

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

Matthew Ayotte	Present
Michelle Brundrett	Present - Zoom
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

None

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the School Board Meetings February 9, February 16 and February 23, 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 #21-19 in the amount of \$168,231.54 on March 11, 2021.

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

This includes the winter athletic stipends.

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 #21-29 in the amount of \$54,103.83 on March 11, 2021 and MainePERS #21-2 in the amount of \$34,084.76 on March 3, 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 the Superintendent's appointment and authorize the Superintendent's hiring of an Ed Tech I position.

Motion: To approve the Superintendent's appointment of and authorize the Superintendent's hiring of Linda Albert as an Ed Tech I at step 0 with an hourly rate of \$14.00.

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

This is for a one-to-one student at Granite Street. We are pleased to have her on board.

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

**VIII. To see if the Board will adopt the following policy:
DJ-R Federal Procurement Manual**

Motion: To adopt policy DJ-R Federal Procurement Manual.

Motioned by: Warren Steward

Seconded by: Matthew Ayotte

Board Discussion:

It is a revised policy that is required for federal procurement.

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

IX. To see if the Board will approve the first reading of the following policies:

BEA - SCHOOL BOARD USE OF ELECTRONIC MAIL (Revised)

CDA – ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS (Revised)

CF – SCHOOL BUILDING ADMINISTRATION – PRINCIPALSHIP (Revised)

ECAD – SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM (New)

ECAD-R – SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM PROCEDURE (New)

EGAD – COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE (Revised)

EGAD-R – COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE (New)
EHB – SCHOOL RECORDS RETENTION POLICY (Revised)
GBEB – STAFF CONDUCT WITH STUDENTS (Revised but replaces GBEBB)
GCSA – EMPLOYEE USE OF SCHOOL-ISSUED COMPUTER, DEVICES AND THE INTERNET (Revised)
GCSA-R – EMPLOYEE COMPUTER/DEVICE AND INTERNET USE RULES (Revised)
GCSA-E – EMPLOYEE COMPUTER/DEVICE, NETWORK AND INTERNET USE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM (Revised)
GCSB – USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES (New)
IJND – SCHOOL UNIT WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA (New)
IJND-R – SCHOOL UNIT WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES (New)
IJNDB – STUDENT USE OF SCHOOL-ISSUED COMPUTERS, DEVICES AND THE INTERNET (Revised)
IJNDB-R – STUDENT COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE RULES (New)
IMB – TEACHING CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES (Revised)
IMBB – EXEMPTION FROM REQUIRED INSTRUCTION (Revised)
JFCK – STUDENT USE OF PRIVATELY-OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT SCHOOL (New)
JFCK-R – RULES FOR STUDENT USE OF PRIVATELY-OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT SCHOOL (New)

Motion: To approve the first reading of the listed policies.

Motioned by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Hilary Emery

Board Discussion:

There is one minor typo that will be corrected in IJNBD.

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

X. Administrative Reports

Sharon Darling, Food Services Manager, reported:

Report of time:

Completed 2/8-19/21: 5.9 days for a total of 116.2 days/190

Completed 2/22-3/5: 9.767 days for a total of 125.967/190

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

Since we started having in-school classes, rather than virtual ½ days on Friday's, we are sending bagged pizza lunches home with the students who want them and this increased our meals from about 20 breakfasts and lunches to about 185 breakfasts and 135 lunches for those days (only 8 students at Stearns chose to take a bagged lunch home the 1st week).

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 only one bus location: Bandstand.

Cody Clinton, Technology Coordinator, reported:

None

Louis DiFrederico, Facilities Director, reported:

The beginning of February kicked off with several snow storms that I am very pleased to report were easily and effectively handled given the additional snow removal equipment that we were able to purchase under the CRF Grants. Now having the appropriate equipment at each building greatly improves our response time in clearing the school grounds and parking areas, this provides safer access for students and staff in the morning.

Work has continued on preparations for the phone system installation. The previously targeted February install date has had to be pushed to April due to network issues at both buildings that need to be resolved before new phone servers can be installed. Work still continues on this front.

I have been running network cabling in both buildings to assist Cody Clinton with hard wiring all the new viewboards that were installed in the classrooms as well as sum of the new wireless access points. This will help with connectivity issues and reduce the demand on the WiFi networks at both schools.

Several repairs to the domestic water system at Stearns had to be made this month simply due to the age of the piping and valves. Fortunately we were able to make these repairs in-house without any disruption to the school day or operation of the cafeteria. Due to a leaking tank, I also had to install a new 30gal hot water tank- pre heater in the Granite cafeteria that is needed for the dishwasher to meet sterilization temperatures.

