

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

School Board members present were:

Kathy Ray, Chair
Patricia Brigham, Vice-Chair
Karen Burke
Rebecca Millett
Linda Winker

Student Representatives present:

Kiersten Brown
Hudson Eakin

Alan H. Hawkins, Superintendent of Schools

School Board members unable to attend:

Peter Cotter
Jack Kennealy

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Kathy Ray.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Kathy Ray

1. Adjustments to Agenda

Agenda Item 9a – Consideration of 2008-09 Calendar, was addressed immediately before Item 6 - Communications.

2. Approval of School Board Minutes

Ms. Winker made a motion that the School Board minutes for the meeting held on March 11, 2008 be approved, with correction to Page 1, Item 4 "...student Advisory group...". Ms. Brigham seconded. (Approved 5-0)

3. Comments by Student Representatives

Student representatives spoke briefly on items of interest from the students' perspective.

4. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Items

There were no comments from the public.

5. RECOGNITION

a. Superintendent's Comments

- Saturday session went well.

b. High School - by Principal Shedd

- Recent Model UN Trip to Baltimore was a wonderful experience according to Gretchen McNulty. Peter Brigham and John Aronson were recognized with Outstanding Commendations at this event.
 - Presidential Scholar Nominees are Libby Cummings, Peter Kelley, Charlie Governali, and Ashley Robinson
- c. Middle School – by Principal Connolly
- Sydney Wight and Evan Long qualified to represent State of Maine in 2008 Eastern Swimming Championship of US Swimming.
 - Maine State Scholastic Chess Championship success
 - Justin Edgar was “Principal for A Day”
- d. Pond Cove – by Principal Eismeier
- Maine State Scholastic Chess Championship success. If anyone from the community is interested, they’re in need of coaches to further this program. If you are interested, please contact Community Services.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. **Deborah Tuminski resignation letter** – High School physical education teacher
- b. **Request from Middle School teacher, Paul Casey, to ~~continue~~move to half-time** – Ms. Millett motioned for approval of Paul Casey’s continued employment with change to half-time status. Ms. Brigham seconded. (Approved 5-0)
- c. **Letter from High School staff member Joe Conroy** – regarding elimination of 1/5 English teaching position and the challenges our exceptional students will face. Superintendent Hawkins reported that since initial cuts were considered and the arrival of this letter, there have been some staff changes that will most likely allow for Joe to remain in this position.
- d. **Budget Update** – EPS information is in. \$239,427 more has been received since last year. Reflects fact that property valuations have gone up, although student population has slightly decreased.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. **Update on Legislative Issues** - Superintendent Hawkins reported on three recent items. An Act to reduce percentage of costs to local schools paid by the State from 55% to 49%. An Act to clarify and improve the laws governing the formation of consolidated schools. Most concerned with budget approval voting deadlines. This is still being reviewed. An Act to amend laws governing formation of school administrative units. Regarding school Unions versus SADs. Of note, the Maine Heritage Policy Center still believes schools are spending too much money.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Consideration of policies for second reading
- IHBA: Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)
 - IHBAA: Referral/Pre-referral of Students with Disabilities
 - IHBAA-R: Admin Guidelines-Referral/Pre-Referral

- IHBAC: Child Find
- IHBGB: Model Supplemental Statement of Rights for Private School Students with Disabilities
- IKA: Student Assessment - *recommendation for deletion*
- IKAB: Student Progress Reports to Parents
- JFC: Dropout Prevention Student Withdrawal from School
- JKF: Disciplinary Removal of Students with Disabilities
- JKF-R: Admin Guidelines-Disciplinary Removal Students with Disabilities
- JKGA: Time Out Lifespace Rooms and Therapeutic Restraint
- JKGA-R: Admin Guidelines-Time Out Rooms and Therapeutic Restraint
- Ms. Brigham recommended acceptance of policies as presented. Seconded by Ms. Millett. (Approved 5-0)

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Consideration and action on proposed school calendar for 2008-09** – Ms Brigham reported on key changes and attributes-Post Labor Day start to school, Thanksgiving break's teacher days moved to work around Presidential voting, concerns over very late June ending date, fewer middle school early release days, and revised hours for the High School. This change will be monitored and adjusted if necessary. Ms. Burke clarified that though each student may not have felt that they had the time or opportunity to comment on the calendar change, their concerns and ideas were brought up by others and everything was carefully considered during committee meetings. Ms Millett said the committee moved this forward seeing it as in the best interest of the students and compromise was required by all involved. Ms. Brigham motioned for approval of calendar as presented. Ms. Winker seconded. (Approved 5-0)

Ms. Ray invited the public to speak on this topic.

