

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 52

Greene, Leeds, and Turner, Maine

Minutes of the Third Special Meeting of the Board of Directors for 2016-2017

April 6, 2017 Leeds Central School

Members present: Elizabeth Bullard, Chairperson; Robert Allen; Peter Ricker; Pamela Sirois; Jon Woodard; Yuri Kowalski; Richard Gross

Members absent: Carlos Gnipp; JoAnn Nickerson

Others Present: Kimberly Brandt, Superintendent of School; Thomas Ambrose, Assistant Superintendent; Del Peavey, Director of Special Education; Eben Shaw, Leavitt Area High School Principal; Gail Marine, Tripp Middle School Principal; Kelly Marston, Turner Elementary School Principal; Theresa Gillis, Turner Primary School Principal; Mark McDonough, Greene Central School Principal; Danielle Harris, Leeds Central School Principal; Karen Potvin, Technology Education Coordinator; Kim Long, Transportation and Facilities Director; District Citizens; District Employees

1. Chairperson Elizabeth Bullard called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M. and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Robert Allen.

2. The Minutes of the Fourteenth Regular Meeting – March 30, 2017 were approved by general consent.

3. Communications:

3.1 Superintendent Brandt reported the retirement of Leeds Central School teacher Donna Storer, effective August 31, 2017.

4. Budget Work Session

4.1 Work Session on the 2017-18 budget

4.1.1 Update on budget information

Superintendent Brandt reviewed the budget process to date. She noted that the health insurance costs came in and the figure is 1.435%. This figure represents a savings of \$103,585 in the proposed budget.

Mrs. Roberts talked about the cost of the diesel fuel. She did lock in the rate at \$1.935 per gallon and found that the budgeted amount was congruent with the locked in amount so there is no reduction to the budget.

The current proposed budget with these adjustments will result in a 2.41% budget increase and a 5.37% tax impact to the communities.

4.1.2 Review of Revisit List

Superintendent Brandt reported that she had talked to the head of the music department about the ukuleles. She shared that the ukuleles were a less expensive option to introduce strings to students. Leeds Central School had their ukuleles donated by the PTC this year and Turner Elementary School is requesting them for next year and Greene Central School will be

requesting them in 2017-2018. Mr. Gross asked how many ukuleles the money would buy. The money will buy 30 ukuleles.

Superintendent Brandt explained the ways IXL is being used in different buildings. She explained the use of E-rate money to cover some IXL expenses and recommended a cut of \$2715 to the GCS lines for IXL because the staff requested only IXL for math for grades 1-6 and 50 licenses for literacy intervention.

Superintendent Brandt reported that Mr. Ambrose and Technology Education Coordinator Mrs. Potvin worked with the technology department to review the workloads and the shifting of responsibilities that would occur to make sure the needs are met. Mrs. Roberts also shared a document that explained the staffing for like-sized districts. Superintendent Brandt said that the plan aligns our district to other districts in terms of staffing and increases the year-round coverage by the technicians. Mrs. Potvin talked about the plan for how the technology department will be restructured. Mrs. Potvin handed out the proposed technology director job description and the realignment of job responsibilities to other members of the technology team. The department will have year-round coverage by four people instead of just one person. Mr. Ambrose talked about the year-round needs of the technology department. The restructuring will result in decrease in the total number of days.

Garrett Christen, Technology Teacher at Leeds Central and Turner Elementary School asked how the restructuring will support for teachers and the integration of technology. He also asked if there are there other positions that some districts have that, we do not, such as a district integrator. He said that he works in two buildings: three days at Leeds Central School and two days Turner Elementary School. He asked who would provide the integrator support if there is no central position to coordinate the support. He talked about the reduction of tech integrators over time and his concerns with the changes. Mrs. Potvin answered by saying that the new position will coordinate the integrators but that support would be reduced.

Greene Central School teacher Nancy Flick said that she is not in support of the plan if it means the district loses Karen Potvin. She said that as a member of the technology committee she does not want to see this position change. She said that Mrs. Potvin provides professional development for staff, she goes to PLC's and gives after school and before school support. Chairperson Bullard stated that this change is not because of a person, this is about the restructuring. Mrs. Flick feels that the support will not happen if the positions are restructured.

District Wide Librarian Susan Swan thanked the technology department for their support. She asked two questions: 1. How many days are lost by this change? 2. If we cannot meet the workload do we have a contingency fund for outsourcing?

