

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT No. 52

Greene, Leeds, and Turner, Maine

Minutes of the Eighth Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors for 2014-2015

December 11, 2014 6:30 P.M. Leeds Central School

Members present: Elizabeth Bullard; Diana Morgan; Jon Woodard; John Soucy; Robert Allen; Yuri Kowalski; Richard Gross; Peter Ricker; JoAnn Nickerson

Members absent: None

Others Present: Becky Foley, Assistant Superintendent; Deborah Alden, Special Education Director; Deborah Roberts, Business Manager; Eben Shaw, Leavitt Area High School Principal; Gail Marine, Tripp Middle School Principal; Cynthia Alexander, Turner Elementary School Principal; Theresa Gillis, Turner Primary School Principal; Pam Doyen, Greene Central School Principal; Danielle Harris, Leeds Central School Principal; Karen Potvin, Technology Education Coordinator; Razell Ward, Adult Education Director; District Citizens; District Employees

1. Chairperson Elizabeth Bullard called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peter Ricker.
2. The Minutes of the Seventh Regular Meeting, November 13, 2014, were approved under general consent with correction under 5.6.
3. Communications:
 - 3.1 Assistant Superintendent Foley reported the resignation of Kevin Babcock, Special Education Ed Tech III in the Functional Skills Program at Tripp Middle School, effective November 24, 2014.
 - 3.2 Assistant Superintendent Foley reported the resignation of Faith Hersey, District Wide Bus Aide, effective December 12, 2014.
 - 3.3 Assistant Superintendent Foley reported the transfer of Michelle Grimbaldas from Special Education Ed Tech II to Special Education Ed Tech III in the Functional Skills Program at Tripp Middle School.
4. Adjustment to Agenda – None.
5. Committee Reports:
 - 5.1 Finance Committee: Jon Woodard reported the committee has not met.
 - 5.2 Plant/Transportation/Building Committee: Peter Ricker reported the committee has not met.
 - 5.3 Curriculum/Policy Committee: JoAnn Nickerson explained that at the next meeting Policy JJJ: Extra/Co-Curricular Academic Eligibility Leavitt Area High School and Tripp Middle School is up for review, the Committee needs to discuss eligibility with proficiency-based diploma at Leavitt Area High School beginning with the class of 2018. The Committee is wondering if they should try to do a First and Seconding Reading and Adoption in January so

Leavitt Area High School Principal Eben Shaw can have the policy for the second semester. Chairperson Bullard reiterated the need to work hard to get it out ahead of time. JoAnn Nickerson reported the Committee is working on a new policy for records management. The post-secondary enrollment options policy has been changed and will need to go to the Board for First Reading and Acceptance at their next Board meeting scheduled in January.

- 5.4 Student Representative's Report: Nate Allen reported that Leavitt Area High School has had a couple of guest speakers come into the school, winter sports have started, and the new Dean of Students, Mr. LaRoche, seems very friendly. Leavitt Area High School students are half way through the second quarter.
- 5.5 Tri-Town Support Staff Negotiations (ESP): Peter Ricker reported that the committee is waiting to hear back from the group with negotiation dates.
- 5.6 Administrator's Report: Turner Elementary School Principal Cynthia Alexander reported to the Board that the school has held its second PBIS Family Night. The purpose is to promote positive student behaviors in an effort to increase student achievement. All fourth grade students across the district attended the Portland Symphony Orchestra on October 27th. Mrs. Alexander shared with the Board that she and three of her staff members presented at the State's PBIS conference on November 7th and that she and staff member Julie Projansky traveled to Washington DC on November 10th and 11th to receive the prestigious 2014 National Blue Ribbon Award. The school was honored with a flag that flies in front of the school, along with the American and State flags. Senator Susan Collins visited the school on November 24th and presented the Congressional Record which acknowledged Turner Elementary's Exemplary Achievement on the Senate floor. The student PBIS team is sponsoring a food drive for the school community.
- 5.7 Superintendent's Report: Assistant Superintendent Becky Foley reported out for Superintendent Aliberti. She informed the Board that a superintendent's agreement that had been denied at the superintendent's level and was appealed to the Commissioner of Education, had been upheld by the Interim Commissioner. Assistant Superintendent Foley shared with the Board, Business Manager Deb Roberts and Superintendent Aliberti attended an award ceremony in Bangor in honor of Food Service Director Dave Roberts, who was awarded the Maine Rural Water Association Operator of the Year.

6. Public Comment – None.

7. Old Business:

- 7.1 The Board was provided a handout outlining the transition of Grade 3 from Turner Primary School to Turner Elementary School, beginning the 2015-16 school year.