From the audience:

Rosie Lunberg and Gail Donahue spoke on a survey taken at school. Many students opposed the time change. Concerned with school work and extra-curricular activity balance. Parents concerned with work and school arrival times. Hudson Eakin – reminded that students voted 2-1 against this change. Requested more advanced notice of significant changes. Would ½ hour change really make that significant of a difference? Asked how will we know if change worked or was worth it?

Kiersten Brown – concerned over extra-curricular activities. If later is really better, than why not go really later instead of just a half hour?

Trillium Rintel – Asked about leaving school early to get to athletics and late ending and summer jobs.

Unidentified female high school students – Asked if majority of students voted against this change why was this moved forward? Why change just for a trial or experiment? How much can a ½ hour difference really make?

- b. **Consideration and action on High School extra-curricular athletic fee position nominations** - Superintendent Hawkins recommended approval of the extra-curricular positions as presented.

Doug Donovan – Fr. Baseball

Steve Martin – Softball Assistant

Betsy Hayes – Tennis Assistant

Bruce Whidden – Track Assistant

Paul Snyder – Track Assistant

- c. **Consideration and action on Middle School extra-curricular athletic fee position nominations** – Superintendent Hawkins recommended approval of the extra-curricular positions as presented.

Angie Dailey – Outdoor Track

Alexandra Sawyer – 7th gr girls Lacrosse

Corrine Kuhl – 8th gr girls Lacross

- d. **Consideration and action on extra-curricular Special Olympic fee position nominations** – Superintendent Hawkins recommended approval of the extra-curricular positions as presented.

Morrigan Burns

Karen Johnson

Kristen Cobb

Ms. Ray requested updating the extra-curricular position nomination form to include “New Position (yes/no)”.

- Ms. Millett made a motion to approve the High School (Item b), Middle School (Item c) and Instructional Support Special Olympics (Item d) recommendations together as presented. Ms. Winker seconded. (Approved 5-0).

10. **CONSIDERATION OF POLICIES FOR FIRST READING**

- ACAA: Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students
- JLF: Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect
- JLF-E: Reporting Child Abuse/Neglect Guidelines
- IIB: Class Size

No action required for first reading.

11. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chairperson Ray announced that committee reports are posted on the web site and invited committee members to speak if there was anything essential to report at this public meeting.

Finance Committee - Ms. Millett reported that the Town Council is still considering the budget and encouraged public participation.

12. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no comments by the public.

13. **SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA REQUESTS**

There were no requests.

14. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Ms. Ray announced the following Committees' meetings are on the web site.

- **Personnel Committee** – Thursday, March 13 at 8 a.m. in the Jordan Conference Room.
- **Communications Committee** - Wednesday, March 5 at 3:10 p.m. in the Pond Cove Media Center.
- **Finance Committee** - Wednesday, March 26 at 8 a.m. in the Superintendent's Office.
- **Sports Done Right** – Monday, March 10 at 7 p.m. in the HS Library.
- **Calendar Committee** - Thursday, March 20 at 2:45 p.m. at the MS Conference Room
- **Wellness Committee** – Monday, April 7 at 3:10 p.m. in the Fire Station Meeting Room.
- **Extra Curricular Committee** – Tuesday, March 4 at 3:30 p.m. in the Jordan Conference Room.
- **School Board Meeting** – Executive Session Tuesday, March 18 at 2:30 pm in the Jordan Conf Rm; Regular Meeting Tuesday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.
- **School Board Workshops** - March 25 at 7 pm in HS Library
- **Strategic Planning Committee** – **Thursday, May 1 at 12:30 in the Superintendent's Office.**
- **Policy Committee** – Tuesday, March 18 at Noon in the Jordan Conference Room.

15. **ADJORNMENT**

There being no further business, Ms. Brigham made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Millett seconded. The motion was approved 5-0. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan H. Hawkins
Superintendent of Schools