

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
BOARD IN-PERSON; PUBLIC BY ZOOM  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021  
6:00 PM**

Michelle Brundrett	Present
Hilary Emery	Present
Peter Jamieson	Present
Donald Raymond	Present
Warren Steward	Present
Dr. Joshua McNaughton, Superintendent	Present
Jillian Harper, Student Representative	Present

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Dr. Joshua McNaughton, Superintendent of Schools.

**II. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

**Nominations of Board Chair:**

Names:

Nominated By:

Peter Jamieson  
Michelle Brundrett

Donald Raymond  
Warren Steward

**Motion:** To cease nominations for Board Chair.

**Motioned By:** Warren Steward

**Seconded:** Donald Raymond

**Board Discussion:**

Michelle Brundrett declined.

**Voted:** 4 - Yes      0 - No      1 - Abs (Peter Jamieson)

**Motion:** To elect Peter Jamieson as Board Chair

**Motioned By:** Donald Raymond

**Seconded:** Warren Steward

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 4 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs (Peter Jamieson)

**Nomination of Board Vice-Chair:**

Names:  
Warren Steward

Nominated By:  
Peter Jamieson

**Motion:** To cease nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

**Motioned By:** Hilary Emery      **Seconded:** Michelle Brundrett

**Board Discussion:**

Nominations taken by elected Board Chair Peter Jamieson.

**Voted:** 4 Yes      0 - No      1 - Abs (Warren Steward)

**Motion:** To elect Warren Steward as Board Vice Chair

**Motioned By:** Michelle Brundrett      **Seconded:** Donald Raymond

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 4 - Yes      0 - No      1 - Abs (Warren Steward)

**III. Committee Assignments by the Chair**

**Budget & Finance Committee (2 or complete Board):** Entire Board

**Buildings & Grounds Committee (2):** Michelle Brundrett & Peter Jamieson

**Cooperative Committee (2):** Donald Raymond & Warren Steward

**Drop-Out Committee (2):** Michelle Brundrett & Peter Jamieson

**Negotiations Committee (2):** Michelle Brundrett & Warren Steward

**Policy Committee (2):** Peter Jamieson & Donald Raymond

**Region III Committee (5 allowed):**

<u>Board Members:</u>	<u>Resident:</u>
Michelle Brundrett	Kevin Gregory (will confirm with him)
Donald Raymond	Michael Jewers (will confirm with him)
Warren Steward	

**Technology Committee (2):** Peter Jamieson & Donald Raymond

**IV. Adjustments to the Agenda**

None

**V. Public Comment**

Matthew Waite asked to clarify if public comment will be taken on any agenda items. The Chair suggested comment be made now, given the length of the agenda. Mr. Waite has serious concern about the student activity funds going to the Town and run through the warrant process. That money is fundraised and belongs to the students.

Amanda Welch is co-president with Sandy Brooker for the Sports Boosters. If they have to apply for a non-profit status, etc, it would cost time and money. She also likes the checks and balances currently in place.

Stephanie Jamieson thanked Hilary for her service on the School Board. She offered her help to any organization, should they need to organize, since the PTO just went through the process.

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the School Board Meetings November 2, 2021, barring any errors or omissions.

**Motioned by:** Warren Steward

**Seconded by:** Michelle Brundrett

**Board Discussion:**

None

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

**VII. 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 #22-11 in the amount of \$170,014.56 on November 18, 2021 and MainePERS #22-5 in the amount of \$36,395.50 on November 8, 2021.

**Motioned by:** Hilary Emery

**Seconded by:** Michelle Brundrett

**Board Discussion:**

None

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

## VIII. 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 # #22-15 in the amount of \$32,768.91 and #22-16 in the amount of \$89,193.06 on November 18, 2021.

**Motioned by:** Michelle Brundrett

**Seconded by:** Hilary Emery

### **Board Discussion:**

None

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

## IX. To see if the Board will approve the Town of Millinocket's request to move the Food Service Account and Student Activity Fund Accounts from Stearns Jr/Sr High School and Granite Street School to the Town of Millinocket.

