

RSU 83/M.S.A.D. #13 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 (Rescheduled from March 14, 2023)
VALLEY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL BINGHAM, MAINE
6:15 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER-The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chairman Leo Hill

II. ATTENDANCE

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

Absent: Ann Ingersoll (excused)

Also present: Sandra MacArthur, James Tyler, Melissa Lyons-Vitalone, Britani Cabassa Amy Rodearmel

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 Bonnie Atwood the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of February 14, 2023 (regular meeting), February 14, 2023 (negotiations committee), February 16, 2023 (negotiations committee), February 28, 2023 (negotiations committee), March 9, 2023 (negotiations committee), March 16, 2023 (negotiations committee)

V. PUBLIC INPUT-None

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a) **Moscow Principal's Report**
We are working hard on our playground fundraising. Our playground is VERY old. The newest piece of equipment is over twenty years old. Those pieces were purchased through a fundraiser. We are currently selling calendars with over thirty chances to win. Our goal is to sell 300 tickets. At this point we are halfway there! On March 24th grades 1-4 will be going to the Piscataquis Ice Arena.
- b) **Valley Jr/Sr High School Report**
Baker Mountain Day: Students and staff spent the day at Baker Mountain on March 10th. As always, this was a great day for everyone. The trip was well attended, and we are grateful to Baker for the opportunity.
Upcoming Field Trips: There are a couple exciting field trips coming up. Students in the agricultural studies and outdoor education classes will be going to Moscow Maple this Thursday.
All high school students will be headed to the ABC Craft Championship at the Augusta Civic Center on April 7. This is the first year they have held this event since 2019. It is typically attended by over 1500 high school students and about 40 contractors and businesses set up booths with displays and activities.
PSAT/SAT: Our tenth-grade students will be taking the PSAT tomorrow, March 22. Our juniors will be taking the SAT during the school day on April 25, and 9th grade will take the PSAT that week.
Superintendent's Showcase: On April 13, Isaac Davis and four of our students will represent Valley at the Kennebec Valley Superintendent's Showcase in Augusta. The showcase highlights innovative programming, and Mr. Davis and our students will be displaying our outdoor ed and agricultural studies programs.

c) Director of Special Services Report

Summer School

The ESEA Reallocation grant application for Title I summer programming was submitted March 17. We requested \$33,470 for salaries, transportation costs and supplies. At Moscow, there will be a focus on strengthening foundational literacy and math skills. At Valley, teachers will use STEM projects to strengthen literacy, math and science standards using interdisciplinary, project-based learning. Last year, we requested and received \$22,588 for a similarly structured program. Learning targets will be aimed at areas in need of growth as identified by classroom progress and NWEA data.

ESEA/LE Fiscal Allocations

Projections for FY24 ESEA and LE funds have not been made available yet. I will report them as soon as they are made available.

Special Education

The following are percentages by of students (K-12) with an IEP, or who are currently in the referral process:

District – 44 of 176 (25%)

Moscow - 17 of 54 (31%)

Valley - 27 of 122 (22%)

In the United States, 15% of public-school students have IEPs. In Maine, 19.4% of public-school students have IEPs. As you can see, we are significantly higher than that in this district. Administratively, we are looking at the specific driving forces for the high rates in our district so that we can get identification practices in line with norms. There are many contributing factors to the high rates. Some factors we cannot control, but others we can. Moving forward, we will focus on what we can control, such as our pre-referral intervention processes. General and special education will be collaborating to ensure our different processes are supporting what our students need. This is an issue that is being discussed all over the state right now as we are not the only district seeing high numbers of identified students.

d) Athletic Director's Report

Varsity Basketball:

The Varsity teams finished the season with both teams finishing as runners-up in the Western D Championship. Thank you to the Boosters for ensuring that a reception was held at the Valley school following the games and to the Bingham Fire Department for escorting the buses with a fire truck.

Recognition: Brielle Hill, Madeline Hill, Harry Louis and Fisher Tewksbury were chosen as Hoops 8 All Tourney Teams.

Valley Pep-Rally

The pep-rally was a huge success and had high participation from students and staff. The Valley athletics incorporated a fundraiser for students to raffle for a chance to pie a staff member. In a day, this fundraiser raised \$67.00! Thank you to all who participated!

E-Sports: E-Sports played in their first spring season game against Morse High School and won 2 matches and lost 3 matches in overtime.

VII. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

- a) Vote to move item XIII (c) to next agenda item
- b) IX (f) Resignation and acceptance of
- c) XIII (e) Co-curricular/extracurricular position
- d)) IX (g) RFGH Thank you
- e) IX (h) Quimby Proposal-Britani Cabassa

VIII. GOOD NEWS

- a) Electric bus payment is being processed.
- b) MaineCare Application has been submitted. MSAD 13 is waiting for approval.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Financial Statement-no concerns regarding current year
- b) Superintendent MacArthur's April schedule-will not be in the office the week of April break.
- c) Enrollment update-steady
- d) Thank you note from Jena Kamps
- e) Thank you note from Maine Veterans' Home-Carleton Barnes
- f) Resignation and acceptance of Lindsey Cirell, Ed. Tech III at Valley Jr/Sr High
- g) Thank you note from Redington Fairview General Hospital
- h) Former Quimby School proposal-Britani Cabassa-proposal attached

X. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

- a) 2022-2024 Budget Preliminary Overview-budget is up 13.089%. Bingham cost increase is \$96,416.74, Moscow cost increase is \$72,733.36. Salaries will change based on negotiations. Also waiting for Health insurance price increase. Other increases include utilities, diesel, and bus repairs. This is a first draft and will be modified.
- b) Valley roofing project-Recommend-Weathervane quote is \$55,000.
- c) Financial Software-\$40,000. Can wait 2-3 years as our current software will continue to be supported.
- d) Valley Bleachers-Approximately \$100,000 to replace.
- e) Valley Scoreboards-Cost estimate \$20,000-\$30,000. Time clock not working consistently.

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 (Pauline Lagasse, Adrienne Mathieu, Janelle Ingersoll, (alternate) Beverly Brown)

Transportation (Leo Hill, Brian Malloy, Adrienne Mathieu)

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

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

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Upon a motion by Bonnie Atwood and second by Brandy Hill the Board unanimously voted to approve the school calendar for 2023-2024
- b) Upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Beverly Brown the Board unanimously voted to opt 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 Janelle Ingersoll the Board unanimously voted to approve the nomination of Amy Rodearmel as Foreign Language teacher and authorized the Superintendent to issue a contract.
- d) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Pauline Lagasse the Board unanimously voted to approve the 2023 summer school positions as follows:
Summer School
Moscow Teachers: Rebecca York, Kattie Sweet
Valley Teachers: Caitlin McNear, Jessica Mills
Administrative Assistants/Coordinators: Corey Farnham, Pamela Grant
- e) Upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Brandy Hill the Board unanimously voted to approve the following co-curricular/extra-curricular position and authorized the Superintendent to issue a contract:
Middle School Softball Billie Hatfield

- f) Upon a motion by Janelle Ingersoll and second by Pauline Lagasse the Board unanimously voted to approve Britani Cabassa as the Athletic Director for 2023-2024 and authorized the Superintendent to issue a contract.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT-The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra J. MacArthur".

Sandra J MacArthur
Secretary to the Board