

**RSU 83/M.S.A.D. #13 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
VALLEY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL BINGHAM, MAINE
6:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER-The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Chairman Leo Hill

II. ATTENDANCE

Present: Leo Hill, Bonnie Atwood, Elizabeth Brochu, Beverly Brown, Brandy Hill, Pauline Lagasse, Brian Malloy, Karin Stevens, Ann Ingersoll

Absent: Janelle Ingersoll - Excused

Also present: Sandra MacArthur, James Tyler, Melissa Lyons-Vitalone, Wendy Belanger

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-Conducted

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (Regular meetings – will not be done at special meetings)

- a) Upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Beverly Brown the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of August 8, 2023 (policy committee), August 8, 2023 (regular)

V. PUBLIC INPUT-None

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a) Moscow Principal's Report

The start of school has been fairly smooth. Our enrollment has stayed consistent. We will be taking our K-4 students to Lakewood Theater this month.

- b) Valley Jr/Sr High School Report

Opening Days: Opening days went very smoothly. Students started the year with a positive mindset, and our staff feels very strong this year. Cathy Foran and Mary Collins hosted incoming 5th graders for an open house on August 29th, and that went well. Everyone seems to be off to a good start.

Open House: We are planning another cookout style open house this year and will be setting and announcing a date for that soon. Last year we held this in early October, and I anticipate doing it around the same time this year.

AP Course Offerings: This year we have Luke Hartwell offering an AP history course and Karen LaForgia offering AP art. We have 12 students enrolled in these courses, and they will get high school credit for the course and college credit if they pass the AP exams.

- c) Director of Special Services Report

School Opening

This has been the smoothest start to the school year in a long time. Staff have done a great job planning and preparing to receive students!

New Grants

Craig Turcotte applied for and received a grant from the State of Maine in the amount of \$2,419.87 for technology to enhance his CavCast class.

Marcy Melcher applied for and received a grant from the State of Maine in the amount of \$4300 to purchase the software needed to efficiently manage MaineCare billing activities for the day treatment program.

She also applied for and received a program and training to help staff do risk assessments for students exhibiting behavioral threats.

d) **Athletic Director's Report**

Fall sports are under way and will start playing on September 1st. I have attached schedules for all fall sports (please note that these dates are subject to change).

Varsity Girls and Boys teams will be fundraising in order to host a night game on October 6th against Carrabec. This night will also include our senior night/homecoming. We will be renting lights from Kennebec Equipment and are looking for volunteers to help transport the lights.

VII. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

a) XIII (j) Review of 2021-23 MSAD 13 Opening Plan

b) XIII (k) Auditor-Vote to hire Brantner, Thibodeau & Associates

VIII. GOOD NEWS

a) Start of new school year – The new school has started well. A very smooth opening.

b) Electric bus is in production

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

a) Financial Statement – Moscow and Bingham are both making payments

b) Superintendent MacArthur's October schedule

c) Enrollment update – see attached

d) Keel Hood-obituary

X. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

a) Update regarding hiring of auditor-There are only 3 auditors that will do school audits for RSU/MSAD's. MSAD 13's audit will be late. No one will complete a RFP and I was advised not to attempt the RFP process. I contacted 12 auditors from DOE list-7 no; 2 maybe; 2 no response. Yes, from Brantner, Thibodeau & Associates. I will request an extension so we can complete the audit later. December or January are possible dates for the audit to be conducted. I will have a more definite date once the letter of engagement has been returned from Brantner, Thibodeau & Associates.

b) PreK update-We have 11 students so are required to have an Ed. Tech in the room. Eight students per adult in a PK setting.

c) BARR training was successful on the opening days of school. The staff was very engaged and eager to move forward.

d) Minimum wage-January 1, 2024, \$15.00; January 1, 2025, \$16.00. The support staff pay scales are below the proposed minimum wage. The bill that would have increased the minimum wage was not signed by the governor. The bill will not become law until 90 days after the adjournment of next regular session.

e)

XI. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS (Finance Committee, Policy Committee, Negotiations Committee, Transportation Committee, Buildings and Grounds Committee, Personnel Committee)

Finance (Bonnie Atwood, Elizabeth Brochu, Brian Malloy)

Policy (Leo Hill, Janelle Ingersoll, Brandy Hill, Beverly Brown)

Negotiations (Janelle Ingersoll, Pauline Lagasse, Karin Stevens, (alternate) Beverly Brown)

Transportation (Leo Hill, Brian Malloy, Karin Stevens)

Buildings and Grounds (Leo Hill, Bonnie Atwood, Ann Ingersoll, Beverly Brown)

Personnel (Leo Hill, Elizabeth Brochu, Brandy Hill, (alternate) Janelle Ingersoll)

XII. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Elizabeth Brochu the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy JFC-Dropout Prevention Student Withdrawal from School
- b) Upon a motion by Ann Ingersoll and second by Karin Stevens the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy JFCK-R-Student Use of Cellular Telephones and Other Electronic Devices
- c) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Pauline Lagasse the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy JI-Student Rights and Responsibilities as amended

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Discussion and vote to increase the current substitute pay to maintain minimum wage requirements. Upon a motion by Bonnie Atwood and second by Beverly Brown the Board unanimously voted to table the discussion and vote.
- b) Upon a motion by Bonnie Atwood and second by Pauline Lagasse the Board unanimously voted to approve opting out of CACFP at risk afterschool snack program such that the program is financially and logistically impracticable.
- c) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Pauline Lagasse the Board unanimously voted to approve Karin Stevens and Ann Ingersoll as the MSBA delegate assembly board member candidate and alternate. Zoom meeting October 21, 2:00 p.m.
- d) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Ann Ingersoll the Board unanimously voted to approve the first reading of policy JICK-E2-RSU/MSAD #13 Bullying Investigation and Response Form
- e) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Beverly Brown the Board unanimously voted to approve the first reading of policy JICK-E3-Bullying: Summary of Disciplinary and Remedial Actions
- f) Upon a motion by Ann Ingersoll and second by Brandy Hill the Board unanimously voted to approve the first reading of policy JIH-Questioning and Searches of Students
- g) Upon a motion by Ann Ingersoll and second by Brandy Hill the Board unanimously voted to approve the first reading of policy JIH-R-Questioning and Searches of Students Administrative Procedure
- h) Upon a motion by Ann Ingersoll and second by Brandy Hill the Board unanimously voted to approve the first reading of policy JK-Student Discipline
- i) Upon a motion by Bonnie Atwood and second by Pauline Lagasse the Board unanimously voted to approve the following co-curricular/extra-curricular positions and authorized the Superintendent to issue contracts:
Yearbook Crystal Rollins & Joy West
- j) Upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Brandy Hill the Board unanimously voted to approve the revisions of 2021-2023 MSAD 13 Opening Plan
- k) Upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Beverly Brown the Board unanimously voted hire Brantner, Thibodeau & Associates to complete the 2023 audit.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT-The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra J MacArthur
Secretary to the Board