

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
STEARNS JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
4:30 PM**

| | |
|--|---------|
| Richard Angotti, Jr. | Present |
| Jeffrey Gordon | Absent |
| Kevin Gregory | Present |
| Michael Jewers | Excused |
| Warren Steward | Present |
| Francis Boynton, Superintendent | Present |
| Makayla Pepper, Student Representative | Excused |

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Warren Steward, Vice Chairperson.

II. Adjustments to the Agenda

None

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the School Board Meetings August 27, 2019, barring any errors or omissions.

Motioned by: Richard Angotti

Seconded by: Kevin Gregory

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

V. Payroll Warrant

Motion: It was moved to direct the Superintendent of Schools to authorize payment by the Town Treasurer to each party listed herein, the sum set against each name contained in School Payroll Warrant #20-6 in the amount of \$141,674.16 on September 12, 2019.

Motioned by: Richard Angotti

Seconded by: Kevin Gregory

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VI. Payable Warrant

Motion: It was moved to direct the Superintendent of Schools to authorize payment by the Town Treasurer to each party listed herein, the sum set against each name contained in School Payable Warrant #20-8 in the amount of \$221,892.00 September 12, 2019.

Motioned by: Richard Angotti **Seconded by:** Kevin Gregory

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VII. To see if the Board will approve the Superintendent's appointment and authorize the Superintendent's hiring of extra duty and extra/co-curricular positions for the 2019-2020 school year

Motion: To approve the Superintendent's appointment and authorize the Superintendent's hiring of the following extra and co-curricular positions:

| | | <u>Yr</u> | <u>Stp</u> | <u>Stipend</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| Dwyer, Laura | Freshmen Class Advisor | 1 | 1 | \$360 |
| Dwyer, Laura | High School Science Fair Advisor | | | \$400 |
| Fiske, Kristi | B3 Grant Project Stipend | | | \$1,260 |
| Mackin, Kristi | Student Council Advisor | 1 | 1 | \$1,080 |
| McNally, Danielle | B3 Grant Project Stipend | | | \$1,260 |
| McNaughton, Joshua | B3 Grant Project Stipend | | | \$1,260 |
| Morrison, Susan | Sophomore Class Advisor | 1 | 1 | \$360 |
| Scally, Mark | Piano Accompanist | | | \$6,480 |
| Waite, Matthew | Dramatics Music Director | 1 | 7 | \$1,512 |

Motioned by: Kevin Gregory **Seconded by:** Richard Angotti

Board Discussion:

The positions listed without a year and step are extra duty positions.

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VIII. To see if the Board will approve the Superintendent's appointment and authorize the Superintendent's hiring of positions for the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion: To approve the Superintendent's appointment and authorize the Superintendent to hire John Haugen as an Ed Tech III at \$12.51 per hour, subject to change due to negotiations.

Motioned by: Richard Angotti

Seconded by: Kevin Gregory

Board Discussion:

He has a Bachelor's degree. We are pleased to have him. We still have 4-5 positions open, including Ed Techs and a Spanish Teacher.

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

IX. To see if the Board will approve the tabled motion for the Region III transportation contract with Medway School Department.

Motion: To table the motion for the Region III transportation contract with the Medway Middle School.

Motioned by: Richard Angotti

Seconded by: Kevin Gregory

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

X. To see if the Board will appoint a delegate and alternate for the Fall Conference October 24 & 25, 2019.

Motion: To appoint Jeffrey Gordon as Fall Conference delegate and Michael Jewers as Fall Conference alternate.

Motioned by: Richard Angotti

Seconded by: Kevin Gregory

Board Discussion:

There was some discussion of Warren Steward being the alternate.

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

XI. To see if the Board will authorize the Superintendent to transfer funds to cover cost center deficits for cost overruns as required by State statute up to the 5% limit.

Motion: To authorize the Superintendent to transfer funds to cover cost center deficits to cost overruns in the 2018-2019 school budget, as required by State statute up to the 5% limit.

Motioned by: Richard Angotti

Seconded by: Kevin Gregory

Board Discussion:

The Superintendent met with the auditor to review the fund transfer information.

