

**RSU 83/M.S.A.D. #13 BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023  
VALLEY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL BINGHAM, MAINE  
6:00 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**-The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Leo Hill

**II. ATTENDANCE**

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

Absent: None

Also present: Sandra MacArthur, James Tyler, Melissa Lyons-Vitalone, Wendy Belanger, Britani Cabassa, Luke Hartwell, Heather Samuels, Cathy Foran, Drew Foran

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**-Conducted

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

Upon a motion by Bonnie Atwood and second by Pauline Lagasse the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of May 11, 2023 (policy committee), May 11, 2023 (regular meeting), May 15, 2023 (buildings & grounds committee), May 30, 2023 (budget meeting), May 31, 2023 (special meeting), June 1, 2023 (buildings & grounds committee)

**V. PUBLIC INPUT**

**VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

a) Moscow Principal's Report

Preschool graduation was June 12<sup>th</sup>. The students did an incredible job. We tie-dyed field day shirts with the whole school and had a fun filled day on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The highlight was the pie in the face contest. Summer school runs through the month of July.

b) Valley Jr/Sr High School Report

End-of-year events at Valley, including our academic awards banquet, prom, field day, and graduation, all went smoothly and were successful.

We are rearranging classroom assignments for next year. Our junior high classes will return to the north end of the building as they were prior to changes we made to accommodate social distancing requirements. Our high school chemistry and physics classes will return to the science lab in the main building, and our outdoor and agricultural education programming will move to the Douglas Arno Building.

As discussed earlier this year, we will be providing the board of Baker Mountain with a draft of a use agreement for their review early this summer, and we hope to be ready for teachers to begin utilizing that property in the fall.

Our teaching staff at the high school is shaping up extremely well, with the exception that we continue to struggle to recruit a high school science teacher. We do have one science-certified teacher on staff in our physical education teacher, Mr. Kandiko, and there is a second science-certified teacher on tonight's agenda: our math candidate, Heather Samuels. We are continuing to attempt to recruit a candidate for high school science, and

we are also considering how we may be able to utilize Mr. Kandiko and, if she is approved by the Board, Ms. Samuels to cover our science needs. At this point, we are ready to meet the core curriculum needs of our high school students next year, but we do need to hire one more teacher to ensure our students have full schedules and our teachers have reasonable workloads.

c) Director of Special Services Report

**LE FY 24 Funding**

	FY 22 Final	FY 23 Final	FY 24 Projected
LE	\$56,544.72	\$58,637.37	\$68,576.44

**CavCafé & CavCast Programming**

The CavCafé has \$3,047.12 in profit after one and a half years in operation! They plan to use some of this money to take a field trip to the Boston Aquarium with the students who have participated in the program since its inception. They will present their plan to the board in the coming months as trips out of state require board approval.

The CavCast has a YouTube channel that you may have seen on the Valley Facebook page. The students are tracking “views” to their videos. Check some of the videos out if you get a chance. They are doing a great job capturing some of our school events and creating reels to show the community what we are up to.

**MaineCare**

We have submitted everything necessary, and we are waiting for a welcome letter. We should be able to hit the ground running in the fall!

d) Athletic Director’s Report

**Spring Sports:**

It has been a very busy spring season with battling weather, transportation issues and other teams struggling with numbers. Varsity softball has ended its’ season in a quarter-final playoff with Richmond. They ended the season with a record of 12-2. Varsity baseball won in the quarter-final game against Forest Hills and will continue to play in the Semi-Finals against Searsport on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Middle-School softball has had a numerous number of cancellations and rescheduling due to game conflicts, weather, other districts lack of transportation and lack of numbers. For next year, I would like to explore the possibility of joining the Central Maine League. By joining the league, we will have guaranteed games and if other districts cancel, the game must be rescheduled. This will ensure that our teams are playing throughout the season.

**East-West Banquet:**

All Valley East/West All-Stars were honored at the East/West banquet along with Bonnie Atwood being chosen as Valleys’ Unsung Hero and Gordon Hartwell was chosen as coach of the year.

**Athletic Banquet:**

The Valley banquet was a big success; however, was lengthy. Due to this reason, I am proposing the following year we break up the middle-school banquet and Varsity banquet.

**8-Man Soccer:**

Valley has transitioned to 8-person soccer for the 2023-Fall Year. There are 23 other schools that have also changed their classifications which include the following in the South Region: Spruce Mountain, Lisbon, Dirigo, Telstar, Carrabec, Wiscasset, Searsport, Greenville, Rangeley, Vinalhaven and Greater Portland. The rules will remain the same as well as the field size; however, this will help with participation numbers and guarantee that Valley will continue to have both boys’ and girls’ teams.

