

MINUTES

RSU #26 Board of Directors Meeting
 Orono Town Council Chambers
 Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

- x Brian McGill, chairperson
- x Jacob Eckert, vice-chair
- x Mark Brewer
- x Erin Ellis
- x Geoff Wingard
- Katie King, Student Advisor
- Eli McGill, Student Advisor
- x Ross Cobo-Lewis, Student Advisor Alternate

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order

Brian McGill called the meeting to order at 6:02pm

- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Agenda Adjustments – none

2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. August 21, 2018

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the minutes, Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

- b. August 21, 2018 - Student Data Workshop

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the Workshop minutes, after they were amended to say that the board “came out of executive session at 5:58 pm”, Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

3. Approval of Warrants –

- a. Payrolls – 4
- b. Warrants –
- c. ME Pers – August

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the Warrants, Erin Ellis seconded. Vote 5-0*

4. Public Comment – none**5. Acknowledgements**

- a. Asa Adams received a donation of \$100 from Mary Holmes Davis for the Library. This donation is in honor of her mother, Dot Holmes, who was a 6th grade teacher at Asa.
- b. WABI Channel 5 is donating \$250.00 to the Orono Athletic Department as part of their Friday Night Game of the Week. The game is on Sept 7th, and will be televised
- c. Emera of Maine is making a donation in recognition of Abbie Crocker’s community service hours. Abbie has chosen the Orono Athletic Department to receive a donation of \$300.00.
- d. Geoff Wingard acknowledges RSU 26 teachers and staff for their hard work and giving of their own time prior to the beginning of the school year.
- e. Erin Ellis complimented Orono Middle School for their great open house, and the school community on how nice the building look.
- f. Jake Eckert acknowledges the coaches and all of their work getting the fall sports season off to a good start.
- g. Brian McGill acknowledges everyone’s hard work in getting things off to a great start this year.
- h. Meredith Higgins, appreciates the staff for a smooth start to the school year and Sean Malone and all his projects to get school started
- i. Mark Brewer thanks faculty and staff for the hard work they put into getting the school year off to a good start.
- j. Ross Cobo-Lewis also thanks the faculty and staff who worked to get things ready for students.

6. **Presentations**
 - a. **Superintendent Report- Meredith Higgins**
 - i. Enrollment is strong and tuition numbers exceed projections
 - ii. Traveled to Augusta with Brent Fournier land conservation areas
 1. Virtually entire campus is under 6F conservation regulations
 - iii. Selected for NAEP (National Assessment of Education Progress) testing by state- no choice in if we participate
 - b. **Principal Report**
 - i. **Reg Ruhlin**
 1. Shana Goodall is one of 3 finalists for Maine state teacher of the year. The judging committee will be at OHS on September 20.
 2. Week in Preview will begin being sent out on September 5
 3. Parent/Teacher conference 2nd week in October
 4. Strong interest in STEM classes and Writing Center
 5. Great enrollment for 9th graders, 86 this year
 6. *Innovator's Mindset* to be discussed at September PD hour
 - ii. **Heath Kennie**
 1. Smoothest first day of school he's ever been a part of
 2. Bangor Escape room for teacher team building
 3. Acknowledges individuals Karen Frye, Sean Malone, Lori Hartery, Peter Beuhner, Richard Marquis, and Chris Gray for their efforts and contributions to the beginning of the school year
 4. 97% of student paperwork came back during the first week
 5. OMS Website is a priority, game and practice schedules will be on the website
 6. Open house- large turnout
 7. OMS News, a bi-weekly newsletter, will be sent out for the first time during the 18-19 school year on September 7
 8. Partnership with the University of Maine—survey to sent to OMS teachers, then reaching out to the specific departments at UMaine
 9. NWEA – testing to take place during the week of Sept 17
 10. 177 Students currently enrolled at OMS
 - iii. **Darren Akerman**
 1. School year started off well
 2. Thanks to Heath and Reg for checking shared staff schedule
 3. Thanks to Kate Crane and Mia Caballero for preparing student packets and their help getting the school year off to a smooth start
 4. Thank PTO for PreK and Kindergarten Opening Nights
 5. Volunteer training- Sept 10
 6. NWEAs begin in late September
 7. Chosen to NAEP Assessment- January 28 – March 8
 - a. National database for national report card
 - b. 5th and 8th Grade
 - c. Let parents know that district had no choice, selected by state
 - c. **Technology Director Report- Sean Malone**
 - i. Grant money to upgrade network- 63 access points, handle 40,000 clients
 - ii. Fiber at Asa needs replaced at a cost of \$7,000
 1. Cabling was less than original ENA budget, might have the money for the fiber through this surplus
 2. Update at next board meeting

