

RSU #12
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010 ~ 6:30 P.M.
WISCASSET HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call at 6:38 pm.
 Absent: Richard DeVries, Sherrill Hallett and Lester Sheaffer. Joan Morin arrived at 6:45 pm and Albert Lawrence arrived at 7:00 pm. Also present were Jake Clockedile, Charlotte Boynton, (Wiscasset News reporter) and her husband Mr. Boynton, John McGuire (Lincoln County News reporter), Judy Flanagan (RSU # 12 employee), Steve Merrill (Chair Wiscasset Budget Committee), Susan Kistenmacher (RSU # 12 employee), Rob Cronk (RSU # 12 employee), Chip Schwehm (RSU # 12 employee), Cheryle Joslyn (RSU # 12 employee) and members of the RSU # 12 Administrative Team.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
 Mr. Birmingham led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda
 Superintendent Potter recommended the following adjustments to the agenda:
 Move up: 11.3 Trip Approval to 7.1
 11.5 Jake Clockedile Future Search presentation to 7.2
 11.6 Technology Tour to 7.3
 Add: to Item # 11 New Business, 11.1 Resignations
 (b) Barbara Hayden, Ed Tech Whitefield, June 2010 retirement.
 Add: to Item # 11 New Business, 11.2 Appointments
 (a) Susan Leary, PCS Softball Coach,
 (b) Josiah Winchenbach, WMS Track Coach
 Add: to Item # 11 New Business, 11.7 To appoint 2 Board members to serve on Sick Bank/ Catastrophic Sick Bank Committee.

 Motion: *To make the adjustments to the agenda as presented.*
 1st Bob Temple, 2nd William Stafford: Vote: 14-0-0 Motion Carried Unanimously by all those in attendance and voting.

4. Accept Minutes of March 11th, 2010 (Regular) Meeting.

 No Discussion.
 Motion: *To accept the Minutes of March 11, 2010 as presented.*
 1st Bob Temple, 2nd Jerry Nault; Vote: 15-0-0 Motion Carried Unanimously by all those in attendance and voting.

5. Communications/Correspondence - None

6. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Potter shared the news of a former employee's passing on Monday April 7, 2010. Mrs. Gosia McKelvey worked for the former Union 133 at the Windsor Elementary School as a Baker and then worked as a substitute teacher for the Union. She was well liked by the staff and students. Also, Principal Ron Cote, Whitefield Elementary School, lost his mother recently after an extended illness, while she was residing in Florida. Mr. Potter also reported that Wednesday, April 7th, The Maine Legislature approved a bill that will allow the use of test results in teacher and principal evaluations. The amendment put restrictions on the use of the data, requiring adoption by a "stakeholders" group, followed by adoption by the Department of Education. The major activities of the past month have been focused on budget prep for FY 2011, staff negotiations, the study options for a long-range strategic vision and planning process and planning for the construction of the new Chelsea Elementary School. The annual Modern Woodmen of America Speech Contest (District wide) will happen on Tuesday, April 27th, from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Whitefield Elementary School Gym. Mr. Gary Rosenthal, Assistant Superintendent will emcee this event. This will be the first year that the Wiscasset Middle School will be participating. At the last board meeting, the group voted to authorize Chair Thomas Birmingham to sign a Resolution that is seeking fair, equitable and transparent funding for public education in Maine; The Resolution was already voted on by several school boards in southern Maine and was forwarded to us. We distributed this signed document to The Joint Standing Committee of Appropriations and Financial Affairs, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, the Legislatures Educational Committee, the Local House and Senate Representatives, Governor Baldacci, Commissioner Gendron, MSMA/MSBA/MSSA, Mr. Potter shared the responses from a few who received the e-mail.

7. Board Chair's Report

Mr. Birmingham reported that the last month has been a busy one and has spent a lot of time with the Finance Committee; he thanked them for doing an excellent job.

7.1 To Approve the (Overnight) WMS 8th Grade Trip to Connecticut (Expeditionary Learning-NOAA Research Ship). Sue Kistenmacher and Cheryle Joslyn presented the itinerary for their 2nd annual trip to Connecticut. There are 43 students that will go, 4 teachers and 1 or 2 parents. They stay overnight at the University of CT, in the dorms and eat in the University cafeteria. One day they go out on their Research Ship setting nets to gather items from the sea and the next day they set the nets from a beach. The items collected from the nets, fish, etc, are measured, weighed and recorded. The entire trip is busy with different activities and the students go to bed tired each night – it was a wonderful and very worthwhile trip last year. The trip is funded by a NOAA grant and the only cost is that of the bus to get them there and there is some other grant money for that as well.

