

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT No. 52

Greene, Leeds, and Turner, Maine

Minutes of the Fifteenth Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors for 2012-2013

April 25, 2013 6:00 P.M. Leeds Central School

Members present: Elizabeth Bullard; Jon Woodard (6:05 P.M.); Eric Milliken; Catherine Carey; Robert Allen; JoAnn Nickerson; Peter Ricker; Diana Morgan; Richard Gross

Members absent: None

Others Present: Henry Aliberti, Superintendent of Schools; Becky Foley, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Deborah Alden, Special Education Director; Deborah Roberts, Business Manager; Eben Shaw, Leavitt Area High School Principal; Gail Marine, Tripp Middle School Principal; Susan Pilote, Tripp Middle School Assistant Principal; Cynthia Alexander, Turner Elementary School Principal; Glen Reynolds, Facilities/Transportation Director; Karen Potvin, Technology Education Coordinator; Razell Ward, Adult Education Director; District Citizens; District Employees

1. Chairperson Elizabeth Bullard called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Diana Morgan.
2. The Minutes of the Fourteenth Regular Minute, April 4, 2013 and the Second Special Minutes, April 9, 2013 were approved under general consent.

Mr. Woodard joined the meeting at 6:05 P.M.

3. Communications:
 - 3.1 Superintendent Aliberti reported the retirement of Stephanie Thibodeau as Math Teacher and Wildcat Team Leader at Tripp Middle School, effective June 30, 2013.
 - 3.3 Superintendent Aliberti reported the retirement of Deborah Henderson as Special Education Teacher at Leeds Central School, effective June 30, 2013.
 - 3.4 Superintendent Aliberti reported the retirement of Dwight Harris as District Wide Bus Driver, effective June 30, 2013.
 - 3.5 Superintendent Aliberti reported the retirement of Linda Proctor as Administrative Secretary at Leavitt Area High School, effective December 31, 2013.
 - 3.6 Superintendent Aliberti reported the transfer of Kathy Buckley-Jeffcoats from Greene Central School to Turner Primary School as a K-5 Special Education Teacher in a self-contained Functional Life Skills classroom for next school year.
4. Adjustments 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 reported the committee had met and reviewed the revised intermediate report card. A district wide literacy committee has been created. They met and discussed school and district literacy goals, reviewed data, and reviewed some Common Core expectations. A new job description has been created for the Transportation Specialist position. There will be a revision to the restraint policy at the next meeting. There is nothing to be acted upon at tonight's Board meeting.
- 5.4 Student Representative's Report: No student report.
- 5.5 Administrator's Report: Turner Elementary School Principal Cynthia Alexander reported out on what has been happening at Turner Elementary School. On March 2, the school celebrated Dr. Seuss by dressing up as their favorite Dr. Seuss character. March 8th was Family Math Night and the Book Fair, with lots of parents and students participating in math games. On March 29th, Turner Elementary hosted a parent breakfast. The PTC sponsored a spaghetti dinner. Students participated in the Idita-Read and Idita-Algorithm which was a big hit, and they plan to do it again next year. There will be a science assessment in May. Other events to look forward to in May include an art and music show, Fort Western on site field trip, the district-wide field day for sixth grade, the Children's Adventure play, and step up day. Students have been earning bus bucks for their good behavior on the bus.
- 5.6 Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Aliberti reported he attended a legislative hearing on April 4th in Augusta where numerous bills were discussed. Two of the bills included funding for public education, with one proposing that special education be funded at 100%. One bill would lessen the impact on property taxes. Presently there is an independent study being conducted of the EPS model and will provide conclusions in December of 2014. It is based upon the Vermont model. Dr. Aliberti informed the Board report cards utilizing A-F, will be issued next week for each school, based upon performance and achievement data, utilizing the NECAP and SAT. Graduation rates will also be used to determine grades for the high school.