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

XII. Department Reports

Makayla Pepper, Senior Student Representative:

Auditions for the Fall Musical “Back to the 80’s” was Tuesday, September 3 and Wednesday, September 4.

Peer Counselors is also starting up with Mrs. Buzzell.

We are having sign-ups for a Mock Trial. It’s a way to learn about the judicial system and laws.

Classes have been electing class officers and we will have the results soon.

Sharon Daring, Food Service Manager:

Report of time:

Completed 07/02-8/9/2019: 4.2 days/190 for a total of 4.2 /190

Completed 08/12-08/23/2019: 10.2333 days/190 for a total of 14.4333/190

Completed 08/23-9/06/2019: 10.9 days/190 for a total of 25.3333/190

We have been working to get the 2 new hires at Granite Street School and 1 food service assistant that transferred from Granite Street kitchen to Stearns kitchen (to replace Kristy who replaced Gail who retired) trained.

All our other Food Service Assistants are doing a super- excellent job getting nutritious foods served to the students through all of this time of personnel changes, we are very lucky to have such great staff in our program.

We have replaced a 10 year old reach-in cooler and the 30 year old evaporator and condenser for the walk-in cooler in the Stearns kitchen.

Cody Clinton, Technology Coordinator:

17/180 Days Average Hours per day 9.27.

Firstly, thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this team! I am grateful to be here! Some of the things I have been working on in the Technology Department:

-Familiarity with the existing systems and setups for Servers, Domain controllers, digital security, Virtual machines and servers

-Assessing the most immediate concerns and needs of the current systems at Stearns. Primarily, the necessity of updating and upgrading all serversystems and Virtual systems

to recent software versions, as the Windows Server 2008 software will no longer be supported by Microsoft as of 1/1/2020.

-Initialized GSS teacher MacBooks, setting up individual profiles, troubleshooting and transferring applications and data as needed. Support for teachers in learning the use of their new Macs. I held one meeting with staff and walked them through a few basic functional items.

-Began creating solutions to implement new interactive projectors that we are piloting.

-Assessed donated desktop PC computers for usability. With a simple update of two pieces of internal hardware costing roughly \$100 per machine, we can have 40 Desktop computers that would cost approximatley \$500 and \$700 to buy anything comparable. 20 of these “new” desktops will be used to setup the Computer Lab at Stearns which will relieve some of the network and processing slow downs caused by the high degree of computing necessary to perform many of the Adobe tasks in Mr McLean’s classes.

-Set up and registered my information with a multitude of the vendor and service accounts that we have in order to be able to manage our systems and memberships.

Began the troubleshooting and logic trials of the Granite Street Internet systems, completed the first round of adjustments to allow for a larger pool of IP addresses, and day long IP leases, as opposed to 4hr limited leases. These two steps should help to alleviate some of the bottlenecking issues in connectivity that the staff and classes have been experiencing.

Evaluated and replaced chromebooks in classroom carts at GSS. Inventory and assess damaged or no-functioning Chromebooks in order to begin repairs.

Louis DiFrederico, Facilities Director:

The last two summer months have been very busy ones at both schools. We hit the ground running with school ending late and having 2 weeks to relocate 4 class rooms and the computer storage room to make ready the new leased space for Kid’s Peace. This 2 week period involved a thorough cleaning of the areas, re-finishing the classroom floors, cleaning of walls, light fixtures, ceiling tile replacement, etc. Most of my time was spent making repairs to the rooms, re-wiring the intercom system to segregate the area from the rest of the building as well as relocating and installing a smart board.

Due to the retirement of Ron Cyr, and the hiring of all new custodial staff at Stearns, most of my time during the first month of summer break was devoted to the High School, working with and training the new custodial staff. I have been very impresses with how quickly the new staff has learned the techniques and procedures we implement during the summer to get our schools cleaned, shined and ready for the fall. Their work and effort clearly shows throughout our facilities.

I coordinated with Emera Maine and Rioux Electric to finally clear all the hurdles to getting power restored to the fields down on the back 40. The pole servicing the swimming pool as well as the rec complex and our fields was re-built and the new underground line is now energized down to the softball and field hockey fields.