Motion: To approve the overnight WMS 8th grade trip to CT (Expeditionary Learning NOAA Research Ship) with a condition of a report back by students.

1st Blake Brown, 2nd Michele Chartier; Vote: 16-0-0 Motion Carried Unanimously by all those in attendance and voting.

7.2 To Approve a Recommendation by the Ad Hoc Committee for Strategic Planning/Vision "to obtain MDOE facilitative services to implement a "Future Search" process and create a Community-based, collaborative vision and long-range plan for RSU 12." Mr. Jake Clockedile gave a presentation on Future Search and how it will/can work for us. Their members work with a group of "us" to decide what we want RSU 12 to look like in 5-10-15 years; they will assist our group to create

themes, list out concerns, formulate strategic plans to meet educational goals. They will not give us a plan but will help us to create a plan for a very clear shared vision. The process takes up to 16 hours which is scheduled over 2 days. This usually costs around \$ 8,000.00 however for us the fee would be waived. Discussion ensued.

Motion: To approve a recommendation by the Ad-Hoc Committee for Strategic Planning/Vision “to obtain MDOE facilitative services to implement a “Future Search” process and create a Community-Based Collaborative Vision and long-range plan for RSU 12”.

1st Bob Temple, 2nd Hilary Holm; Vote: 16-1-0 Motion Carried. William Stafford voted Nay

7.3 Program Focus: Short Tour of WHS “Technology Education” Program / Facilities: RSU # 12 employees Chip Schwehm and Rob Cronk, gave a tour of their area and showed a brief film about the program. The film took you through each class, fine furniture making, mechanical drawing, instrument making, problem solving and more. Feed-back from the students was more than positive. The program took on changes in the mid 1980’s to expand the curriculum beyond the routine Industrial Arts classes. All students at the high school take these co-ed classes.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Finance Committee: Mr. Nault provided a detailed written report; please see attached. Mr. Nault thanked the Committee for doing yeoman’s work. Upcoming dates: Wednesday, April 28th, a Special Budget meeting; Saturday, May 22, is the regional budget meeting; Tuesday, June 8 is the validation.

*Mr. Steve Merrill, Wiscasset Budget Committee Chair applauded the efforts of the Finance Committee.

*Mr. Blake Brown thanked everyone for their budget presentations and attempts to lower their numbers.

Motion: To have the Special meeting on April 28th, to discuss and/or adopt the FY10 and FY11 Budgets.

1st Chris Johnson, 2nd Shawn Carlson; Discussion Ensued. Vote: 15-0-2: Chris Johnson and Gene Stover Abstained. Blake wished to make a friendly amendment for the location of the meeting to be determined; Discussion Ensued and Whitefield Elementary School was suggested.

Motion: To have the Special meeting on April 28th, to discuss and/or adopt the FY10 and FY11 Budgets and to hold it at the Whitefield Elementary School.

1st Chris Johnson, 2nd Blake Brown; Vote: 17-0-0 Motion Carried: Unanimous by all those in attendance and voting. Discussion ensued on whether to talk about both budgets at the same time.

8.2 Personnel Committee: Mr. Lawrence shared that the upcoming meeting has been canceled so the committee can informally meet next Wednesday at the Policy Committee meeting to discuss ideas to move forward.

8.3 Policy Committee: Mr. Johnson shared that the group had not meet since the last board meeting and they continue to work on the Superintendent’s evaluation policy. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 14th. Mr. Temple asked if the Committee could start to work on some of the finance policies. Mr. Johnson replied that the one required financial policy had already been done but they could look at some of the optional policies.

8.4 Public Communications Committee: Mrs. Holm shared that some board members have been invited to go and listen at the selectmen meetings. She has received several submissions for the Sheepscot Valley Current which she will work on over April break. She hopes to include a budget packet in this edition. Mr. Lawrence suggested an article on the Modern Woodmen of America Civic Oration Contest. Mrs. Andersson suggested writing about the Morris Farm grant for a garden circle at WPS and also the

WHS trip to Connecticut for the Expeditionary Learning on the NOAA Research Ship. Mrs. Morin suggested an article about the Technology Education program seen that night would be a good submission.

8.5 Negotiations Committee: Mrs. Holm shared that Committee is still working on interim contracts and initial contracts for Administrators.

8.6 Chelsea Building Committee: Mr. Hallett shared that the next meeting would be Monday, April 12th, 6:30 pm and they would be discussing the Owner's Representative and Commissioning Agents. The Owner's Rep oversees the entire project and the Commissioning Agent works on the mechanical components; such as heating, plumbing etc. Bids for the General Contractor will be opened on Tuesday, May 11, 2010.

