

MINUTES
RSU 13 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2013
MCLAIN SCHOOL
6:30PM

Executive Session – 5.30pm

1. Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm and a quorum was declared. Bill Pearce was excused absent. Darryl Sanborn arrived at 5:35 pm and Loren Andrews arrived at 5:39 pm.

2. Executive Session:

To go into Executive Session per MRSA 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter.

To go into Executive Session per MRSA 405(6)(D) to discuss negotiations.

It was moved by Sally Carleton and seconded by Christine Curtis to go into Executive Session per MRSA 405(6)(A) and MRSA 405(6)(D) to discuss a personnel matter and to discuss negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session entered at 5:31 pm and Chair Kilgour declared the Board out of Executive Session at 6:15 pm. Return to public session at 6:30 pm.

Regular Board Meeting – 6:30pm

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

4. Adjustments to the Agenda

Under Item 7. Business Items, delete items 7e and 7f. Items will be placed on the June agenda.

Signing of warrants will be after the meeting with the passing of the budget.

5. Staff Member of the Month Presentation

OHCS & TGS Principal Susan Stilwell presented the Staff Member of the Month to Colleen Kreps, Guidance Counselor at Owls Head Central School and Thomaston Grammar School, who will be retiring at the end of this school year. She has been an honored coworker, and will be remembered for her work with the Civil Rights group and creating the 5th grade garden. She will receive a special parking space and a \$100 stipend.

6. Public Participation: Citizens are welcome to speak to agenda matters before the Board (up to 30 minutes total)

- *Liz Lombardo - spoke about the proposed cut of an art teacher position at Oceanside High School East. She is concerned about the effect of one less AP art teacher, the risk to future opportunities in art, and the choices and availability of classes to potentially interested students. She commented that the Fine Arts graduation requirement will be harder for students to complete if there is less class availability.*
- *Natasha Shacklett - spoke about the proposed cut of an art teacher position at Oceanside High School East and that the potential of 25 students per class is too much. She stressed that art is as important as sports and core classes, that a healthy brain needs the creativity that art provides.*
- *Afton Hupper - spoke about the proposed cut of an art teacher position at Oceanside High School East. She feels art teachers are great influences and that the Rockland community and surrounding towns are full of artists. She mentioned how activities such as window*

painting and craft fairs create ties between the school and the community. She stated that these ties can help to make taxpayers confident and proud of their local schools and that we should aim for the greatest good for the greatest number.

- Steve Roberts - commented that he'd like to see the School Board reconsider the middle school merger. He praised the Board for limiting the tax increase. He stated he strongly believes in public education, that the investment is worth it, but it is hard to support the proposed budget due to the refusal to merge the middle schools at this time. He thanked the Board for their service but said more could be done.
- Andrea Curtis - is the Education Project Manager of the Arts & Education Program at the Farnsworth Art Museum. She shared information about the "Stories of the Land" project done in conjunction with area schools, including 74 students from RDMS and about 60 students from South School. There will be an opening ceremony on May 19, 2013, starting at 1 pm at the Strand Theater, followed by a reception from 2 – 5 pm at the Farnsworth to acknowledge the student artists and their teachers. It is free and open to the public.

7. Business Items

- a. Vote to access the fuel reserve as a funding source for next year

It was moved by Darryl Sanborn and seconded by Christine Curtis to approve access to the fuel reserve as a funding source for next year in the amount of \$100,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Vote to adopt the 2013-2014 School Budget - see Addendum A

It was moved by Sally Carleton and seconded by Darryl Sanborn to adopt the 2013-2014 School Budget in the amount of \$27,017,561.00. Carol Bachofner expressed her concerns regarding the transfer of the art teacher from a high school position to an elementary position. Superintendent Collins noted there was no loss of actual employment by staff. Darryl Sanborn commented that a motion to amend could be made, but while the School Board could put money back into the budget, administration has the final say on where the money is spent. Carol Bachofner stated she would vote no if the administration was intent on moving the art position to an elementary level. Superintendent Collins would reconsider the art placement if the school board believed very strongly but noted that the budget is a balancing of needs.

