

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING  
STEARNS JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM  
PUBLIC IN-PERSON OR BY ZOOM  
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023**

**4:30 PM**

Kevin Gregory	Present
Kevin Libby	Present
Thomas Malcolm	Present
Donald Raymond	Present
Warren Steward	Present
Dr. Shelley Lane, Superintendent	Present
Sydney Campbell, Student Representative	Present
Gracyn Sanders, Student Representative	Present

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Warren Steward, School Board Chair.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Adjustments to the Agenda**

VII a. Senior Class Advisor Update of the Senior Class Trip

**IV. Public Comment**

None

**V. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the School Board Meeting March 14 and March 27, 2023, barring any errors or omissions.

**Motioned by:** Donald Raymond

**Seconded by:** Thomas Malcolm

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**VI. 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 #PR23-20 in the amount of \$134,255.41, #PR23-20D in the amount of \$30,674.14 and MainePERS 23-24 in the amount of \$37,073.40 on March 30, 2023, and #PR23-21 in the amount of 132,557.59, #PR23-21-2 in the amount of \$2,930.22, #PR23-21D in the amount of \$36,211.72 and #PR23-21D-2 in the amount of \$1,009.38 on April 13, 2023.

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory

**Seconded by:** Kevin Libby

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**VII. 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 #SA23-19 in the amount of \$7,307.20, #SA23-23 in the amount of \$250.00 (student accounts), #AP23-36 in the amount of 124,431.32 on March 30, 2023, and #SA23-21 in the amount of \$632.44 and #SA23-22 in the amount of \$11,942.00 (student accounts) and #AP23-37 in the amount of \$160,525.36 on April 13, 2023.

**Motioned by:** Thomas Malcolm

**Seconded by:** Donald Raymond

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**VIIa. Senior Class Advisor Update of the Senior Class Trip**

Kristi Hayes, Senior Class Advisor, gave an overview of the Class of 2023 trip. They are going to Six Flags in Massachusetts with 5 chaperones. They are leaving the day after graduation and coming back the same day. Fundraising is paying for the trip as well as providing spending money.

She also gave an update on the make-up day for Seniors to make sure they attend enough school days for graduation requirements. They will do a Field Day for Granite Street students on Saturday, May 20.

**Motion:** To approve the Senior Class trip as presented.

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory

**Seconded by:** Thomas Malcolm

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**VIII. Gear Up Presentation Debbie Gilmer**

Debbie Gilmer gave the Board an overview of the Gear Up Program that the Millinocket School Department signed on under the previous Superintendent. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade students sign up and are followed through college. It is to help them be successful in college and ultimately in a career. There is no cost to the district. They are committed to serving small, rural schools like ours to help level the playing field.

**IX. To see if the Board will enter into Executive Session 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A) appointment of officials/appointees/employees**

**Motion:** To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A) appointment of officials/appointees/employees

**Motioned by:** Kevin Libby      **Seconded by:** Kevin Gregory

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**Time In:** 4:51 PM      **Time Out:** 5:13 PM

**X. To approve the Superintendent's nomination and authorize the Superintendent to hire an Elementary Principal for the 2023-2024 school year.**

**Motion:** To approve the Superintendent's nomination and authorize the Superintendent to hire Jo-Anna Merry as an Elementary Principal for the 2023-2024 school year at a salary of \$73,000, benefits as negotiated.