6. Public Comment – None.

7. Old Business:

- 7.1 A motion by Catherine Carey, seconded by Robert Allen and voted unanimously by those present to terminate employment for the specific named below as of August 31, 2013 as part of a Reduction in Force per Tri-Town Education Association M.E.A.-N.E.A. contract:

Kathryn Williams, Leeds Central School Teacher
Sarah Laliberte, Turner Primary School Teacher

A motion was made by Catherine Carey, seconded by Richard Gross and voted

unanimously by those present to terminate employment for the specific named below as of June 13, 2013 as part of a Reduction in Force per Tri-Town Education Association Support Staff contract:

Shannon Wooten, Special Education Ed Tech II Greene Central School.

7.2 A motion was made by Robert Allen, seconded by Catherine Carey and voted unanimously by those present to approve the 2013-14 school calendar.

8. Consent Agenda:

8.1 Non-Instructional Appointments - A motion was made by Diana Morgan, seconded by Catherine Carey and voted unanimously by those present to approve all Non-Instructional appointment.

8.1.1 Tina Daigle, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach.

8.1.2 Norm Martineau, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach.

8.1.3 Kevin Fogg, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach.

8.1.4 Christina Searles, Tripp Middle School 8th Grade Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach.

9. New Business:

9.1 Superintendent Aliberti reported the completion of probationary period for the following employee:

Amy Mousseau GCS Special Education Ed Tech III 4-27-13

Hearing no objections, Chairperson Bullard returned to Agenda Item 7.1

7.1 A motion by Catherine Carey, seconded by Jon Woodard and voted unanimously by those present to terminate employment for the specific named below as of August 31, 2013 as part of a Reduction in Force per Tri-Town Education Association M.E.A.-N.E.A. contract:

Courtney Tibbetts, Leavitt Area High School Half-time English Teacher.

Hearing no objections, Chairperson Bullard moved to Agenda Item 9.3

9.3 A motion was made by Richard Gross, seconded by Catherine Carey and voted unanimously by those present to approve a fundraiser for a class at Greene Central School to raise monies for a local family.

9.4 A motion was made by Catherine Carey, seconded by Eric Milliken and voted unanimously by those present to approve a fundraiser for Turner Primary School to raise monies for Spina Bifida Association.

9.5 A motion was made by Richard Gross, seconded by Robert Allen and voted unanimously by those present to enter into Executive Session to discuss information in confidential records pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(F).

The Board entered in Executive Session at 6:28 P.M.
The Board returned to Executive Session at 7:16 P.M.

9.6 No action was warranted.

Hearing no objection, Chairperson Bullard returned to Agenda Item 9.2

9.2 There was a discussion of the book, Bloodstream by Tess Gerritsen. Assistant Superintendent Becky Foley reported on how the book committee reached the decision not to remove the book from Tripp Middle School. The committee acknowledges that parents have the freedom to restrict their own child's reading material. Before the committee reached its decision, each member read the book in its entirety. The book is similar to other books in the school and classroom libraries, and appeals to some of the readers at the middle school level. There was discussion about whether teachers reviewed and discussed books with their peers before using them as mentor texts. Lynn Busch replied that there is a lot of discussion about books they use, but every book is not peer reviewed before utilizing it in the classroom. This would be very restricting for teachers if they were required to follow such a procedure as teachers use numerous books daily. No board action was taken.

Hearing no objection, Chairperson Bullard returned to Agenda Item 9.7

9.7 Board member Peter Ricker said he had discussion with a parent about a book in the library at Turner Elementary School that is about the reproductive system. He inquired at what age that is taught. Assistant Superintendent Becky Foley said she would have to check when that is first taught, but by fifth and sixth grade the health classes are definitely taught the subject matter by the school nurses. There was discussion of whether these types of books should be in a restricted place in the library, so that students would have to be a certain age before checking them out. There was concern about this type of censorship. Parents and staff need to communicate if parents want their children restricted from checking out certain books in the library. Dr. Aliberti said that Advocates for Children teach our kindergarten age children about "good touch, bad touch" using the appropriate words for the body parts. It was reiterated that the schools need to communicate as much as possible about the content in our libraries, and encourage parents to notify the schools if they would like some materials restricted for their child.

10. Other Business – None.

11. A motion was made by Catherine Carey, seconded by Robert Allen and voted unanimously by those present to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry Aliberti, Secretary