8. Consent Agenda:

- 8.1 Non-Instructional Appointments –A motion was made by Peter Ricker, seconded by Diana Morgan and voted unanimously by those present to approve all Non-Instructional appointments.

- 8.1.1 PDC Support System Members:
 - Tripp Middle School – Tina Nadeau
 - Greene Central School – Beth Capen
 - Turner Elementary School – Jane Campbell
 - Leavitt Area High School – Kelly Bean

- 8.1.2 Sara Taylor, Leeds Central School Ed Tech III (Half Title 1A/Half Regular Education)
- 8.1.3 Rick Peabody, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Boys Volunteer Basketball Assistant Coach
- 8.1.4 Shawn Sampson, Leavitt Area High School Volunteer Ice Hockey Coach
- 8.1.5 Lauriane Laliberte, Leavitt Area High School Assistant Alpine Ski Coach
- 8.1.6 Melissa Duvault, Tripp Middle School 8th Grade Girls Volunteer Basketball Assistant Coach
- 8.1.7 Allyson White, Tripp Middle School Special Education Ed Tech III Functional Skills Program

9. New Business:

- 9.1 A discussion was held regarding major budget implications for Leavitt Area High School, Special Education, Adult Education and Turner Elementary School.

Leavitt Area High School Principal Eben Shaw reported:

- Additional World Language teacher
- Offerings for studying language through technology
- Additional summer stipends
- Textbook requests

Special Education Director Deb Alden reported:

- Expansion of Autism Services Program
- Additional Social Worker
- Additional Ed Tech support
- Increase funding for out-of-district placement tuition
- Renovations to the day treatment program rooms

Adult Education Director Razell Ward reported:

- Additional space needed
- Additional single-plan health insurance

The Board discussed having the Plant/Transportation/Building committee discuss overall facility needs throughout the District.

Turner Elementary School Principal Cynthia Alexander reported:

- Additional day for a Social Worker
- Additional teacher

- 9.2 Assistant Superintendent Foley reported the completion of probationary period for Michael McMahon, District Wide Van Driver.
- 9.3 Business Manager Deb Roberts shared with the Board she had sent out six Request for Proposals (RFP) to vendors and met with four of the six to answer questions they had. The deadline came and went and no bids were submitted (this was even after the District extended the deadline). Ms. Roberts contacted the four vendors she had met with. Two vendors stated it was not in the right geographical area to make it feasible, one vendor did not feel it was the right fit, and one vendor did not respond.
- 9.4 Assistant Superintendent Foley distributed a handout that gave a timeline on the work the District did researching Mastery Connect. Due to lack of confidence in this company, the District started negotiations to get out of the contract. Mastery Connect has refunded all of

the District's monies with the exception for the costs of training they provided. The District is considering piloting their second choice - JumpRope.

- 9.5 A motion was made by Peter Ricker, seconded by Richard Gross and voted unanimously by those present to approve Second Reading and Adoption of Policy IIB: Pre-Kindergarten – 6 Class Size and Composition.
- 9.6 Business Manager Deb Roberts explained to the Board that she was recently contacted by the Town of Turner with concerns that the agreement of Turner providing sand in exchange for the district clearing the sidewalks in front of the Turner campus has not been equitable. Ms. Roberts indicated that we had not kept accurate records ourselves on the sand/sidewalk clearing exchange. The town voted not to continue with the agreement; however, this left the Turner Highway in a quandary as they do not have the equipment needed to clear the sidewalks themselves. Also, the district has been unsuccessful finding a vendor to deliver and sell us sand. Ms. Roberts met with the Town Manager and the Public Works Director to discuss this again. It was agreed that we would go back to our respective Boards and ask them to continue the agreement again for this year. Both parties will keep accurate records of the number of times the sidewalks are cleared as well as how much sand is delivered. A motion was made by Peter Ricker, seconded by Richard Gross and 7 Yes (Bullard, Allen, Morgan, Nickerson, Soucy, Ricker, Gross, Woodard) and 1 No (Kowalski) to continue with the agreement.
- 9.7 Assistant Superintendent Foley presented a draft letter to the Board regarding special education students meeting requirements of the Proficiency Based diploma. Since drafting this letter, the District has found out information concerning singling out students with IEPs. Board members had a lot of conversation regarding their concerns about this law and the effects for students, especially with IEPs. Board member Peter Ricker urged the District to send the letter to a specific person and all of our legislators. Also, having parents write letters about their concerns. Chairperson Bullard stated she would like the administrators to hash out the wording in the letter and bring it back to the Board for their consideration.
- 9.8 Agenda item was postponed.
- 9.9 No action warranted.
10. Other Business – None.
11. A motion was made by Peter Ricker, seconded by Diana Morgan and voted unanimously by those present to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry Aliberti, Secretary