

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
STEARNS JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017**

Jeffrey Gordon	Present – Arrived at 4:05
Kevin Gregory	Excused
Michael Jewers, Chair	Present
Margaret Manzo	Present
Warren Steward	Present
Francis Boynton, Superintendent	Present
Fredericka Hibbs, Student Representative	Present

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Michael B. Jewers, 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 February 14 and February 28, 2017, barring any errors or omissions.

Motion by: Warren Steward

Seconded by: Margaret Manzo

Board Discussion:

None

Vote: 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 #17-19 in the amount of \$139,411.14 on March 16, 2017.

Motioned by: Margaret Manzo

Seconded by: Warren Steward

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 #17-29 in the amount of \$45,812.11 and #17-30 in the amount of \$49,182.46 on March 16, 2017.

Motioned by: Warren Steward **Seconded by:** Margaret Manzo

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 3 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VII. To see if the Board will approve a study of a regional high school as part of the application process

Pro's:

1. New state of the art building
2. Region III on site
3. College opportunity on site
4. More program opportunities for students
 - a. more electives
5. There isn't a final commitment at this point in time – just a review of the plan.

Con's:

1. Distance to site
 - a. increased transportation costs
 - b. participation in after school programs (sports, music, etc.)
 - c. Student-driven vehicles
2. Vote/representation/governance
 - a. student population
 - b. town representation
3. Funds to refit present facilities to PreK-8
4. Bond payments will still be due

Questions:

1. How will governance be established:
 - Student population
 - Town population
 - Other/combination
2. Will the whole Region program go to the site?

- Who will participate?
3. How will the cost sharing be based?
 - Current
 - Student population
 - Student participation
 - Other
 4. What is the governance structure?
 5. Where will it be located?
 6. State % - Local % funding for construction?
 7. State % - Local % funding for operation?
 8. What will current property be used/developed for?
 9. Where will refit funding costs be developed?
 10. Will funds be available for after school transport and for adult ed transport?
 11. What are the town charter concerns?
 12. How will staffing work?
 - Number of positions
 - Selection process
 - Travel
 13. What has been the result of previous cooperative agreements?
 14. What has been the result of previous consolidation agreements?
 15. How do we develop plans?
 16. What is the time commitment (Board, administration, building time-line)?
 17. Cost State/local?

The Superintendent encouraged the Board Members to add to the list and consider the information carefully. The Board will consider the matter further as individuals and will make a decision at the March 28, 2017, meeting.

VIII. Student Representative Report

Upstanding Youth

- Sponsoring a clothes drive that will be donated to Saint Martin-Tours Thrift Store

Peer Counselors

- Had successful auction, and is starting to plan for Chem Free

Math Team

- Still meets once a week to prepare for the State meet on April 4th

Student Council

- Planning for a 'March Madness' day of fun on the 23rd

Senior Class

- Planning for a spaghetti supper in mid-April to raise money for the Senior trip

Show Choir

- High School is still rehearsing twice a week for their state competition April 1st, and Junior High for there's on the March 31st

One Act

- Took second in the Regional competition, and so will be advancing to states in Yarmouth on March 24th and 25th

IX. Administrative Reports

Pre-K – 12 Principal Deborah Levesque reported:

Board Discussion:

Fredericka Hibbs has been chosen for the MPA student award and she will attend with Ms. Levesque at the April 1 banquet. She has served her school and community well.

The Prom will be held on May 13.

The valedictorian and salutatorian will be announced in April.

MEA testing will be held over the next two weeks.

The Performing Arts seniors are planning a trip to Boston, and will come before the Board soon for approval.

Pre-K – 12 Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Christopher Gosselin reported:

Board Discussion:

Pitchers and catchers will start next week for baseball and softball.

The Winter Sports Banquet is scheduled for March 21.

There are 7 students from Stearns signed up for tennis.