It was moved by Darryl Sanborn and seconded by Carol Bachofner to amend the budget to add the high school art position back in at a cost of \$63,583. Nancy Jeffers remarked that local/professional artists are sometimes available to work with students, and she trusts the administration to know personnel needs. She will vote for the budget as originally proposed. Don Robishaw pointed out that the art position was at the bottom of the add-back list and the Board shouldn't bypass the administration if the administration is doing what they feel is best for the students. George Emery mentioned a proposal to put the add-back items into the budget, that the cuts were too deep but that the administration has done a good job. He also shared a story about a Roxbury, Massachusetts, school that cut its security budget, added that money to the Fine Arts budget and experienced huge growth. Loren Andrews asked if the administration would be willing to move the position back to the high school and if the budget would need to be increased to do so. Superintendent Collins remarked that administration didn't want to be deaf to the Board's wishes. There would be an increase, but the cut was being made based on evaluation of class sizes, cost, and a need to see the core groups preserved, all while maintaining a balance of needs and what the taxpayers will want. Carol Bachofner was distressed that 30 plus years of art and music have been cut while sports programs remain untouched. Darryl Sanborn proposed that the motion be moved. Motion failed: 314 – 602 – 84 (Loren Andrews, Sally Carleton, Arvilla Collins, Christine Curtis, Nancy Jeffers, Tess Kilgour, and Don Robishaw opposed; Bill Pearce absent).

There was discussion on the state of the PA system at Oceanside High School East. Principal Tom Forti stated it is operational through the end of the year but will need replacement.

It was moved by Loren Andrews and seconded by Carol Bachofner to remove the half-time developmental director position from the school board line, to remove the PA system from the maintenance line, to add the high school art position back in, and to increase the overall budget by \$23,333 (the balance of the money saved with the proposed cuts versus the cost of the high school art position). Arvilla Collins asked if there would be loss of jobs. Don Robishaw inquired if there was an active position open in elementary art. Superintendent Collins stated that there was but if the Board voted to restore the high school position, there would be some reshuffling. Nancy Jeffers asked if the person being moved is certified for K-12. Darryl Sanborn felt this (motion) was a great concept, but the developmental director position had the potential to bring more money into the district. Loren Andrews warned that the revenue from that position could not be planned on. There was discussion between the board and OHS-E Principal Tom Forti regarding AP certification, classes and curriculum. Sally Carleton was concerned about the Board micromanaging and said they must trust the administration to place teachers appropriately. Nancy Jeffers called to move the motion. Motion failed: 253 – 57 – 84 (Sally Carleton, Arvilla Collins, Christine Curtis, George Emery, Sherman Hoyt, Nancy Jeffers, Tess Kilgour, and Don Robishaw opposed; Bill Pearce absent).

There was a call for further discussion on the original motion to approve the 2013-2014 School Budget. Don Robishaw asked how much new money was being brought in. Scott Vaitones said \$502,215. Sherman Hoyt said they had spent two months struggling with the budget due to cuts from the state and there is a need to balance good education with protecting the taxpayers. He stated he'd be against the proposed budget due to the disproportion to the towns. Arvilla Collins noted more state cuts could be coming, the Board and the Administration need to work together, and they should let the public make up their minds. Chair Tess Kilgour thanked everyone for their hard work in putting the budget together and hoped to be on the board long enough to consolidate and bring everything together. Darryl Sanborn reiterated that the developmental director position would generate revenue. Superintendent Collins clarified there was value added by a developmental director but that you can't count on money you've never had before. Darryl Sanborn felt the district has done without an MLTI coordinator, webmaster and developmental director and the Board should move to remove these three positions. It was clarified that only the developmental director position was in the budget.

It was moved by Darryl Sanborn and seconded by Carol Bachofner to amend the budget to remove the developmental director position. George Emery commented that the position is important and such a person could do things that could save on next year's cuts. Sherman Hoyt said the Board needs to look at ways to increase funding and that a developmental director could do that. Motion failed: 164 – 752 – 84 (Loren Andrews, Sally Carleton, Arvilla Collins, Christine Curtis, George Emery, Sherman Hoyt, Nancy Jeffers, Tess Kilgour, and Don Robishaw opposed; Bill Pearce absent).

It was (unnecessarily) moved by Nancy Jeffers and seconded by Donald Robishaw to approve the budget as originally proposed. Motion carried: 682 – 234 – 84 (Carol Bachofner, George Emery, and Sherman Hoyt opposed; Bill Pearce absent).

Acceptance of the budget allows it to move forward to the town meeting being held May 28, 2013, at 6 pm at Oceanside High School East.

Loren Andrews said he wasn't happy but the budget must get passed by voters in June in order to move forward. Sally Carleton thanked the ladies who spoke so passionately about the high school art position.