I have also spent a great deal of time this month working with Honeywell, our heating and ventilation contractor, to put together a plan for the needed heating and ventilation upgrades at Stearns and Granite. The next round of federal Covid money allocation is largely targeted at building ventilation meeting today's indoor air quality safety standards. The plan I have put together targets replacing the remaining 1960's vintage air handling equipment at Stearns that was Not replaced during the big boiler project in 2011. At Granite Street these upgrades would replace all the controls on existing classroom units and replace them with direct digital controls which would allow for proper monitoring and adjusting of outside fresh air and ventilation control.

These are crucial upgrades for both buildings as some of the equipment we would be replacing is nearing 60 years in age and is well past its serviceable life. As a case in point, just this year I have had 2 cafeteria air-handlers fail during very cold weather, I have had to rebuild one unit using parts from the other in order to keep the space heated to hopefully get through the rest of the year. The units in question were installed in 1973

and new parts for repair have not been available for many years now. We still have many of these units in operation and it has been a real struggle to keep them running.

I received information this week that the two generators we have on order from Caterpillar Equipment have been built and are scheduled to ship from the factory on March 10th. There is a possibility we could see them here by the end of this month and work could begin thereafter on wiring in the transfer switches to our service mains at Stearns and Granite.

As this week's weather events proved once again, having a backup power source becomes a critical part of running and maintaining a safe and secure building for our students and staff.

Joshua McNaughton, PreK-5 Principal, reported:

PTO: Our PTO is in the process of purchasing insurance. This was made possible by recent fundraisers. Please watch their Facebook page for fundraising events including, Granite Grizzly keychains. Future projects for consideration by our PTO include a walk-a-thon and a sensory walkway for students.

Thank you to our PTO for the staff appreciation snacks they provided to us prior to February vacation. It was greatly appreciated!

Program Improvement Funds: Granite Street School received \$26,601.02 this school year to focus on academic goals in literacy and mathematics. Our first professional development for teachers was held on Tuesday, March 2nd. This training focused on aspects of Canvas management. Thank you to Miss DeSilva and Mrs. Waite for hosting this professional development opportunity.

IReady Pilot (underway): Our IReady pilot has begun. Teachers and interventionists received their account information the week of February 22nd. This pilot will continue through early June and help our teachers determine if IReady is an intervention program that fits the needs of our students for the future. Formal training for this program is scheduled for Friday, March 12th.

Upcoming PD: On Friday, March 19th, our occupational therapy student, Barrett Caron, in conjunction with our OT Paige Haley, will be educating staff on identifying fine motor skills, handwriting, sensory topics, and different techniques they can do in your classroom to help students who may be struggling with sensory regulation difficulties.

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 March 3rd students have reached 150,000 correct answers. Way to go!



Vaccinations: Granite Street staff were provided with an opportunity to have their first shots for the COVID-19 vaccination on Saturday, March 6th. Thank you for Mrs. Carr and Mrs. LeGassey for their work coordinating this opportunity for staff.

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

Mrs. Peavey commented on the basketball season. The boys and girls both had a terrific season. She thanked Kristi Mackin for the work she has done announcing the games this season. We have had many positive comments about her.

XI. 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 169/220

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.

We are planning on our second vaccination session with the hospital. It is scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2021. I am working with them on the set-up on the 5th. It appears we will have several more sessions on Saturdays. One reminder we will have a virtual day for Stearns Junior/Senior High School on March 17. This was preplanned as the vaccination clinic on Wednesday the 17th, is a one-time during the week event. Given the amount of building use and the availability of parking, we will use the virtual option.

We are in the process of gathering the information for the budget. As soon as information is in, we can review the status at this point. There is still significant planning to take place before we have a presentable budget.

We are starting to get a look at some of the legislation updates and working through changes that will need to be made.

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 meeting on Friday made the recommendation that we proceed with our plan through the rest of the year and plan to maintain the 5-day in person with Friday being a half day for a teacher workshop in the afternoon. There is still significant planning required for the CANVAS program and significant work to be done in structuring the curriculum around virtual learning.

The state has released a new vaccination schedule that will allow our staff to be vaccinated in the coming months. The plan is hopeful that by June the majority of the staff can receive the vaccination.

I will present information on the recent power outage.

Board Discussion:

The Superintendent explained about the decision to keep the students in school when we had a power outage last week.

XII. 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: Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Time In: 6:37 PM **Time Out:** 7:40 PM

Result of executive session:

Motion: To accept the resignation of Superintendent Francis Boynton effective June 30, 2021, at the request of the Superintendent, with a contract adjustment.

Motioned by: Warren Steward

Seconded by: Michelle Brundrett

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

XIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Motion by: Matthew Ayotte

Seconded by: Hilary Emery

Voted: 5 – Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

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