0.

Mark Brewer's "yes" vote does not include the cooperative team coaches who are on the list as a matter of record.

b. Grant/Donation Approval

- i. MDOE Teaching with Tech Grant - OMS Deb White - \$4,017.74

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the MDOE Teaching with Tech Grant. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

- ii. Rhonda Dougherty donated a Yamaha Clarinova piano to Orono High School for the music program. Approximate value is \$800.00.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the acceptance of the Yamaha Clarinova piano for Rhonda Dougherty. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

- iii. Husson University IT Dept donation of 4 APC Smart-UPS Battery Backups - Valued at approximately \$1,800-\$2,000 each.

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the acceptance of Husson University IT Dept donation of 4 APC Smart-UPS Battery Backups. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

c. Policies

- i. IHCDA - Post-Secondary Enrollment Options

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the revisions to policy IHCDA - Post-Secondary Enrollment Options. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

- ii. IHBAC - Child Find

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the revisions to policy IHBAC - Child Find. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

d. Curriculum Approval

- i. Technology (K-12)

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the Technology curriculum as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

- ii. Math (K-Geometry)

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the Math curriculum as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

- i. Policies FF - Naming School Buildings and Facilities and IJOA - Field Trips will be discussed at the December 7 meeting.

b. United Technology Center

- i. The half day schedule at UTC is being examined to better fit with the sending schools' schedule. Credits for work completed at UTC is being considered.

c. SPRPCE

- i. Next meeting will be November 16.

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

- i. Next meeting will be December 14.
- ii. A "dine and discuss" meeting will be held December 6 at 7:00.

e. Facilities/Building Committee

- i. Classrooms are being completed at Asa and work is progressing on the Central Office remodel.

f. Wellness Committee

- i. Next meeting will be November 30, at 2:00.

g. DEI Leadership Team

- i. A School Climate, Equity, and Inclusion survey went out to district parents.
- ii. Next meeting is scheduled for December 11.

h. Strategic Plan Team

- i. The Team is working on 3 documents: Mission and Vision, Vision of a Learner, and Community Values.

10. Other Business

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Public Comment

- a. Lisa Dermer, RSU 26 parent, thanks the Board their comments and consideration on the math curriculum.

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. Data Workshop- December 5, 2023, 4:30, OHS/OMS Library
- b. Regular Meeting- December 5, 2023, 6:00, OHS/OMS Library

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

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

Motion: Brian McGill moved to go into executive session under 1 MRSA 405 6(d) Discussion of Labor Negotiations. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

16. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved December 5, 2023