- c. Vote to authorize the issuance of the bonds - see Addendum B

It was moved by Darryl Sanborn and seconded by Nancy Jeffers to authorize issuance of \$500,000 General Obligation Bond for Minor Capital Projects. Scott Vaitones noted this enters the District into a formal agreement. Motion carried 832 – 168 (Carol Bachofner was absent for the vote and Bill Pearce absent).

d. Vote to adopt School Calendar 2013-2014

It was moved by Sally Carleton and seconded by Arvilla Collins to adopt the 2013-2014 School Calendar. Arvilla Collins asked if snow days were built in. Superintendent Collins verified the end date of school is moved earlier if less snow days are used. Don Robishaw asked if the additional workshop days recommended by the strategic plan were added. They were not. Motion carried 748 – 252 (Carol Bachofner and Nancy Jeffers were absent for the vote and Bill Pearce absent)

e. Accept the resignation of Lori Taylor, Title 1A, South School

It was moved by Darryl Sanborn and seconded by Christine Curtis to accept the resignation of Lori Taylor, Title 1A, South School. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Accept the resignation of Daria Peck, Speech/Language, CCS/LLS/TGS/OHS-W

It was moved by Loren Andrews and seconded by Darryl Sanborn to accept the resignation of Daria Peck, Speech/Language, CCS/LLS/TGS/OHS-W. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Policies

a. Policies in Second Reading

(1) Policy CBI : Evaluation of the Superintendent

It was moved by Darryl Sanborn and seconded by Sherman Hoyt to approve Policy CBI in Second Reading. Motion carried 832 – 168 (Carol Bachofner was absent for the vote and Bill Pearce was excused absent).

The Board took a break at 7:56 pm. Meeting reconvened at 8:00 pm with Darryl Sanborn excused absent.

9. Communications

Superintendent Collins commented on the publication of the Governor's issuance of school report cards.

10. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 4, 2013

b. Approval of St. George field trip

c. Approve nomination of Wes Drinkwater as Varsity Football coach for the 2013 season

It was motioned by George Emery and seconded by Nancy Jeffers to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried 672 – 164 – 164 (Carol Bachofner and Arvilla Collins opposed; Bill Pearce and Darryl Sanborn absent).

11. Reports

a. Report of the Superintendent & Business Manager

- 1) Scott: *The district had a surprise bus inspection by the State and found nothing wrong. They left "blown away," and the District showed that they have set the standard to be met. He gave kudos to Jamie O'Donoghue, Scott Hall and Todd Johnston. It was added that they should congratulate the drivers because they are usually first to report issues.*
- 2) Lew: *Regarding Item 3 of his report, we must move forward within the budget process and hard work is required and must start quickly. He stated a need to wrap up work on the configuration of schools by October so it can go to voters in February and be in next year's budget. We need to look at how students receive and perceive the system, and adults must let go of their attachments if it is in the best interest of the students.*

The art was provided by Art teacher Julie Ryan and her students at GBS, SGS, and RDMS.

b. Report of the Board Chair

Chair Kilgour noted that Oceanside High School West would be hosting a "Broadway Classics! Dinner Theatre" on May 4, 2013, at 6:00 pm. Contact OHS-W for more information. She shared that Mid-Coast School of Technology named Devin Long (OHS-East) as their student of the year. The Key Club had a good showing in Massachusetts and will be representing Oceanside HS East in Washington at the International Convention. The math and drama teams did well in Rhode Island and the tennis team is also doing well.

Chair Kilgour felt facilities and transportation may need to meet more than once per month because of the work to be done in those areas. She thanked the Board for their work on the budget process and hopes that the public will show their support for that work. She also addressed a question by Arvilla regarding the election of new officers, which will be discussed in June.

12. Committee Reports and Upcoming Meetings

- a. Curriculum: Chair Sally Carleton reported the committee did not meet last month. She recommended meeting twice per month due to amount of work to be done. Next meeting is May 16, 2013, at 5:30 pm.
- b. Facilities & Transportation: Chair George Emery reported the committee did not meet last month. Next meeting is May 7, 2013, at 5:30 pm.
- c. Finance & Insurance: Business Manager Scott Vaitones reported the committee did not meet last month. Next meeting is May 7, 2013, at 6:00 pm.
- d. Policy: Next meeting is May 20, 2013, at 4:00 pm.
- e. Technology: Chair Loren Andrews reported the committee last met on April 25, 2013. Next meeting is May 23, 2013, at 6:00 pm.
- f. Many Flags/One Community: Loren Andrews reported the board met on April 22, 2013. Next meeting is May 7, 2013, at 6:00 pm.
- g. MCST: George Emery reported the committee met on April 24, 2013. Next meeting is May 22, 2013, at 7:00 pm.

It was motioned by Arvilla Collins and seconded by Nancy Jeffers to vote to call and approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting and the Validation Referendum and to Authorize Notice of Amounts Adopted be approved and that a copy of said vote be included in the minutes of the meeting. Motion passed: 752 – 84 – 164 (Carol Bachofner opposed and Bill Pearce and Darryl Sanborn absent).