Facilities Director Louie DiFrederico reported:

None

X. Superintendent's Report

Report of time:

Completed through June 30, 2015 with scheduled workshops 260/210

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

Work days July 1, 2016 to present: 203/210

Vacation days remaining: 30/30

Sick Days remaining: 20/20

I attended a workshop on Friday, March 10, regarding the funding for this year. I will update you with current information. At present, the ED 279 indicates a loss of \$78,000 in state subsidy based on a complete cut to systems administration.

We are still working on the April trip to China. We have been negotiating the contract with Zibo. I have asked for some changes, but for the most part the contract appears to go forward as it has been.

It appears from the most recent e-mail that the consolidation proposal will be for Lincoln, East Millinocket, Medway, and Millinocket. This is based on those electing to put the proposal together. This program will require a significant amount of discussion, negotiation time, and effort.

On March 7, I presented to the AARP meeting a slide show of the China trips. They were very entertained and I received several compliments. The suggestion was made to do this as a more public event in the auditorium. I noted that I have presented to both the School Board and Town Council.

We met with a group from TIF to discuss proposals to meet the incentive program after our TIF grant ends. I think they were impressed with the actions we have already taken and surprised by several road blocks we face.

Mike Jewers and I have participated in several Town Infrastructure meetings as the town takes a look at what we have for resources and how to move forward. The Chair of the committee is Joe Clark and Louis Pelletier is the secretary. Gilda Stratton is also on the committee. I will share several items from the meeting in Augusta on funding and the Penquis Superintendent's meeting, which was held this morning.

4:30

XI. To see if the Board will enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(B) Student Discipline

Motion: To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(B) Student Discipline including Deborah Levesque and Chris Gosselin

Motioned by: Margaret Manzo

Seconded by: Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Time In: 4:32 PM **Time Out:** 5:00 PM.

No action as result of executive session

XII. To see if the Board will enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) Contract Negotiations with Deborah Levesque

Motion: To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) Contract Negotiations with Deborah Levesque

Motioned by: Jeffrey Gordon **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Time In: 5:45 PM **Time Out:** 5:47

Result of executive session:

Motion: To extend Deborah Levesque's contract as written with a 2% increase and 1 additional year.

Motioned by: Jeffrey Gordon **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

XIII. To see if the Board will enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) Contract Negotiations with Christopher Gosselin

Motion: To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) Contract Negotiations with Christopher Gosselin

Motioned by: Margaret Manzo **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Time In: 5:49 PM **Time Out:** 5:53 PM

Result of executive session:

Motion: To extend Christopher Gosselin's contract as written with a 2% increase.

Motioned by: Jeffrey Gordon **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

XIV. To see if the Board will enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) Contract Negotiations with Louis DiFrederico

Motion: To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) Contract Negotiations with Louis DiFrederico

Motioned by: Margaret Manzo **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Time In: 5:54 PM **Time Out:** 5:57 PM

Result of executive session:

Motion: To extend Louis DiFrederico's contract as written with a 2% increase and 1 additional year.

Motioned by: Jeffrey Gordon **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

XV. To see if the Board will enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) Contract Negotiations with Rebecca Merry

Motion: To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) Contract Negotiations with Rebecca Merry

Motioned by: Margaret Manzo **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Time In: 5:58 PM **Time Out:** 6:03 PM

Result of executive session:

Motion: To extend Rebecca Merry's contract as written with a 2% increase and 1 additional week of vacation.

Motioned by: Jeffrey Gordon **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

XVI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Motion by: Margaret Manzo **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, March 28 – Warrant Meeting at 4:00 PM in the Stearns Junior-Senior High School conference room

Tuesday, April 11 – Regular Meeting at 4:00 PM in the Stearns Junior-Senior High School conference room

Tuesday, April 25 – Warrant Meeting at 4:00 PM in the Stearns Junior-Senior High School conference room

Respectfully submitted,

Francis N. Boynton
Superintendent of Schools