**Note:** Withdrawal from the Food Service Account and Student Activity Funds would go through the warrant approval process

**Motion:** To approve the Town of Millinocket's request to move the Food Service Account and Student Activity Fund Accounts from Stearns Jr/Sr High School and Granite Street School to the Town of Millinocket.

**Motioned by:** Michelle Brundrett

**Seconded by:** Donald Raymond

### **Board Discussion:**

Dean Beaupain, Town Attorney, and Mary Alice Cullen, Town Treasurer, approached the Superintendent regarding transferring the student activity funds and the Food Service account to the Town.

After investigating, the Superintendent denied the request. There was a additional meeting that included the new auditors. The request going before the School Board is the next step.

The Superintendent stated to transfer the accounts to the Town, the process would add more work and it would be more time consuming with the warrant process. This change has been requested in the past to at least two other Superintendents. Some of these accounts have been in existence since 1969. Maine School Management stated that there are schools in Maine who manage their own student activity funds. The Town states that the charter requires this to happen.

Mr. Steward said the system is not broken. This is the third time it has come up since he has been on the Board.

Mr. Jamieson doesn't believe this is a good idea. With the effort that goes into fundraising and the warrant process time frame, it doesn't make sense.

Ms. Emery asked if there was a specific concern. The Superintendent stated it was presented to him as related to the Town Charter.

Mr. Jamieson stated that the Town Charter is currently under review. Ms. Emery stated it may make sense to wait until the Charter is reviewed to make a decision on this.

The Superintendent further stated there are checks and balances and a process for withdrawal from these accounts.

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

**X. Board notification of hiring of support staff**

Lorri Cyr has been hired as an Ed Tech I at Stearns at step 8; \$15.80 per hour.

**XI. Winter Sports Safety Protocol Information**

The Penquis Superintendents have been working on a protocol for several weeks. The agreement the Superintendent is presenting is also supported by the Maine Principal's Association.

Indoor sports – universal masking, including officials, coaches, participants and spectators. Home fans will be able to attend our games, given the size of our gymnasium. Fans may not be allowed to attend away games, depending on the capacity of the opposing school. Concessions will be sold and we will have a designated eating area.

Outdoor sports – masking left up to the individual schools.

All schools are expected to follow the home school's expectations. Cheerleaders and Pep Band for home games only. Students are encouraged to get the vaccinations, if possible. Post season and tournament play will be according to MPA rules.

Ms. Peavey, Stearns Principal and Athletic Director, stated that a spreadsheet will be put together by each school so protocols will be known ahead of time. We are fortunate to have a large gym to allow spectators. Many schools will have to limit spectators.

**XII. OSHA Staff Vaccination Information**

The Superintendent provided information regarding OSHA requirements for COVID vaccinations. The Board can ask questions regarding the information, then it will go to the Policy Committee. The Board will have a policy to vote on ultimately.

We need to have a written vaccination policies with either of two choices - 1) mandated vaccination policy, or 2) opt out of vaccination and be tested on a regular basis, which would be weekly. We have until the first of January to make decisions.

There are individuals who think mandatory vaccinations are needed to keep everyone safe and others who feel “my body, my choice”. The Board needs to give direction to the Policy Committee as to how they would like to move forward.

Mr. Steward stated he doesn't think we need a mandatory vaccination policy. Ms. Emery agreed, especially given how difficult it can be to get qualified staff. We should go with the least restrictive option, since it is still a safe choice. Mr. Jamieson stated we have a high vaccination rate. Mrs. Brundrett and Mr. Raymond agreed that weekly testing would be their preference. The Superintendent stated he knows we will have some resignations if we go with mandated vaccinations. There is a state-wide staffing issue, and this would put up an additional barrier.

There are medical and religious exemptions, but Maine law may not allow religious exemptions.

The Policy Committee will work on the policy and bring it before the Board.

### **XIII. Adjournment**

The Board gave Hilary Emery a thank you card for her participation on the School Board. She was thanked for all she did and wished her luck in her move. She stated that she appreciated the opportunity and is sorry to leave before her term is over.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05

**Motion by:** Hilary Emery

**Seconded by:** Warren Steward

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

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua McNaughton, Ed.D  
Superintendent of Schools