13. Adjournment: *It was moved by Nancy Jeffers and seconded by Sally Carleton to adjourn at 8:20 pm.*

**The next Regular Meeting of the RSU 13 School Board will be
Thursday, June 6, 2013, at 6:30 pm.**

ADDENDUM A

May 2, 2013

Motion: I move that the Vote entitled, “Vote to Call and Approve the Warrants for the Budget Meeting and the Validation Referendum and to Authorize the Notice of Amounts Adopted,” be approved in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Vote be included with the minutes of this meeting.

VOTE TO CALL AND APPROVE THE WARRANTS FOR THE BUDGET MEETING AND THE
VALIDATION REFERENDUM AND TO AUTHORIZE THE NOTICE OF AMOUNTS
ADOPTED

VOTED: That the warrant for the Regional School Unit Budget Meeting presented to the meeting be and is hereby approved and that the Regional School Unit budget meeting be and is hereby called for May 28, 2013, for the purpose of voting on the annual budget for the Regional School Unit for the 2013-2014 fiscal year; and

That the Warrant and Notice of Election for the Regional School Unit Budget Validation Referendum presented to the meeting be and is hereby approved, and that the Regional School Unit budget validation referendum be and is hereby called for June 1, 2013, for the purpose of approving the budget adopted at the Regional School Unit budget meeting for the 2013-2014 fiscal year; and

That the form of Notice of Amounts Adopted at Budget Meeting presented to this meeting be and is hereby approved, and that the Superintendent of Schools of the Regional School Unit is hereby authorized and directed to complete said Notice by adding the amounts approved by the voters for each expenditure category and the total school budget summary expenditure amount, all in accordance with the Regional School Unit budget meeting on May 28, 2013, and to cause copies of said notice, as completed, to be delivered to the municipal clerks of each municipality of the Regional School Unit for posting at the polling places for the June 11, 2013, Regional School Unit budget validation referendum.

A true copy, attest:

Lewis Collins, Secretary

ADDENDUM B

May 2, 2013

Motion: I move that the vote entitled, "Vote to Authorize Issuance of \$500,000 General Obligation Bond for Minor Capital Projects," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that an attested copy of this vote be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

VOTE TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF \$500,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND FOR MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

VOTED: That the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 13 (the "RSU"), hereby authorizes a borrowing in the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) from Maine Municipal Bond Bank (the "Bank") by and on behalf of the RSU as of May 23, 2013, pursuant to a loan agreement between the RSU and the Bank previously approved by the School Board (the "Loan Agreement"), for the purpose of providing financing for minor capital projects, as previously approved by the voters of the RSU by referendum election held on June 12, 2012; and

That under and pursuant to the provisions of Title 20-A M.R.S. Sections 1490 and 1501, the Chair of the School Board and the Treasurer of the RSU be and hereby are authorized to borrow in the name and on behalf of the RSU the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) as of May 23, 2013, and, in connection therewith, the Chair of the School Board and the Treasurer be and they hereby are authorized to issue general obligation securities (bonds or notes) of the RSU in an original principal amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) and to execute and deliver such general obligation bonds or notes (as so executed and delivered, the "Bond") in registered form under the seal of the RSU and as attested by the Secretary, which Bond shall be dated May 23, 2013, and be in substantially the form presented to this meeting, with such changes therein not contrary to the general tenor thereof as the Chair of the School Board and the Treasurer may approve, the execution and delivery thereof to be conclusive evidence of such approval;

That no part of the proceeds of said borrowing shall be used, directly or indirectly, to acquire any securities and obligations, the acquisition of which would cause the Bond to be an "arbitrage bond" within the meaning of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, of 1986 (the "Code");

That the Bond be designated as a qualified tax-exempt obligation within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3)(B) of said Code;

That the Treasurer be and is hereby authorized to execute and deliver an Arbitrage and use of Proceeds Certificate and to covenant on behalf of the RSU to file any information report and pay any rebate due to the United States in connection with

ADDENDUM B

(continued)

the issuance of the Bond, to take all other lawful actions necessary to ensure that interest on the Bond will be excluded from the gross income of the owners thereof for purposes of federal income taxation, and to refrain from taking any action that would cause interest on the Bond to become includable in the gross income of the owners thereof;

That the appropriate officials of the RSU be, and each acting singly hereby is, authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the RSU such documents and certificates and take such actions as may be necessary or convenient in connection with such borrowing, including without limitation such certificates and agreements as may be reasonably required by bond counsel or the Bank; and

That the Treasurer in consultation with Bond Counsel be and is hereby authorized to implement written procedures with respect to the Bonds for the purpose of: (i) ensuring timely “remedial action” for any portion of the Bonds that may become “non-qualified bonds,” as those terms are defined in the Code and regulations thereunder; and (ii) monitoring the Town’s compliance following the issuance of the Bonds with the arbitrage, yield restriction and rebate requirements of the Code and regulations thereunder.

A true copy, attest:

Lewis Collins, Secretary