

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD IN-PERSON (CONFERENCE ROOM); PUBLIC BY ZOOM
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021
6:00 PM**

Matthew Ayotte	Present
Michelle Brundrett	Present
Hilary Emery	Present
Peter Jamieson	Present
Warren Steward	Present
Francis Boynton, Superintendent	Present

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Peter Jamieson, Chairperson.

II. Adjustments to the Agenda

None

III. Public Comment

Parent concerned about virtual learning and how it will be going forward. Concerned because students are having a difficult time with learning virtually. The Superintendent suggested she talk to the teacher(s) and Principal and see him if she needs to go further.

Jen Gurewicz asked if there has been decision regarding learning next year. The Superintendent stated it will depend on the conditions at the time. The goal is to get everyone back full time for full weeks.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the School Board Meetings March 23, 2021, barring any errors or omissions.

Motioned by: Michelle Brundrett **Seconded by:** Matthew Ayotte

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - 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 #21-21 in the amount of \$162,112.52 on April 8, 2021.

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Hilary Emery

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - 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 #21-32 in the amount of \$40,064.34 on April 8, 2021, and MainePERS #21-3 in the amount of \$37,200.36 on April 2, 2021.

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Michelle Brundrett

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VII. Administrative Reports

Sharon Darling, Food Services Manager, reported:

Report of time:

Completed 3/8-19/21: 9.8 days for a total of 135.767 days/190

Completed (anticipated) 3/22-4/2: 9.233 days for a total of 145/190

All our employees, except one who is still out due to health issues, and our substitute are doing a great job safely feeding the students healthy, cold bagged or hot boxed meals in our schools!

We are offering a bagged breakfast and a hot boxed lunch or a cold bagged lunch alternative to all students in school every school day. We continue to offer cold bagged breakfast & lunch together every school day (including virtual days) to all children in Millinocket age 18 and under (whether enrolled in school or not) at one bus location: Bandstand between 8:30 & 9:30 a.m.

Cody Clinton, Technology Coordinator, reported:

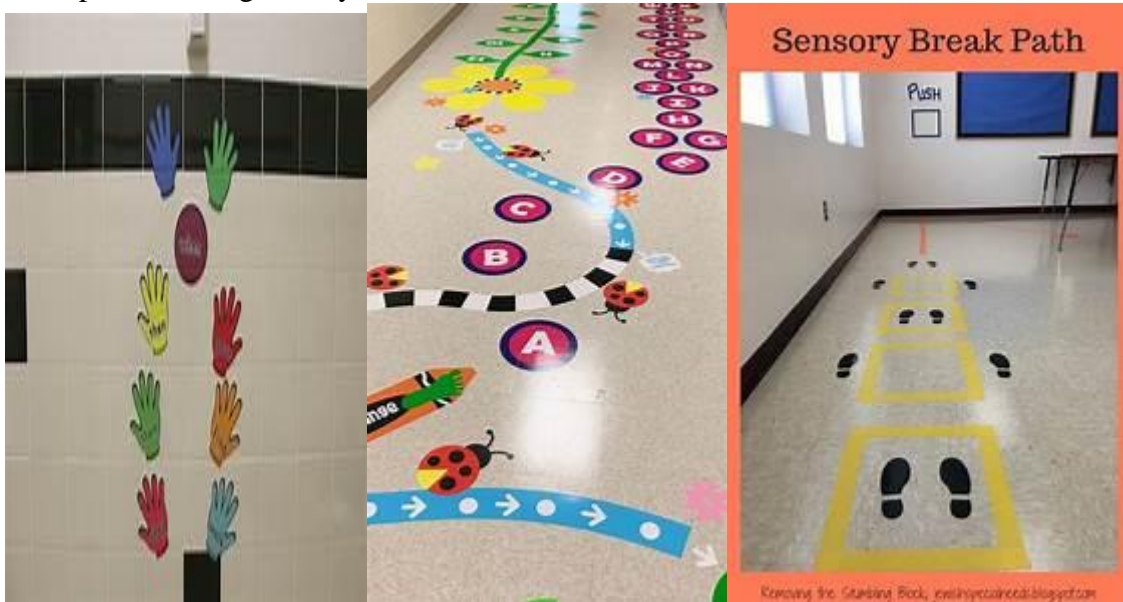
The last 2 weeks the focus has been on getting the systems ready for the new phone systems at both schools.

Louis DiFrederico, Facilities Director, reported:

None

Joshua McNaughton, PreK-5 Principal, reported:

PTO: Great news! Granite Street will have a sensory hallway for the 21-22 school year. This has been made possible through the efforts of our PTO and our Occupational Therapist, Ms. Paige Haley.



Program Improvement Funds: Our second staff training was scheduled for Tuesday, March 30th. This training on our Viewboard system has been postponed due to our switch to virtual learning. Once we reopen for in-person learning we are going to reschedule this PD opportunity. Once again thank you to Mrs. Waite and Ms. DeSilva for helping to organize and conduct our Tier III professional development.

NWEA Assessments: Granite Street students K-5 will be participating in the NWEA Assessments. Many classes were scheduled to start testing during the week of March 29th. Our testing schedule will be modified to accommodate our current virtual learning situation. A big thank you to Cody Clinton and our teachers as they have worked hard to prepare the devices and students for this assessment.

Title I Professional Development: Our Title I intervention team has recently received PD on the IReady and MobyMax programs. The focus was on how each of these systems can provide Tier II (in the classroom, small group) and Tier III (pull out, one on one) intervention services for our students. The team is also taking a fresh look at how we implement and monitor student progress. New forms to streamline these processes are in the works.