- iii. Moved from a web filter to a content filter
 - 1. Smarter content filter, looking at the context of search
 - 2. Soon to have a notification system in place to alert Sean/School Counselors of things such as cyber bullying
- iv. Copiers are in- 3 stage process
 - 1. Multipurpose copiers for teachers and office staff
 - 2. Midsize copiers in the library for student use, and Special Ed to print confidential papers
 - 3. Strategize smaller printers for outliers
- d. **Student Report- Ross Cobo-Lewis**
 - i. UTC students returned to class today
 - ii. Middle and High sports season has begun
 - 1. High School wins over Bucksport

7. Discussion Items

- a. Facilities Study Priorities Discussion
 - i. PDT Architects interviewed staff, students, Board and community- extensive input collection
 - ii. Categories of interest
 - 1. Dedicated performing art space (approximately \$3-5 million)
 - 2. Track upgrades (\$1-4 million)
 - 3. Cafeteria redesign- Asa and OMS/OHS (\$1 million)
 - 4. Infrastructure
 - 5. Auxiliary space- not assigned for instructional use
 - 6. Traffic/parking/pedestrian safety
 - 7. Classroom upgrades
 - 8. Central office design/redesign (\$200K)
 - 9. Visual appeal Several hundred thousand
 - 10. Small group spaces- small group instruction
 - 11. ADA compliance (\$1-2 million)
 - 12. Campus Security
 - iii. Academics are great, but harder to recruit students if facilities are lacking
 - iv. What does PDT recommend? What attracts kids?
 - v. 6F feedback/work arounds
 - 1. 6F- preserve public green space- land grants, approval needed for any expansion
 - vi. Send Board's feedback to PDT
 - vii. PDT will provide drawings in next month or so, costs a little further down the road

8. Action Items

- a. Staff Nomination
 - i. Nominations for co-curricular coaches and advisors read in meeting, and noted in board packet

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to accept the co-curricular nominations as presented, Erin Ellis seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0*

- b. Approval of Donation
 - i. Donation of \$575 to the Orono High School Library from the Orono High Class of 1960

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to accept the donation of \$575, Erin Ellis seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0*

9. **Subcommittee Reports**

- a. Policy Subcommittee- Meeting Thursday, Sept 6
 - i. Kids coming from juvenile system and confidentiality
 - ii. Lunch fees, collection, and loans
 - iii. Policy IKF, graduation requirements
- b. United Technology Center- No meeting scheduled yet
- c. SPRPCE- No meeting scheduled yet
- d. Curriculum Subcommittee- Meeting Thursday, September 13,
- e. Facilities- none
- f. Wellness Subcommittee- none

10. **Other Business**

- a. Mark Brewer- Update on My School Bucks issues

11. **Future Agenda Items**

12. **Public Comment**

13. **Executive Session - per 1 M.R.S.A§405(6)(A) - Resignation of officials/appointees/employees**

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to go into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A§405(6)(A), Geoff Wingard seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0*

The board entered executive session at 7:58 pm and exited executive session at 8:23 pm

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to allow Superintendent Higgins and Principal Reg Ruhlin to hire a Social Studies teacher at OHS Erin Ellis seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0*

14. **Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting**

- a. Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at the Orono Town Council Chambers at 6 p.m.

15. **Request for Information and Follow-up- none**

16. **Adjournment**

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22, Erin Ellis seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0*

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Raechelle Edmiston-Cyr

Central Office Administrative Assistant