## **VII. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Add X (b) Budget Validation Referendum

## **VIII. GOOD NEWS**

- a) Summer meals Full Plates Grant-\$9,705-Will be purchasing picnic tables, outdoor garbage receptacles, and insulated bags for transporting food to Moscow BARR Grants to address high absenteeism, failure, and dropout rates. Approximate value \$60,000-\$80,000 per school
- b) New bus-manufacture date August 24. Delivery 30-60 days later
- c) Lift install date-June 27 & 28
- d) Derek Hussey is working on a technology grant
- e) Underground tank inspection by Graftex scheduled for June 20
- f) Marcy Melcher & Haylie Kennedy working on an electronic health records grant-approximately \$6,000 in software-Tentative approval of MaineCare application

## **IX. COMMUNICATIONS**

- a) Financial Statement-Finishing the year in a solid financial position
- b) Superintendent MacArthur's July schedule-Trying to take some vacation time. Will work 2 days per week when I can.
- c) Enrollment update-Included in board packet. We are enrolling new students
- d) Resignation and acceptance on May 15, 2023 of Ivy Beane, Food Service Assistant effective June 14, 2023
- e) Transfer of Jolene Laweryson to Food Service Assistant-Moscow Elementary School beginning 2023-24 school year
- f) WMEC update-Presented the Spring newsletter

## **X. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT**

- a) Information regarding policy DJ and Valley roofing project-Reviewed policy DJ-Bidding/Purchasing Requirements that allows the Superintendent and Board Chair to move forward with one quote on a construction project. District is moving forward with awarding the roof project to Kevin Cates, Weathervane Roofing
- b) Budget Validation Referendum-The towns voted on June 13<sup>th</sup> to remove the budget referendum vote from the district budget process. The 2024-2025 budget will be approved at the district budget meeting.

## **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)

- a) Policy Committee Report
- b) Building & Grounds Committee Report

## **XII. OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Upon a motion by Bonnie Atwood and second by Beverly Brown the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy FF-Naming School Buildings or Facilities
- b) Upon a motion by Ann Ingersoll and second by Brandy Hill the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy FF-E-Naming of An Area Within a School or On School Property Worksheet/Checklist
- c) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Elizabeth Brochu the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy IKAB-Grading and Reporting of Student Progress as amended
- d) Upon a motion by Janelle Ingersoll and second by Karin Stevens the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy IKD-Honor Roll Policy
- e) Upon a motion by Beverly Brown and second by Ann Ingersoll the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy IKE-Promotion, Retention, and Acceleration of Students as amended
- f) Upon a motion by Janelle Ingersoll and second by Ann Ingersoll the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy IKE-E-Factors to Be Considered in Retention
- g) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Beverly Brown the Board unanimously voted to approve the second reading of policy IKFA-Early Graduation

## **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Bonnie Atwood the Board unanimously voted to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Heather Samuels as grades 9-12 math teacher and authorized the Superintendent to issue a contract.
- b) Before a motion and vote on this item could be considered the Board had to vote to waive policy BCC-Nepotism. Upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Elizabeth Brochu the Board voted to waive the policy BCC-Nepotism. The motion passed with all voting in favor except Brandy Hill who abstained. Therefore, upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Karin Stevens the Board voted to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Luke Hartwell as grades 9-12 English teacher and authorized the Superintendent to issue a contract. The motion passed with all voting in favor except Brandy Hill who abstained.
- c) Upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Ann Ingersoll the Board unanimously voted to approve the following 2023 Summer positions as follows:

Diane Poulin	Food Service program
Jolene Laweryson	Food Service program
Angelica Giggey	Ed. Tech I-Moscow
Isaac Davis	Outdoor Education
- d) Upon a motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Janelle Ingersoll the Board unanimously voted to rescind policy IKFD-Participation in Graduation Ceremony
- e) Upon a motion by Ann Ingersoll and second by Brandy Hill the Board unanimously voted to approve the first reading of policy IKB-Homework
- f) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Beverly Brown the Board unanimously voted to approve the first reading of policy ILA-Student Assessment
- g) Upon a motion by Brandy Hill and second by Janelle Ingersoll the Board unanimously voted to approve the Teaching Principal/Dean of Students job description
- h) The vote to approve a MSBA delegate assembly board member candidate and alternate was tabled until the September 2023 board meeting.

- i) I Bonnie Atwood move that the Warrant for Assessment of Tax and the Assessment Schedule and Notice of Installments for each member municipality prepared by the Treasurer for fiscal year **2024** be approved and be issued in form presented to this meeting; and that the Treasurer be authorized and directed to deliver to each member municipality its Warrant for Assessment of Tax and its Assessment Schedule and Notice of Installments. The motion was seconded by Brandy Hill and passed unanimously by the Board.

Further voted that the Computation and Declaration of Votes dated June 13, 2023, and attached hereto be and it is hereby approved.

Further vote that the Computation and Declaration of Votes be entered upon the records of the district.

Further voted that a certified copy of the Computation and Declaration of Votes be sent to each of the town clerks within the district.

- j) The Board signed the 2023-2024 tax assessments.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**-The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra J MacArthur  
Secretary to the Board