

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING  
ZOOM MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020  
4:30 PM**

Richard Angotti, Jr.	Present
Hilary Emery	Excused
Kevin Gregory	Present
Peter Jamieson	Present
Warren Steward	Present
Francis Boynton, Superintendent	Present

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Warren Steward, Chairperson.

**II. Adjustments to the Agenda**

VII. To see if the Board will enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) labor negotiations

**III. Public Comment**

Public comment moved to IV.

**IV. To see if the Board will approve 2020-2021 fall athletics as endorsed by the MPA.**

**Motion:** To approve 2020-2021 fall athletics.

**Motioned by:** Peter Jamieson      **Seconded by:** Richard Angotti

**Board Discussion:**

This discussion is regarding athletics. The guidelines for performing arts aren't available yet. This information is for varsity athletics only - football, field hockey and cheering.

The Superintendent relayed the positive attributes of athletics for our students.

The MPA has limited amount of people allowed at an event to 100 for players, coaches, scorekeepers, spectators, etc. No concessions are allowed. We will need to make a plan for lining fields and work out internet access for spectators to use.

The concerns include training coaches regarding guidelines, there can be no physical contact except on the field, bus transportation limitations, no locker room use, limited schedule, average age of officials is in their 50's who may not want to officiate and conditioning of athletes.

The Board has choices of approval of fall athletics, an intermural program, or no fall athletics.

New information indicates the Governor may not allow athletics. Athletic Director Beth Peavey read a letter from DHHS to the MPA regarding concerns of athletic program implementation. She noted, if the Board approves athletics, we could not start a program until after the MPA date of September 8, due to the items that need to be put into place.

Peter Jamieson indicated he has faith in the coaching staff and administration and the decision makes him feel torn due to the positives and the negatives of running a program.

Kevin Gregory indicated the focus should be on getting our students back into school and build on that. Concerned about how safe we can keep our athletes.

Richard Angotti was not in favor of running athletics. It is not safe at this point in time.

Public comment wondered if the stipends should be approved and let the students condition so they can have some activity.

Coaches believe the students need to do something and ask that a “no decision” be made tonight when we don’t have all the information. The students depend on these activities for their physical and mental well-being. The coaches would rather have it tabled then make the wrong decision.

Public comment that the MPA put a lot of effort into this over the summer. Maine still has one of the lowest rates of COVID in the nation and other schools with higher rates are running athletic programs. A significant number of our students will be playing AAU or other programs if we don’t have athletics. They may be bringing the virus back without the guidelines we will have in place.

Public comment that we still have a pandemic and our students are in danger.

**Voted:** 0 - Yes      4 - No (Richard Angotti, Kevin Gregory      0 – Abs  
Peter Jamieson, Warren Steward)

**Motion:** To allow athletes conditioning and to discuss setting up an intermural program.

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory      **Seconded by:** Peter Jamieson

**Board Discussion:**

We can bring this item back to the Board at a future meeting.

Torn regarding intermural program. We are too far into the fall.

We could have the students socially distanced and it would be a safer option.

This will be for high school and junior high levels.

**Voted:** 3 - Yes      1 - No (Richard Angotti)      0 – Abs

**V. To see if the Board will approve fall athletic stipends.**

**Motion:** To approve the following coaching positions.

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Nick Cullen	JH Activities Coordinator	12		\$2,500
Cody Herring	Varsity Head Football Coach	4	5	\$4,200
Josh Studer	Asst Varsity Football Coach	4	4	\$2,400
Dale Morris	Head JH Football Coach	1	2	\$2,000
Heather Girsra	Varsity Head Field Hockey Coach	7	7	\$4,400
Amy Anderson	Asst Varsity Field Hockey Coach	6	6	\$2,600
Heather Girsra	Head JH Field Hockey Coach	7	7	\$2,600
Jessica Pelkey	Varsity Cheering Coach	3	3	\$4,000
Nicole Campbell	JH Cheering Coach	2	2	\$1,400

**Motioned by:** Peter Jamieson

**Seconded by:** Kevin Gregory

**Board Discussion:**

One new coach – Dale Morris who will be the head coach for junior high football.

The coaches and volunteers will have to take the MPA COVID seminar before they can start conditioning athletes.

It's important that the coaches follow all the guidelines with no shortcuts. That point was stressed.

**Voted:** 3 - Yes      1 - No (Richard Angotti)      0 - Abs

**VII. To see if the Board will enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) labor negotiations**

**Motion:** To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) labor negotiations

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory

**Seconded by:** Peter Jamieson

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 4 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**Time In:** 5:26 PM      **Time Out:** 6:00 PM

**Result of executive session:**

No motion as result of executive session.

**VII. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

**Motion by:** Richard Angotti

**Seconded by:** Kevin Gregory

**Voted:** 4 – Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Francis N. Boynton  
Superintendent of Schools