

Minutes
OMS/OHS Library
Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link
February 27, 2024, 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

2. Consideration of the Minutes
 - a. February 6, 2024

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the February 6, 2024, minutes as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.
Vote 5-0

3. Approval of Warrants

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

4. Public Comment

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Brian McGill congratulated all district athletes on their success over the winter sports season.
- b. Meredith Higgins commended the OHS Boys' basketball team on their Northern Maine championship win. They will play for the State title on Friday, March 1. She also congratulated all individuals who participated in sporting events over winter break.

6. Reports

- a. Director Reports

- i. Lisa Smith, Director of Special Services

1. The Special Services department still needs to be more staffed, but everyone is working hard.
2. The State has plans to slowly integrate CDS into public schools over three to five years.

- ii. Susan Smith, Director of Learning

1. Course proposals

- a. Two dual-enrollment classes will be offered at OHS in conjunction with the University of Maine at Augusta. Classes will be taught by OHS staff, and students will have the opportunity to choose high school credit, college credit, or both.
- b. The new choir courses being offered are the result of working with choir director Molly Webster and the evolving needs of the students.
- c. Some of the new course proposals are so that the subject area is available to a wider range of students.
2. Staff will be busy with professional development days on March 13 & 15.
3. Asa won a \$25,000 grant that will kick-start work on the science of reading and phonics and other projects.

b. Superintendent Report

i. Meredith Higgins, Superintendent

1. RSU 26 is taking advantage of grants being offered by the State as it tries to use its remaining COVID funds.
 - a. \$32,000 in grant money was secured to reimburse the district for coursework completed in certain areas.
2. The Wellbeing Committee has wrapped up its work with a set of priorities that will be presented to the Strategic Plan group to help flesh out the goals around wellbeing in the district. Thanks to all who participated on the committee.
3. The Strategic Plan group has completed work to identify their priorities. Small groups are working to develop action strategies which will go to stakeholder groups for feedback in April.
4. Enrollment Update & Projections
 - a. Superintendent Higgins presented the Board with a current enrollment update and the projected enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year.
 - b. Mark Brewer requested information on the percentage of the incoming Freshman class that have been tuition students attending RSU 26 over the decade.
5. Capital Improvement Plan
 - a. The Board was presented with a spreadsheet of Capital Improvement projects indicating projects completed and yet to be begun.
 - b. Proposed projects for the 2024-2025 school year
 - i. OHS English Wing
 - ii. Asa Adams Playground equipment
 - iii. Grade 1 & 2 bathrooms at Asa
 - iv. Asa Adams outer doors

7. Discussion Items

a. Student Board Representatives - Term period & length

- i. Meredith Higgins and Student Board Representative Dorsa Tajvidi discussed options for changing the election cycle of future student representatives to the Board.
 1. A student advisory council is proposed to allow for more feedback from the students to the Board.
 2. A staggered 2-year appointment of students in their junior year would allow for continuity and an easier transition for the new student Board members.
 3. The Board came to a consensus on Student Board Representative seats for the 24-25 school year with Dorsa Tajvidi remaining on the Board for a second year, as well as having an additional 1 year senior position and a 2 year junior position.
- ii. FY 25 Budget
 1. Meredith Higgins presented the preliminary proposed budget for FY25, noting significant changes from the 2023-2024 budget.

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

b. New Course Approval Requests

- i. Show Choir - OHS Visual & Performing Arts Dept
- ii. Advanced Choir - OHS Visual & Performing Arts Dept

- iii. Studio Vocal Arts - OHS Visual & Performing Arts Dept
- iv. American Pop Music: An Anthology - OHS Visual & Performing Arts Dept
- v. Art Explorations - OHS Visual & Performing Arts Dept

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the following new courses: Show Choir, Advanced Choir, Studio Vocal Arts, American Pop Music, and Art Explorations. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0.

- vi. College Writing and Professional Communications (Dual enrollment with UMA) - OHS English Dept
- vii. Sports in American History - OHS Social Studies Dept
- viii. Everyday Chemistry - OHS Science Dept

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the following new courses: College Writing and Professional Communications, Sports in American History, and Everyday Chemistry. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0.

- ix. CIS 131/Web Applications (Dual enrollment with UMA) - OHS Science Dept
- x. Artificial Intelligence Applications - OHS Science Dept
- xi. AP Computer Science Principles - OHS Science Dept

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the following new courses: CIS 131/Web Applications, Artificial Intelligence Applications, and AP Computer Science Principals. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0.

9. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Policy Subcommittee
 - i. The next meeting will be March 7.
 - ii. A field trip policy and generative AI are on the agenda.
- b. United Technology Center
- c. SPRPCE
 - i. The last meeting discussed the FY 25 budget.
- d. Curriculum Subcommittee
 - i. The next meeting is March 14.
 - ii. Health curriculum and ELOs will be discussed.
- e. Facilities/Building Committee
 - i. Working on OMS proposal.
 - ii. The Central Office is still on track to move over April vacation.
- f. Wellness Committee
 - i. The next meeting will be March 4.
- g. DEI Leadership Team
 - i. The next meeting will be February 29.
- h. Strategic Plan Team
 - i. Working in small groups to develop action strategies.

10. Other Business

- a. The Board Survey closes at midnight on February 27.

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Public Comment

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. March 12, 2024, 6:00, OHS/OMS Library

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

15. Adjournment

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

Meeting Adjourned.

Approved March 12, 2024.