

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD IN-PERSON (CONFERENCE ROOM); PUBLIC BY ZOOM
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021
6:00 PM**

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

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Peter Jamieson, Chairperson.

II. Adjustments to the Agenda

None

III. Public Comment

There was a moment of silence for the loss of our long-time and much-loved bus driver, Jane Boyer.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the School Board Meetings January 12 and January 26, 2021, barring any errors or omissions.

Motioned by: Warren Steward

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 #21-17 in the amount of \$146,848.82 and Maine Pers electronic payment for January 2021 #21-1 in the amount of \$34,708.37 on February 11, 2021.

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

The Maine retirement system now requires electronic payments, so we will start having separate warrants for that amount monthly. This is just a formality.

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 #21-26 in the amount of \$49,413.90 on February 11, 2021.

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VII. To see if the Board will approve an increase in the mileage rate from \$.44 to \$.47 beginning July 1, 2021.

Motion: To increase the mileage rate from \$.44 to \$.47 beginning July 1, 2021.

Motioned by: Warren Steward **Seconded by:** Michelle Brundrett

Board Discussion:

The Negotiations Committee was in favor of this increase. It is good timing since we are planning for the 2021-2022 budget.

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VIII. Administrative Reports

Sharon Darling, Food Service Manager Reported:

Report of time:

Completed 12/28/21-1/8/21: 5 days for a total of 93 days/190

Completed 1/11-22: 9 days for a total of 102/190

Completed 1/25-2/5: 8.3 days for a total of 110.3/190

Our employees and substitutes are doing a great job safely feeding the students healthy, cold bagged or hot boxed meals in our schools!

We have also been offering 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 only one bus location: Bandstand (Sawmill stopped getting customers in December).

Louis DiFrederico, Facilities Director Reported:

The majority of my time has gone toward preparing for the new phone system installation. The new system is schedule for next week, as long as some networking pieces fall into place.

I am still working on items discussed in January's report.

Cody Clinton, IT Coordinator Reported:

IT is currently working on registering and setting up the 75 new Apple computers we acquired from CRF funds, as well as finally being able to start the process of registering and setting up the new WiFi system at Stearns. I am also working on researching additional security and safe-use policies, settings, and software for our student-use devices to address some concerns with Granite student-use devices and accesses.

In addition to this I am working on scheduling a few different Professional development opportunities to help support the teachers use of their Viewboards, and of some added functionality of PowerSchool.

I also have ongoing preparations for projects that I will complete over the February and summer breaks, such as the moving of the server equipment and setting up the secured rack system and new server closet at Granite Street, as well as the setting up the new servers and cabinets at Stearns as well.

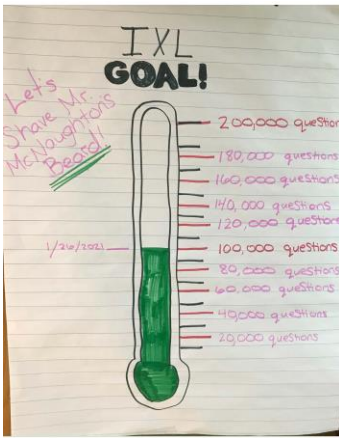
Joshua McNaughton, PreK-5 Principal Reported:

PTO: Our PTO has raised \$106 with the recent Pampered Chef fundraiser and an additional \$160 with the recent bottle drive. With these funds the PTO is now in the process of purchasing insurance. Thank you to everyone who participated in the fundraiser and bottle drive. Watch for information coming soon about our next fundraising event.

Program Improvement Funds: Granite Street School received \$26,601.02 this school year to focus on academic goals in literacy and mathematics. Our grant has received final approval. This grant money is allowing Granite teachers to receive additional Canvas training, perfecting their abilities to build content, assess, and target instruction to meet students' needs, within the system. The timeframe for the grant project is from February through June 2021.