Mrs. Potvin said that 126 days will be lost. Mr. Ambrose articulated that the needs are great during the summer months and this change meets those needs. Mrs. Potvin said that the plan does meet the needs in the summer better and the instructional side is under the regular education programming. The technology department did work together, considered the savings and the needs, and came to the proposals brought to the Board. Mrs. Potvin noted that the hardware and the infrastructure do need to be addressed year round. She said that looking at the priorities for the district this is the plan that the district needs to move forward. The buildings need support year-round and this is what the department felt is best.

Superintendent Brandt addressed information regarding the Greene Central School phones. Mrs. Roberts said that the Greene Central School phones can be adjusted by \$1800.

Superintendent Brandt said that an additional \$10,582 can be eliminated from the budget by eliminating a 6-hour bus driving position. Facilities/Transportation Director Kimberly Long said that during the analysis of the bus routes she was able to reduce the routes by two additional hours, for a total of six hours.

Superintendent Brandt talked about the discontinuation of billing for Maine Care. Superintendent Brandt asked for a motion and a vote to discontinue billing for Maine Care.

A motion was made by Peter Ricker, seconded by Robert Allen and voted unanimously by those present to discontinue billing of Maine Care.

Mr. Ricker asked if there will have to be a motion for some of the items presented earlier. Superintendent Brandt said that the Board would have to review amounts and make a decision.

Mr. Ricker asked if the restructuring of technology is in the initial budget. He said that the position should not have been removed from the budget. Mrs. Roberts said that the budget reflects the cuts recommended by administration and the Board would have to elect to add items back into the budget. Chairperson Bullard clarified that the Board would have to motion to put things back into the budget. Mrs. Roberts clarified that the Board would have to act on any administrative recommendations that they wish to change.

Chairperson Bullard said that if the Board would like to take action on the items on the revisit list they would need to motion to add items back in.

Mr. Gross asked about the ukuleles and Mrs. Roberts said they are currently included in the proposed budget.

Chairperson Bullard asked about each of the items on the revisit list and the items shared by Superintendent Brandt in her report.

Ukuleles remain in the budget.

IXL stays in the budget with the recommended reduction.

Technology restructure: the restructuring will occur as presented by administration.

Two hours per day bus driver elimination: additional two hours of bus driver time will be eliminated bringing it to a total of 6-hour bus driver position elimination.

Greene Central School telephones: No motion, this line will be reduced.

Chairperson Bullard asked the Board if there are any further reductions or conversations. Superintendent Brandt mentioned that the administrative team had a recommendation if the Board felt the cuts were too deep. The administrative team's final proposed budget represents a 2.2% increase with an assessment increase of 4.92%.

4.1.3 A motion was made by Richard Gross, seconded by Robert Allen and voted unanimously by those present to adopt the final proposed FY18 budget in the amount of \$26,139,477.00.

4.2 Other – None.

5. Other Business:

5.1 A motion was made by Yuri Kowalski, seconded by Peter Ricker and voted unanimously by those present to approve the Non-Instructional appointments.

5.1.1 Darunee Suthambhitak, Turner Primary School Ed Tech III Title 1A.

5.1.2 Ashley Morneault, Turner Primary School Special Education Ed Tech III Autism Program.

5.1.3 James Harvey, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer.

5.1.4 Wesley Sirois, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer.

5.1.5 Pamela Sirois, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer.

5.1.6 Terrance McCormick, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer.

5.1.7 Dave Cabral, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer.

5.1.8 Paul Shaw, Tripp Middle School 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer.

5.1.9 Jordan Hersom, Tripp Middle School Volunteer Track & Field.

5.1.10 Bill Cote, Leavitt Area High School Assistant Baseball Coach.

5.1.11 Paul Albert, Leavitt Area High School Assistant Baseball Coach.

5.1.12 Bob Bowie, Leavitt Area High School Assistant Baseball Coach.

5.1.13 Bruce Robertson, Jr., Leavitt Area High School Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach.

5.1.14 Will Parkin, Leavitt Area High School Volunteer Assistant Track Coach.

5.2 Warrant Article 21

5.2.1 A motion was made by Peter Ricker, seconded by Robert Allen and voted unanimously by those present to approve the removal of Warrant Article 21 language related to notes on bus leases.

5.2.2 A motion was made by Robert Allen, seconded by Yuri Kowalski and voted unanimously by those present to approve the new Warrant Article 21 to authorize expenditures from capital repair reserve fund.

Mrs. Roberts explained that the new Warrant Article 21 is the necessary wording to expend the Efficiency Maine rebates to support the roof repairs at Leeds Central School and Turner Primary School that were delayed.

6. A motion was made by Robert Allen, seconded by Peter Ricker and voted unanimously to adjourn at the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly Brandt, Secretary