

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 40
MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 40

Friendship * Waldoboro * Warren * Washington * Union
1070 Heald Highway * PO Box 701 * Union * Maine * 04862
(207) 785-2277 Fax (207) 785-3119

Michael Cormier, Interim Superintendent
Kimberly Schroeter, Director of Instruction

Karla Miller, Business Manager
Karen Etheridge, Director of Special Services

Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, March 6, 2014
Warren Community School

MINUTES

School Board Members: Guy Bourrie, Theodore Brown, Ann Donaldson, Dana Dow, Danny Jackson, Lynda Letteney, Wayne Luce, Margaret Massengale, Sandra O'Farrell, Errol Silvestri, Brooke Simmons, Robert Williams, Dennis Wooster

Student Representative: Aaron Smeltzer, Olivia Ryan

Other Present: Superintendent Cormier, Andrew Cavanaugh, Robert England, Karen Etheridge, Deborah Howard, Julia Levensaler, Karla Miller, Katherine Race, Kimberly Schroeter, Harold Wilson, Christina Wotton, Justin Kangas, Matthew Lash and Linda Trenholm

- I. The meeting was called to order by School Board Chair, Danny Jackson, at 7:02 pm**
- a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Declaration of Quorum 817 – 110
 - c. Note Absences – Erik Amundsen, Sean Donaghy
 - d. Adjustments to the Agenda –
 - i. Add an executive session for support staff negotiations
 - ii. Approve accepting St. George students to attend MVHS with a written Memorandum of Understanding and to become the school of record for their withdrawal plan with Maine Department of Education

II. Audience with the Public

III. Approval of Minutes – February 6 and 20, 2014

- a. Motion to approve the Minutes with correction of February 6 and 20, 2014:
Dennis Wooster Second: Margaret Massengale Vote: 684 – 0 – 188 (Sandra O'Farrell, Dana Dow, Brooke Simmons)

IV. Superintendent and/or Chair Reports

- a. Superintendent's Report
 - i. See written report
 - ii. Mike and Karla met with two representatives of the St. George withdrawal committee from RSU 13 that have asked to have an arrangement for St. George students to attend Medomak Valley High School on a tuition basis. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be put together for school board approval listing RSU 40 as the school of record. Concerns were brought up concerning Midcoast School of Technology costs, transportation, Special Ed students and the ability to get out of a contract. All will be included in the MOU.

Motion to allow the superintendent to develop a memorandum of understanding to accept tuition students and for RSU 40 to become the school of record for St. George: Guy Bourrie Seconded: Dana Dow Vote: Unanimous 817 – 0

- b. Board Chair's Report
 - i. As chair of the personnel committee, Dennis Wooster made a motion to hire Stephen E. Nolan the Superintendent of Schools for RSU 40 beginning on July 1, 2014 – Seconded: Brooke Simmons Vote: Unanimous 817 – 0
 - ii. Danny thanked the search committee for their time
 - iii. Danny wished the Medomak Middle School Cheering Squad the best of luck in the competition on the weekend. He also mentioned that the Science Olympiad team from the middle school had won and that this was the second year in a row. The team will now head to Florida for the national competition.
- c. Business Manager's Report
 - i. Financials for the month of January were distributed in board folders
- d. Student Representative(s) Report
 - i. Aaron thanked Dennis Wooster and Brooke Simmons for visiting at the high school. He encouraged other board members to do the same.
 - ii. Written report attached

V. Presentations – none

VI. Reports from Schools

- a. Friendship Village School – Attached
- b. Miller School – Attached
- c. Athletic Director – Attached
- d. Technology – Attached
- e. Warren Community School – Deborah Howard welcomed everyone to Warren School. Invited board members to “Cabin Fever Fighter” next Wednesday night for evening out and an ice cream social. Monthly report next time.
- f. Prescott Memorial School – Christina Wotton invited board members to the school's annual pizza supper and dessert auction on March 15, 2014. Cost of \$15 for a family. Monthly report next time.

VII. Educational Issues

1. Review and approve the 2014 – 2015 school calendar

- a. There was discussion about the number of early dismissal days.
- b. Kim Schroeter discussed the rationale:
 - i. Staff spend 90% in front of students
 - ii. Two professional days is not sufficient enough for the transition to proficiency-based education
 - iii. Friday afternoon early release days before a vacation is not a good time for professional development for teachers
 - iv. Systemic approach to get work done – quality time
 - v. Down the road more time should be added to calendar for this work
- c. Mike Cormier mentioned that the MMS/MVHS would not dismiss as early as they do this year. They will be let out an hour later with ½ hour for lunch. This makes for a longer block of time for students to be in school and get hot lunch.
- d. Mike also mentioned that this is mentioned in the Long Range Plan

X. Motion to go into Executive Session 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (D) Support Staff Negotiations:

Maggie Massengale Second: Brooke Simmons Vote: 817 – 0
Time In: 8:33 p.m. Time Out: 8:44 p.m.

XI. Action as a Result of Executive Session

There was no action is a result of Executive Session.

XII. Other Items/Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

All meetings of the Board, except executive sessions, will be open to the public. All actions of the Board will be taken openly and the deliberations leading to Board action will likewise be conducted openly. The public and district employees are encouraged to attend Board meetings. A time of up to thirty minutes in duration for comments by visitors at Board meetings will be scheduled at the beginning of the Board's agenda. Board committee meetings are open to the public. Public input is welcomed but the Board Chair may need to limit discussion.