Upcoming Pilot: The IReady pilot is about to begin. Mr. Clinton is working with IReady to ensure technical compatibility with the program. This pilot will help our teachers determine if IReady is an intervention program that fits the needs of our students for the future.

IXL Challenge: The IXL program serves Granite Street as a supplemental instruction tool. IXL records student's 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 January 26th, students are halfway to their goal.



Loving the Outdoors: With recent grant funding, Granite Street was able to purchase new snowshoes for our PE program. For many of our students, this is the first time they have experienced snowshoeing. The smiles on their faces show their approval! In a Covid world void of field trips snowshoeing is providing some much needed excitement.



Mrs. Boyer: On Monday, February 1st, the students and staff were saddened to learn that Mrs. Boyer passed away. Mrs. Boyer was a beloved bus driver for Granite Street. The staff reflected on her passing by noting her kind, caring nature, how she loved her time with our students, and the smile she always wore. To honor and remember Mrs. Boyer, at the end of each day the office will continue to call her bus. Rest in peace Mrs. Boyer, you will be greatly missed.

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

Fiscal Year 2020/2021 work days to date: 145/210

Basketball season has officially started. We are livestreaming on the NFHS Network for all of our home games, high school as well as middle school. The information is posted on our website, under the Athletics page, and our Facebook pages. In order for the games to be viewed, there is a \$10.99 per month subscription price. Once someone has subscribed, they are able to view any game on the network, not just the ones in our gym. Four of the five teams we play, Schenck, MA, PVHS, and Penquis, are using the NFHS Network, with the exception of Lee Academy. All of the links are posted. Our own high school science teacher, Kristi Mackin, is providing live commentary during most of our home games. We have received a great deal of positive feedback about her efforts.

The high school games have started out well, with the girls record of 3-0 and the boys with 1-1. Both teams will match up with Schenck twice before this meeting and I will have those results for you. The teams consist of 15 boys and 12 girls for high school, and 13 boys and 12 girls for middle school.

Cheerleading has also started with 5 middle girls working on skills and cheers, and 7 high school girls preparing for the virtual competition. The first ever virtual cheerleading season in Maine with its February 25, 2021 MAC Invitational Cheerleading Championship. This event will be judged by MPA officials, led by Susan Hartnett, and will follow MPA rules and the new MPA 2021 scoresheet. Every high school cheer team in Maine is invited and teams will only be judged against other schools in their same MPA classification.

This spring, we will see work begin on our field hockey and football fields with new top dressing, seeding, and fertilization. These fields are long overdue for improved surfaces. As you know, player safety is our top priority and the work done on these fields will provide a much safer playing surface for our athletes.

The second quarter grades are being mailed home and we will begin our second half of the year. The January Students of the Month were:

6- Madison McInnis

7- Emma Ayotte

8- Bradley Nice

9- Kyla Welch

10- Kelly Farber

11- Makayla Anderson

12- Grace Murray

IX. 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 January 12, 2021 149/220

Vacation days remaining: 30/30

We had our first storm day and were able to provide a virtual day for staff and students, as we scheduled this in September. We are concerned with the sporadic attendance on the virtual days and will work to address this. We are all learning how to handle the changes as we move forward.

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.

I have been working with the hospital staff to schedule the gymnasium for the vaccination process for our community. At this point they are expecting the process to take place on Saturdays. The hospital will notify us approximately 8 days prior to the scheduled day so we may plan appropriately. The hospital is notified on Friday 8 days before the clinic with the number of vaccinations available. Recipients of the vaccines is governed by the state plan.

If there are any follow-up questions regarding the ED-279, I would happily answer them at the meeting or individually as you prefer.

I will be bringing forth at future Board meetings some changes which have been made to federal and state requirements, as well as some new legislation. Please note that statements regarding special education from the DOE have already become a concern in legal review.

I will also plan to update the Board with regards to the Expanded Administrative meeting on Friday that were not ready for print for this report.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM

Motion by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Warren Steward

Voted: 5 – Yes

0 - No

0 - Abs

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

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