**Motioned by:** Donald Raymond      **Seconded by:** Thomas Malcolm

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**XI. To see if the Board will approve the Superintendent's nomination and authorize the Superintendent's hiring of second year probationary teachers**

**Motion:** To approve the Superintendent's nomination of the second year probationary teachers.

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Years Completed 8-31-23</u>
D'Alessandro, Ciera	BS	2	1
Guy, Angela	BS	1	1

Hayes, Miranda	BS	2	1
Lazareva, Alicia	BS	11	1
McEwen, Zachary	BS	2	1
Tapley Jr., Charles	BS	1	1

**Motioned by:** Thomas Malcolm      **Seconded by:** Kevin Gregory

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**XII. To see if the Board will approve the Superintendent’s nomination and authorize the Superintendent’s hiring of continuing contract teachers**

**Motion:** To approve the Superintendent’s nomination of the continuing contract teachers.

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Years Completed 8-31-23</u>
Alley, Emma	BS	2	2
Malcolm, Leah	BS	3	2

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory      **Seconded by:** Kevin Libby

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**XIII. Policies to Delete from Current Policy List**

**Motion:** To delete the following policies from the School Board policy list.

- CA Administrative Goals
- CD Management Team
- CDA Administrative Decisions
- CE Administrative Councils, Cabinets and Committees
- CF School Building Administration
- CH Policy Implementation

**Motioned by:** Donald Raymond      **Seconded by:** Thomas Malcolm

**Board Discussion:**

These were brought before the Policy Committee. The Superintendent reached out to MSMA to make sure we have policies that we need to have, but these were recommended to be removed.

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

#### **XIV. First Reading of New Policies**

**Motion:** To approve the first reading of the following new policies.

CB-R Superintendent of Schools  
CHCAA Student Handbooks  
JFABD-R Education of Homeless Students Procedure

**Motioned by:** Kevin Libby      **Seconded by:** Thomas Malcolm

#### **Board Discussion:**

The CHCAA is not required, but the Committee felt it was important to have the handbooks reviewed annually.

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

#### **XV. First Reading of Policies Revisions**

**Motion:** To approve the first reading of the following revised policies.

CB School Superintendent  
CBI Evaluation of Superintendent  
CHA Development of Administrative Procedures  
CHD Administration in the Absence of Policy  
JEA Compulsory Attendance  
JFABD Education of Homeless Students  
JFC Student Withdrawal from School

**Motioned by:** Donald Raymond      **Seconded by:** Thomas Malcolm

#### **Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

#### **XVI. Student Representative Reports**

##### **Junior Class Student Representative, Gracyn Sanders, reported:**

The baseball and softball season has started.

The softball team helped with an Easter Egg Hunt at Granite Street, which is an annual event.

The Junior Class students have been chosen for Dirigo State.

The National Honor Society has 4 students who will be inducted in June.

**Senior Class Student Representative, Sydney Campbell, reported:**

- 1. Senior class-** The senior class has been working hard on end of the year activities. The class will be going to six flags for the senior trip on June 5 for one last day together. Caps and gowns will be ordered soon and the class is currently working on figuring out what the class gift will be.
- 2. Performing arts-** The Unified Performing Arts Show Choir received a silver award for their outstanding performance. Along with this the One Act performance placed 5th at states. Four All Festival cast awards were given along with a sound award and an ensemble award.

**XVII. Administrative and Program Reports**

**Mia Charette, Food Service Manager, reported:**

- The Food Service Department had applied for and was granted a \$4,094.76 breakfast grant. The grant monies were used to purchase new Grab n' Go breakfast carts for Granite Street. They have streamlined our service and have students excited to visit the new carts for breakfast.
- The two hot serving lines at Stearns have been refurbished with new 5-bay heating wells.
- The kitchen at Stearns has been busy supporting community events. This month we helped to provide concessions for the State Vocal Jazz and Show Choir Festival, and provided lab space for the EMCC Culinary Bootcamp which will continue through the month of April.
- The Opt-Out form for the CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Food Program has been complete and submitted.
- Our Food Service teams served 5,996 breakfasts, and 6,217 lunches in the month of March.

**Louis DiFrederico, Facilities Director, reported:**

There is a fuel bid next month.

The Jazz Festival was a big event and a great success.

We are working hard on all the summer projects.

Parking lot paving is being paid by a grant, but there isn't enough to cover both schools.