8.7 Ad Hoc Strategic Planning/Vision Committee – (Discussed during presentation – see 7.2)

9. Public Comment -

*Public comment is to be restricted to items on the agenda. Comments regarding individuals or personnel matters are not appropriate for public session.

*Judy Flanagan, RSU # 12 employee, in reference to the upcoming April 28th meeting, suggested that as we move forward in talking about the new budget, we need to communicate it to the public that we are making cuts. She added that it is unfortunate that folks are not at this meeting and emphasized that we need to present something; many feel that you have not passed a budget and they are frustrated.

10. Old Business – None

11. New Business

11.1 Resignations – To accept the resignation of:

- (a) Susan Shorey, WHS Physical Education Teacher, June 2010.
- b) Barbara Hayden, Ed Tech Whitefield, June 2010 retirement.

Motion: *To accept the Resignations in 11.1 (a) and 11.1 (b) of Susan Shorey, WHS, with regret and to wish Barbara Hayden, Whitefield, well.*

1st Bob Temple, 2nd Chris Johnson; No discussion: Vote: 17-0-0 Motion Carried: Unanimous by all those in attendance and voting.

11.2 Appointments:

- (a) Susan Leary, PCS Softball Coach
- (b) Josiah Winchenbach, WMS Track Coach

Motion: *To appoint as listed in 11.2 a, b of Susan Leary as PCS Softball coach and to appoint Josiah Winchenbach as WMS Track coach.*

1st Bob Temple, 2nd Michele Chartier; No discussion: Vote: 17-0-0 Motion Carried: Unanimous by all those in attendance and voting.

11.3 To Approve the (Overnight) WMS 8th Grade Trip – moved to 7.1

11.4 To Approve Submission of the 2010 RUS-Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant (Through the U.S. Department of Agriculture). Mr. Potter explained that the RSU would not have to match funds/contribute to this. It was explained that the 15% match noted in the informational sheet (previously handed out) would be absorbed in the funds we are already spending. Any money spent after the grant submission date would be our match, nothing extra. The grant comes with a 3 year equipment warranty, at that point, the equipment would be older and so a decision would need to be made then to keep it or replace it.

Motion: To approve submission of the 2010 RSU Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grant (Through the Department of Agriculture).

1st Jerry Nault, 2nd Chris Johnson; Vote: 17-0-0 Motion Carried: Unanimous by all those in attendance and voting.

11.5 Strategic Planning/Vision presentation moved to 7.2

11.6 Tour of WHS “Technology Education” Program / Facilities - moved to 7.3

11.7 Appoint two members of the RSU # 12 Board to serve on the Sick Bank/Catastrophic Sick Bank Committee. Mr. Birmingham asked who would be willing to serve on this committee; Mrs. Morin and Mr. Carlson volunteered.

12. Policy Readings

12.1 To take action on the Second Readings of the following policies:

- a. IJND RSU #12 Web Site
- b. JL Student Wellness

Motion: To accept the second readings of policies, IJND & JL, a-b as outlined in section 12.1.

1st Joan Morin, 2nd Allen Hallett; Vote: 17-0-0 Motion Carried: Unanimous by all those in attendance and voting.

13. Calendar/Announcements

13.1. To Approve the RSU 12 Calendar for School Year 2010-2011.

Motion: To approve the RSU 12 Calendar for School Year 2010-2011.

1st Bob Temple, 2nd Blake Brown; Discussion Ensued. Mr. Potter explained about how storm days are not added in and when used, days of school would be added in at the end. He also explained how both regions may close separately. Vote: 17-0-0 Motion Carried: Unanimous by all those in attendance and voting.

14. Executive Session

14.1 Executive Session Pursuant to Title 20A MRSA Sub. Sec. 405 (6) (D) for discussion of labor contract negotiations. (Action)

****Followed by possible action(s) on 2009-2010 administrative salaries for Adult Education Directors and / or Wiscasset School Nurses under the teacher’s contract****

Motion: *To enter into Executive Session under Title 20A, M.R.S.A. § 405 6 (D) for discussion of labor contract negotiations at 9:35 pm.*

1st Blake Brown, 2nd Hilary Holm; Vote: 17-0-0 Motion Carried: Unanimous by all those in attendance and voting.

Exit Executive Session at 9:55 pm.

The following motion was made in public session.

Motion: *To accept the recommendation of the Negotiation Committee to offer 1.4% to Wiscasset Nurses in FY 2010 and 1.56% for FY2011 and increase both Adult Ed. Directors to receive 2.0% (retroactive) FY 2010.*

1st Blake Brown, 2nd Joan Morin; Vote: 17-0-0 Motion Carried: Unanimous by all those in attendance and voting.

15. Adjournment at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory G. Potter, Superintendent of Schools

Approved May 13, 2010 by the RSU # 12 Board of Directors