This summer I contacted Maine Fire Protection about doing our now annual inspection of the building fire systems. Typically we have used Simplex as it is their system, however, any certified company can do this work. I was very impressed with Maine Fire as they were nearly \$1,000 less than simplex charges for the same inspection. As well they allowed me to immediately make repairs to several deficient devices, saving another trip and additional costs and ultimately giving us a Clean Report with NO deficiencies at Stearns.

Several days of my time has gone into the Granite Street fire panel as well ultimately tracing down and finding a chafed strobe wire inside a wall cavity near the cafeteria. This as well as several other issues at Granite have caused issues with the panel. This system is now functioning trouble free.

Due to the transition in the IT department this summer, I spent a significant amount of time working on cabling and integrating network systems such as the phone system and heating system to resolve issues that we had been dealing with over the past year. I was able to resolve several issues however there are still several to tackle and I am in hopes that with the help of the new IT coordinator we can work to resolve what is left.

When Summer School at Granite finally ended, so began the office modifications to increase security in the front entry. My attempts to find a contractor for this work unfortunately met with little interest along with contractors that did not meet the requirement to carry workmen's comp insurance. I was left to perform this work myself, relocating the front office door to the corridor side. This put the office entry behind the locked corridor doors. I also had to relocate the telephone, Ethernet and pneumatic heating drop. This also involved framing up a sliding window for the front and installing a counter. The window installation will be done by Portland Glass and is a laminated glass Daisey Slider similar to what you see in most commercial applications such as Katahdin Valley Health. There was a 6 week lead time to get this window and I was notified last week that it is finally here. I will be working with Portland Glass to get it installed as soon as possible.

I installed the first of the 3 new drinking fountains at Granite. The first and most used one was installed outside the gym. The second one by the cafeteria will be completed this week. And the 3 is planned for the next workshop day as it involves cutting into the corridor wall to access the plumbing. Again, attempts to find a contractor willing to do this work were unsuccessful.

The installation of the key/card access control system is now complete at Granite with all teachers issued a fob instead of keys for access into the building. Completion of this project took several weeks of my time as I installed the entire system myself. This was a savings to the school of over \$10,000. Quotes to have this work done averaged \$2,600 per door or \$13,000 for the 5 doors. I was able to install and program 5 doors myself for just under \$3,000 in materials.

Repairs to the boiler room hot water main line were completed last week. Leaks had developed in the 2" copper line that feeds building.

Repairs were also made to the sewer pumping system. All 4 float switches in the tank had failed causing the automatic operation of the tank to fail. We were having to manually pump this out daily until the repairs could be made.

Fall athletics has begun and this requires a fair bit of my time, lining and painting all the fields as well as game preparation. I have been working with Ron McGinnis to teach him the process as well.

It was an extremely busy summer, and I feel a great amount of work got accomplished!

Board Discussion:

Portland Glass will be installing the glass window at Granite Street School on Friday.

Joshua McNaughton, PreK-5 Assistant Principal:

Thank you to our custodial staff for all their hard work this summer. The school looks great and our office renovation is nearly complete. The new doors now provide an added layer of security to our building.

Granite Street still has four unfilled positions. This made the start of the year very challenging. I would like to thank all our staff for their flexibility as we have made changes to schedules and adapted to meet the needs of our students.

Despite the bridge closure, transportation has run very smoothly. Bus runs have been modified to ensure all students arrive on time. We have seen a few more students riding the bus as a result of the closure, however at this time we have been able to integrate these students into our regular three bus runs.

Students were treated to a BBQ lunch on Thursday, September 5. Thank you to the food service staff for making all the necessary arrangements and to Warren for helping cook.

Planetarium: On Tuesday September 10, students were able to experience our universe inside a giant inflatable planetarium. Thank you to Kala Rush and the Katahdin Learning Project for funding this visit.

Granite teachers will be receiving additional ReadyGen training on September 18. This training will specifically help teachers access and utilize the technology based features of the ReadyGen curriculum.

To start the school year teachers received new MacBook Air computers. This technology update, along with a pilot project which is exploring new interactive projectors, has helped address many of the technology restraints teachers experienced in previous years. Cody Clinton has been instrumental in the process and we are grateful to have him on board. While we have seen significant improvements to our technology situation, internet

access remains a concern. Teachers are still struggling to connect and remain connected to the internet. Mr. Clinton is working to address this situation.