**Cody Clinton, Technology Director, reported:**

- The long running problem with the Cafeteria printer has finally been resolved, and it is able to scan to email.
- A plan is in place to move Cat5 cables to the POS stations in the Cafeteria, allowing them to connect to the network via hard line. This will prevent the loss of signal and accidental security measures being triggered by the Wi-Fi connection.
- We were able to finally get a quote, and find the funds to acquire a new Wireless AP for the WiFi network in the Granite Street Conference room. This will fix the intermittent loss of WiFi connection that is caused by the distance from the nearest AP currently. In the mean time we have run a Cat 5 cable direct to the Viewboard in that Conference room, so at the minimum it will be able to run Zoom meetings without relying on the WiFi connection.
- 44 Tickets were created in March from our Spiceworks ticket system, all but 3 of them have been closed.
- We tested aftermarket screen replacements for MacBook Airs that had broken screens, but were not under warranty. Finding this solution has cut our broken screen repair costs from over \$400 per device, to less than \$200 per device. I am able to complete the repair within approx. 45 minutes. We have also purchased additional replacement screens to repair the remaining 15 devices that have broken screens, as well as two that have broken track pads. Being able to repair some of the more common damages saves us money and prolongs the effective life span of the MacBooks that we have invested in.
- NWEA Testing. NWEA released their Tech memos last week and I have begun the process of updating the NWEA secure browser, as well as adding the Through Year Secure browser to all student and teacher devices. Bruce McLean and I will be working on rolling this out throughout the month of April to ensure it is completed before our testing schedule begins in May.

● **Jolene Maynard, Assistant Special Ed Director, reported:**

- We had the following meetings happen the month of March:  
IEP and 504 Meetings - 35  
Referral/Testing Ordered - 3 and 1 FBA  
1 Student Moved into the district.  
1 Student Moved out of the district.  
1 Student Didn't Qualify for Services.  
1 Student was unenrolled and is being homeschooled.  
1 Went from a 504 Plan to an IEP.  
1 504 Student was Dismissed.  
1 Student with a new IEP.
- We have the following totals of IEP students at each school:  
Granite: 62  
Stearns: 60
- We still have posted the following positions for the 2023-2024 School Year:

- Speech Therapist full-time
  - Occupational Therapist full-time
  - 2 Granite Special Education Teachers (my position and Lori Lincoln-Nadeau)
  - Stearns Special Education Teacher
- I have had my first round of training for Safety Care Specialists to fulfill our Crisis Team's at each school. Dr. Lane and I will be working on coming up with protocols for crisis responses for each building.
  - The 4th and 5th grade Resource room students have made their own clear greenhouses with soaked lima beans and are watching and making predictions about when they are going to start sprouting. They have also been working on spring poetry, and made Elmer's Glue, salt and paint to make beautiful flower portraits.
  - Life skills students are continuing to learn about sharing their successes, identifying things that they thought needed improvement, and then making a goal of one thing they can change. This is an awesome way for the students to recognize their achievements, reflect on things they can change, and making daily goals. Great Job!

**Karla Rutherford, Instructional Interventionist, reported:**

- The library is currently hosting a coin drive for Scholastic Books All For Books. They will match what we collect and send it to a school in need. We use the money raised at this school to make sure every child can participate in the book fair. This year's coin drive is a competition between teachers. The teacher who raises the most money will get a pie in the face.
- Students participating in the book club are getting ready to start book 2: A Series of Unfortunate Events – The Reptile Room.
- We celebrated Maine's birthday on Wednesday, March 15 by wearing something Maine-related. We had lumberjacks, college swag, Mt. Katahdin attire and Baxter State Park attire.
- Students have started reading for the "Bikes for Books" which will run from March 1 to May 1.
- We are gearing up to take the Maine Through Year Assessment which will be replacing the NWEA. This assessment meets all federal requirements in reading and math and is required for grades 3-8 and 10.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester ended on March 10 and parent-teacher conferences were on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Third and fourth grades had their second student-led conferences of the year. They used a portfolio to showcase their work to share with their parents. This process allows students see their own learning and take responsibility for their progress. They see how their strengths, weaknesses, and behaviors can affect them as learners.
- All of Granite Street went to Stearns March 20 to watch the Middle School and High School Show Choirs perform.
- There were four 5th grade students who participated in Unified Performing Arts Jr's show choir "Imagination" which is competed at Vocal Jazz States Saturday April 1.
- On March 29, Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade went on a Virtual Field Trip to Acadia National Park. The program, "Hooray for Habitats!" was hosted by the National