IXL Challenge: The IXL program serves Granite Street as a supplemental instruction tool. IXL records students' achievement by recording how many questions they answer correctly. We have challenged the students to 200,000 correct questions. The reward, Mr. McNaughton shaves his beard. As of March 30th, students have reached 195,000 correct questions. Only 5000 to go!

Vaccinations: Granite Street staff had the second round of shots Saturday, April 3rd.

Board Discussion:

Mr. McNaughton shared that the Granite Street students reached their goal of 200,000 correct answers. A link will be shared in the near future so people can watch his beard being shaved.

Beth Peavey, 6-12 Principal and Athletic Director, reported:

Fiscal Year 2020/2021; 152/220 days

It is hard to believe that our 3rd quarter will close on April 9, 2021. The school year has been challenging for staff and students alike but I feel it is important to note that we are working to provide as many opportunities for students that we are able.

Spring sports are just beginning, with baseball and softball practices starting in late March. The official schedules will be released soon, as there have been a number of changes already. Some schools have dropped out due to lack of participation and I am pleased that we have strong numbers for both sports. Additionally, I will also provide a plan for visiting teams as well as expectations for spectators. Some minor modifications will be made to accommodate the safety guidelines. We have two students who have joined the cooperative tennis team with Schenck this spring as well.

Freshman Science classes are starting an Invention Convention project. The project will start with an instructional video from the creator of the program. Each student will be required to present their invention at a fair using a trifold poster. They also will be required to record a short video describing their invention. Students are free to use any materials they want regarding their invention. Students will also build a prototype to show off their invention. Prizes will be awarded to the top five inventions.

In Mrs. Cousineau's French classes, students are immersing in the language in a variety of ways. In addition to continuing the study on their current units on family and on school and time, French 1 and French 2 students have been participating in "Manie Musicale", a French songs' competition inspired by March Madness. This event was created 4 years ago by two French teachers in Southern Maine. This year, over 2000 schools from all 50 states and 10 other countries are participating to Manie Musicale. Students listened to 16 songs in French and completed a bracket with their favorite choices. From March 3rd until April 6th, students cast their votes online and get points if the songs they chose win. Through this activity, students in French class learn how to express their preference in music in French, how to express a reaction to a result and also learned about the 16 artists, their backgrounds and their countries of origin. Students also found out about the extent of the francophone world and realized they are part of a very large community of language learners.

Laura Dwyer, our Gifted and Talented teacher, has Chess Club once a week from 1:30 - 2:30 and Middle School Debate one day per week from 1:30 - 2:30. She and the debaters would love if a few School Board members could judge their first debate after April Vacation - virtually. If you would be interested, please contact Ms. Dwyer through her school email or by phone. She is offering an advanced Journalism Exploratory Studies Class to a small group of sixth graders once a week. The High School is entering five

essays into the Law Day Essay Contest and participating in Project Citizen. Ms. Dwyer is also working with Mr. Leathers and the eighth-grade class on two Project Citizen entries. She is working on updating the website and a three-year plan for the K-12 G&T/Extended Learning Program. The Gifted and Talented website can be found under “Links” on our district website.

Ms. Dwyer will be the Maine State Coordinator for **We the People: The Constitution and the Citizen** and **Project Citizen** next year.

Mr. and Mrs. Waite are in the process of preparing a possible Spring Musical with the Performing Arts, within the safety guidelines, of course. We are looking forward to any production that showcases our amazing students and their talents.

VIII. 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 June 30, 2020 259/220

Work days July 1, 2021 to March 9, 2021 191/220

Vacation days remaining: 30/30

I continue to be pleased with the cooperation of our students and staff in maintaining the safety requirements of wearing masks and the other safety factors. This has led to a safe school environment that is conducive to the process of education.

The second vaccination clinic will provide the second shot for our staff on April 3, 2021. I have listed Monday and Tuesday as virtual days, since there is some concern for the effect of the shot and the impact on the staff. Remember we have very few substitutes. Our students will be back in person on April 7, 2021, barring any major concerns.

We are working on the school budget for next year. Most of the items are in as we work the final numbers for presentation. Our state funding dropped by about \$36,000 which is disappointing but expected.

The legislature is moving through a variety of actions and bills that will impact schools. I will be attending a workshop on April 2, and may have updates for you as part of my report.

We are looking into the next round of COVID funds and preparing to make recommendation on the use of this money. We are also given to understand that there is another round of funds coming that have not had a value for our schools indicated to it yet. I will keep you posted with regard to this process.

The Expanded Administrative Team is not planning to meet again unless conditions change, as we have outlined the program for the remainder of the school year.

We continue to work with the hospital staff to provide vaccinations for town residents. Given the facility and the organization by the hospital staff, approximately 150 people are being vaccinated per hour in the clinics. Thanks to the hospital staff and our custodial staff to help make the town safe.

Board Discussion:

After consultation with Administration, the School Nurse, the hospital and the Town Health Officer, we have decided to open Stearns starting tomorrow, April 7, and keep Granite Street with virtual learning until Monday, April 12, due to staffing availability at that level.

The Board Chair also noted to the public that the Town Council is looking for a youth representative to serve on the Town Council. Any interested student should contact them.

IX. To see if the Board will enter into Executive Session 1 MRSA § 405(6)(F) information in confidential records

Motion: To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(F) information in confidential records

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Hilary Emery

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Time In: 6:32 PM **Time Out:** 7:57 PM

Result of executive session:

No motion as result of executive session.

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Hilary Emery

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Motion by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Hilary Emery

Voted: 5 – Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Tuesday, May 4, 2021

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Tuesday, June 29, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Francis N. Boynton
Superintendent of Schools