Planning has begun for our October workshop day. Beth Peavey and I are working to provide an educational program which will address the increasing vaping issue.

Board Discussion:

Technology Coordinator Cody Clinton is doing a terrific job and the Internet issues at Granite Street are heading in the right direction.

Beth Peavey, 6-12 Assistant Principal:

Fiscal Year 2019/2020 work days to date: 38/220

Field Hockey season has started with one loss to PCHS with a 1-2 final score. The team plays tonight against Old Town for their first away game. We have 21 girls on the roster with Heather Girsra returning as coach and Amy Anderson as assistant coach.

Football has also started with the first game away at MDI with a loss of 51-28. The opening home game will be Friday, September 13th against John Bapst. We have 30 players on the roster, 21 from Stearns and 9 from Schenck. Cody Herring is our head coach with Josh Studer assisting. Coach Art Greenlaw, Nick Cullen, Pat Mooney, Chris MacDonald, and Tim Darling also volunteer their time to help. The team is enjoying having Coach Greenlaw volunteer his time and experience this year. Orono High School has dropped out of Varsity Football this year due to lack of numbers. This has affected the league as far as scheduling. The Stearns football schedule has two changes, the first was Friday, September 6 with an away game to MDI and the second is Friday, September 27, when we will have a home game against Washington Academy.

Cheerleading has started out well with 8 high school girls and 6 middle school girls. Varsity Coach Jessica Pelkey and Middle School Coach Nicole Campbell are team coaching for the Fall season and both squads cheer together at the football games.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Peavey reiterated the impact Orono High School's withdrawal from varsity football has had on our schedule.

XIII. Superintendent's Report

Report of time:

Completed through June 30, 2015, 260/210

Completed Work days July 1, 2015 to June 30, 261/210

Work days July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 293/210

Work Days July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018: 263/220

Work Days July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 267/220

Work days July 1, 2019 to present 51/220

Vacation days remaining: 30/30

With the successful vote of the town, our budget for this year is in place. A concern at this point is the Spanish position that has not been filled, and the sub who filled in last year has agreed to continue in the position for a while. We also have several Ed Tech positions that are still open.

Our new international students are settling in. This group seems to be making friends easily and several of our students have reached out to them. One of the boys has joined the football teams just this week.

Building maintenance has progressed well this summer. The buildings are in excellent shape thanks to the hard works this summer.

We need to have a round of sub-committee meetings. Particularly, Buildings and Grounds as we have some recommendations and updates, and Negotiations as we have some work to do. Policy I feel can wait until after the fall conference. I would like to set up meeting dates.

As we move into the school year, we are finding more needs in the area of Special Education. We are also finding some resolution to the needs of the children.

I met with a representative from the Commissioner of Education. We met for a couple of hours to review the needs of rural schools and to discuss future funding. He also has assisted me with some issues regarding current funding, i.e., the bus and G/T funding. I feel the meeting was very productive and I feel the Commissioner is listening to our concerns. There is definitely more support for education from the office. I have included the summary from his office.

We have worked very closely with the Kids Peace program. At this time, we see that the program is working out very well. We are adjusting to the parking conditions as there is significant staffing for the program, but this seems to be just an adjustment.

The opening of school has gone well.

Board Discussion:

The Superintendent is picking up some computers at Ruth's Reusable Resources on Wednesday afternoon.

He is attending a conference with Drummond and Woodsum on Friday regarding education law updates.

Tentatively leaving for China on October 4 or 5.

XIV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:58 PM.

Motion by: Richard Angotti

Seconded by: Kevin Gregory

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, September 24, 2019, Warrant Meeting at 4:30 PM in the Stearns Junior/Senior High School conference room.

Tuesday, October 8, 2019, Regular Meeting at 4:30 PM in the Stearns Junior/Senior High School conference room.

Tuesday, October 22, 2019, Warrant Meeting at 4:30 PM in the Stearns Junior/Senior High School conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis N. Boynton
Superintendent of Schools