Regional School Unit 78
School Board Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

ZOOM Link
(No in-person)

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**RLRS School Board Zoom Meeting Norms:**

- Mute your microphone upon entry. You may unmute yourself if the moderator has called on you during the public comments portion of the meeting. Identify yourself using your first and last name (Please see this how [link: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201363203-Customizing-your-profile] to learn how to update your profile on Zoom). You will be asked to leave if you are not identified in the meeting room. The moderator can rename you as well if you let them know your full name.
- If you have questions/comments during public comments, please private message them to the moderator. Depending on the number of attendees and the board conversation, it may take the moderator some time to speak to each person’s comment. Please be patient.
- Be respectful at all times.
- The Zoom room may be shown on the screen in the in-person meeting room in real time. Please do not put anything in the chat that you do not wish for everyone to see. All meetings are recorded.
- Private chat is turned off for meetings. Participants may only send messages to the hosts/moderator. Chat logs are recorded.
1. Call to Order 6:02PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance


4. Approval of Minutes of November 12, 2020
Mary Richard motion; Amber Haley second
Unanimous vote. Motion carries

Rowenna Hathaway is moderator and paired with Chair on a shared Google Doc. Please contact Rowenna if you’d like to speak and she will note it on the Doc so Chair can call on you. If community members are here to comment on the participation in winter sports, there will be a chance to share during that discussion. You can choose to speak during general public comments or wait until later.

5. Public Comments
None at this time.

6. Chair, Superintendent, Principal and Student Representative Comments

Chair: Reiterate thanks to admin for making the tough decision to keep community safe, and thank you to the staff and support staff for reinventing the wheel every other week. Also recognizing the effort that parents and students put into this and recognize how it impacts jobs and education. Keep the press on. There is an end in sight. There is a finish line. I appreciate all the work everyone is putting in. Thank you to all the board members who took part in the training last night.

Superintendent: Thank you staff and support staff for bearing with us. We as administrators are getting information that changes hourly. Thank you to the students and parents, too. CFR (Coronavirus Relief Funds) schools are putting their invoices into the state. Deadline of December 31, 2020. No CRF III in sight. We (meaning school administration) do not know if any further relief funds will be released after January. MPA, we will deal with that at a later time.

Principal: Reiterate thanks and appreciation to staff, support staff, and families working so hard to support the students. Hang in there. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. We will come out of this stronger, but need to work together. Working hard to stay on top of the information.
that the state releases daily. Working with teams right now, especially at the elementary level, to become more creative with how to support learners. Those numbers change frequently and pose a challenge for staff. Budgeting process has become and budgets are due after the winter break. Shout out to the Student Services Team: therapist, behavior specialist, 2 guidance counselors, 2 social workers, school nurse. Can confidently say that we have the best student services team in the state. Running lunches every day. Lunches are FREE for all kids in the district ages 0-18. We run busses daily and deliver meals and school supplies. Trying to keep everyone busy and working. Maintenance and custodial crews are working on in house projects in addition to sanitizing and deep cleaning.

Student Rep: Remote learning is going well. Students appreciate the flexibility of the staff and teachers. Looking forward to being back in the building.

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Policy Committee: - K. Catrini - Had to cancel December meeting due to COVID. There will be a meeting on January 6, 2021.

7.2 Finance Committee: B. deLutio - Some talk about changing up the process for unemployment, but will stick with the current plan. Staff positions to be approved tonight were paid through CRF Funds, need to keep funding the positions. Finance Committee moved funds around to keep positions in place.

7.3 Facilities Committee - V. Nuttall - Looking into costs and funding available for an air purification system. Hoping to get it in place this year.

Question Mary Richard: can we use CRF funds?
Answer Chris Downing: No. The timing did not line up.

7.4 Team Leader Report - S. Laliberte - Team levels all energy is going into planning and instruction and switching between learning models. Leadership Team plan to do a schoolwide assessment in January and use that data to make a priority short term curriculum map to address gap and get back on track. Preliminary testing from the national level for the NWEA shows that gaps may not be as bad as anticipated, however data is skewed to well-resourced, suburban schools. Lower-resourced districts have not tested or reported results at this time.

Question Chris Farmer: Did we miss the data delivery for testing?
Answer Seth Laliberte: No. We had a plan for November, then we went remote. Then we were going to do it in December. Then we went remote. We have a new plan to administer the assessment in the new year and hope to present it at the February board meeting. This will be the first schoolwide assessment since March, so it should be illuminating. Maryam Emami presented at the national Social Studies conference with a research partner who is a Harvard Professor. Great presentation on how we argue.
7a. Nominations, resignation

Greg Cooper resigned earlier this morning
Michelle Laliberte to continue as the K/1 instructor and the Ashley Ferrara to continue as the 4/5 instructor for the remainder of the school year.

Paul Reynolds motion; Chris Farmer second
Unanimous

8. Action Items:

8.1 Discussion and decision on guidance and procedures from the MPA Winter Sports Season Guidelines

Chris Downing: Our recommendation is to follow the MPA guidelines as established for both basketball and skiing, beginning on December 14, 2020.

Brian deLutio: County codes will play a role in this. Right now, with Franklin County as green, we can proceed. If the county goes yellow, all co-curricular activities temporarily cease. No public comment at this time.

Chris Farmer: Agrees with the recommendations. Should the board revisit on January 4, 2021?


Kathy Catrini: Please repeat Phases?

Chris Downing: For basketball Phase 1: individual skill and drill, masked at all times. Phase 2 & 3: team activities, team drills, but must be within your own school. Phase 4: interscholastic play within region Phase 5: opening up the region to a state competition No tournaments. RLRS will stay in Phase 1 until January 4, 2021 For skiing – see bulletin from MPA. Skiing has been classified as not a high risk activity by the MPA.

Mary Richard: County codes, if we fall back into yellow, all co-curricular are suspended. Are those made on a monthly-bases?

Chris Downing: When that first came out it was going to be bi-monthly. Then cases started to rise, and the state has started to release the guidelines weekly on Friday. RLRS administration will continue to use the same framework to guide the decision-making process for remote learning or in person learning.

Motion to move forward with winter sports season, following the guidelines as outlined by school superintendent’s recommendation.

Brian deLutio motion; Kathy Catrini second
Unanimous vote; motion passes

9. Executive Session: 9.1 To enter into Executive Session regarding personnel pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. A 405 (6) (A)
Mary Richard motion; Kathy Catrini second
Unanimous vote: Motion passes

9.2 Vote following Executive Session Motion to vote on the Superintendent’s contact for School Year 2021/2022
   Deb Ladd motion; Kathy Catrini second
   Chris Farmer: Update the dates?
   Brian deLutio: Yes, dates and signatures
   Unanimous vote; motion carries

10. Adjourn
    Brian deLutio motion; Chris Farmer second
    Unanimous vote; motion carries
    Meeting adjourned at 7:38PM

Next meeting: January 14, 2021

MISSION - To inspire all learners to strive for success in a world yet to be fully imagined. VISION - RSU 78 envisions a broad range of choices for learning that inspires student and staff involvement in all aspects of academic life in a safe, fair, authentic, and personalized learning environment. Quorum: /1003