Parks Service, and presented by Park Rangers. Students learned about different animal habitats while going on a "hike" to see lakes, forests, and the coast.

● **Nicholas Cullen, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, reported:**

- Junior High softball and baseball have started and we have 13 kids playing softball and 14 kids playing baseball.
- High School baseball and softball are in full swing. Both teams have pre-season games on April 15th. Our home opener is April 21 vs Penquis at 4:30.
- One Act participated in the State Championship in Ellsworth. They did an amazing job and finished 5th. Sisters Victoria and Eva Blanchette were both named to the All Festival cast.
- Stearns hosted the State Vocal Jazz Festival this past weekend. Both junior high and high school teams received silver honors.
- Student of the month was named for our junior high students: 6th grade winner was Silas Lee, 7th grade Lily Archibald, and 8th grade Emerson Michaud.
- Stearns High School Student of the quarter was named. The winners are as follows: Punctuality Ben Waite, Respect Madison Carr, Involvement Braydon Campbell, Discipline Emily Rogerson, Effort Savannah Krause.

**Beth Peavey, Principal, reported:**

- 8th Grade Step-up Night on 4/5/2023. Mrs. Buzzell has organized this event.
  - 100% of 8th grade parents/guardians are signed up to attend
  - They will meet administration, teachers, and complete course sign-ups
- Mrs. Kovats' high school Spanish classes have a field trip on April 6, 2023. They are going to visit the Hudson Museum, where they will receive a guided tour of the Meso-American exhibits and participate in a scavenger hunt. They will also have lunch at Miguel's in Bangor.
- Mrs. Dwyer's Middle School Odyssey of the Mind team went to a competition in North Berwick on March 25, 2023. This is the first time a team from Stearns attended. They placed 2nd.
- The Career Fair is being held in the high school gym on April 11, 2023. Mr. Leathers and Mrs. Buzzell have worked extremely hard to put together this event for area students. Stearns students from grades 8-12 will visit over 30 vendors. We have also invited Schenck and Katahdin high school students to attend and both schools anticipate bringing students.
- Mrs. Girsa's math classes celebrated Pi Day (3/14) with activities, equations, and a song for the first 100 digits of Pi. They discovered the Pi ratio using Little Debbie Oatmeal pies.
  - Mrs. Girsa's Personal Finance class has just finished filling out job applications, calculating their taxes and career exploration. They are in the process of learning how to do interviews.
- Penobscot County Teacher of the Year update (no more than 10)

## **XVIII. Superintendent's Report**

On April 1, there was a business meeting with Chinese representatives from Zibo school. At the same time the festival was going on. We had a business meeting then watched Unified Harmony perform. They extended our contract through 2028, as long as the Chinese government allows it, and it was an amazing evening.

## **XIX. Budget Recap**

The Superintendent reviewed the budget timeline meetings, drafts and increases to the Town and answered questions from the Board.

## **XX. To see if the Board will adopt the 2023-2024 school budget**

**Motion:** To approve the 2023-2024 school budget

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory

**Seconded by:** Kevin Libby

### **Board Discussion:**

Bangor had a 5% increase on their budget and many have had to do this. Our increase is 4.53%.

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

## **XXI. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

**Motion by:** Thomas Malcolm

**Seconded by:** Kevin Libby

**Voted:** 5 – Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

May 9, 2023

June 6, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Shelley Lane  
Superintendent of Schools