

**Regional School Unit 78
School Board Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
ZOOM Link**

Kathleen Catrini, Dallas Plt		Deborah Ladd, Rangeley	Pz
Brian deLutio-Chair, Dallas Plt	P	Amber Haley, Rangeley Plt	P
, Magalloway		Paul Reynolds, Rangeley Plt	
Jessica Bottcher, Rangeley	P	Clare Webber, Sandy River Plt	Pz
Chris Farmer, Rangeley	P	Mary Richards, Sandy River Plt	Pz
Virginia Nuttall-V. Chair, Rangeley	Pz	Autumn-Skye Williams, Student Rep	P
Karen Seaman, Rangeley	P	Mya Laliberte, Student Rep	P

Quorum: 845/1003

1. Call to Order 6:01pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adjustments to the Agenda no adjustments to the agenda tonight
4. Approval of Minutes for March 11, 2021 and Special School Board meeting of March 24, 2021.
Motion Chris Farmer; Second Amber Haley
Unanimous; motion carries
5. Public Comments
No comments at this time
6. Chair, Superintendent, Principal and Student Representative Comments

Chair: Spoke about working through pandemic conditions and gratitude for the work of educators. (See recording for full comments.)

Superintendent: Large percentage of educators have received their vaccines. Now at 16+, encouraging students who are able to get vaccinated to do so.

Via American Rescue Plan, districts are beginning to receive applications for funding. RSU78 has not received application yet but expecting to receive approx. \$411,000. E3 money must be used for the 2021/2022 school year and closing the achievement gap. Want to hear from students, parents, community. MDOE will be providing a framework for the 2021/2022 school year like they did last year. At this time, we do not know what will be required. Looking at mid May for release of this information. Graduation guidance came out last week. Maine CDC and DHHS has updated the SOP for close contacts, quarantine, etc... Lots of updates and changes over the few weeks. There is growing concerns with the rise of cases in younger folks and that is being closely monitored.

Question from Mary Richard: Could we host a public forum to gather this information from community?

Chris Downing: Yes, but waiting for guidance on how many folks we can safely have in one space. Will also need to be scheduled after May 24th when indoor capacity can increase to 75% but 6' distance must be maintained.

Principal: Return to five days a week this week. Students are excited to be in the building. Felt a little bit closer to normal. Remote students are continuing to return to the building. Now have only a handful of fully remote students.

Last Friday was the first virtual assembly. It was a lot of fun. Hosted by the student council and they did a tremendous job.

Tomorrow K-5 is having a "Fun Day" sponsored by the Rangeley Health and Wellness Center. Hike location TBD and tie die, sidewalk art, obstacle courses, relays, and free play.

Middle and High School went to Saddleback last week. Seth will speak more to that.

Middle School Social Studies mummified apples last year before COVID hit. Checked them this year and found that their project was a success (laughter).

MS biography podcast on its way to WRGY to be aired soon.

Kennebec Business Education League competition results came in and Mt Blue/Foster Tech won the overall competition. Congratulate ASW national history day competition. Has moved on to second round.

Baseball and softball teams are in session and first game is scheduled for May 1st.

Student Rep: High School humanities working on propaganda lesson on display in high school hall. Looks great!

7. Committee Reports

- 7.1 Policy Committee: K. Catrini No repots
- 7.2 Finance Committee: B. deLutio Grounds upkeep bids were reviewed. Will be discussed at 9.4 in agenda. One more look through of the budget before today's meeting. Emergency egress was also discussed.
- 7.3 Facilities Committee: V. Nuttall Discussion about bids for grounds keeping. Playground project is moving forward with a grant to build picnic table benches. Still working on grants for the outdoor classroom. Making progress on second egress.
- 7.4 Team Leader Report: S. Laliberte March 19 teacher "data-driven dialog" workshop and used that to inform short and long term planning. MS/HS Ski Day with Rangeley Health and Wellness. Saddleback had equipment, lessons, everything. Kids had a blast! The mountain really wants to be a partner with the school and there are a lot of donors with funds to help defray costs. Looking at the end of the school year and working with RHW to plan a fun day at the end of the year to celebrate what we've been through. Will be looking for volunteers soon!

Stay tuned. Last day of school is June 14th! [Video from Shawn Russell] [podcast from Jake Bottcher, grade 8, part of the 8th grade biography/memoir project, based on the book Against All Odds: A Miracle of Holocaust Survival by Edith Lucas Pagelson]

7.5 Negotiating Committee:

Mary Richards Had two meetings so far and have established a very amicable relationship for negotiations. Meeting coming up on Wednesday and will continue to meet until complete agreement is established.

8. Appointments, Resignations, and Nominations:

8.1 Motion to approve continuing contracts of probationary teachers: Bridget Morton, Kimberly Grant, and Brittany Garcia

Motion to approve Morton

Motion Jessica Bottcher; Second Karen Seaman

Unanimous; motion carries

Motion to approve Grant

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Jessica Bottcher

Unanimous; motion carries

Motion to approve Garcia

Motion Jessica Bottcher; Second Karen Seaman

Unanimous; motion carries

8.2 Resignation from Alison Warman, grade 1 Retirement notice from Lucy Simonds, middle school science

9. Action Items:

9.1 Consideration of the 2021-2022 School Year Calendar Recommending that we move forward with the initial draft presented to the board, which includes a start before Labor Day. A start after Labor Day puts us beyond the number of required dissimilar days with the Foster Tech schedule. Wednesday, September 1, 2021 start date.

Motion Mary Richard; Second Deb Ladd

Chris Farmer: For 9/1 and 9/2, if a student wanted, they could work?

Georgia Campbell: Yes. We will partner with local businesses to make sure students are available to work if need be.

Unanimous; motion carries

9.2 Presentation of RSU #78 2021-2022 Budget

Chris Downing: Any questions that Brian and I are unable to answer, we will direct to Sheila Raymond. [See recording for full discussion] Motion to approve presentation of budget, with edits, to public:

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Karen Seaman

Unanimous; motion carries

Motion to approve funds (\$60,000) for food service

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Amber Haley

Unanimous vote;
motion carries

Motion to approve fund (\$15,000.00) for adult ed
Motion Chris Farmer; Second Jessica Bottcher
Unanimous vote; motion carries

Capitol reserve transfer from balances (\$50,000.00)
Motion Chris Farmer; Second Karen Seaman
Unanimous; motion carries

Reserve (\$80,000.00) for special education, transfer from balances Motion Chris Farmer;
Second Karen Seaman
Unanimous vote; motion carries Capitol reserve for student/staff
support
Motion Chris Farmer; Second Jessica Bottcher
Unanimous;
motion carries

Motion to transfer from balances (\$20,000.00) for Student-Staff Support Reserve
Motion Chris Farmer; Second Virginia Nuttall
Unanimous;
Motion carries

Motion to raise \$50,000 for capitol reserve fund
Motion Chris Farmer; Second Virginia Nuttall
Unanimous; motion carries

Total budget - \$5,014,318.58

Public Hearing June 1, 2021. Open or closed articles?
Motion to open articles Motion Chris Farmer; Second Amber Haley
1 nay; 8 ayes;
motion carries

- 9.3 Consideration of Administrative Restructure Recommendation to restructure administration to a K-5 Principal/K-12 Superintendent and a 6-12 Principal/K-12 Curriculum Coordinator

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Amber Haley
Unanimous vote;
motion carries

- 9.4 Consideration of the grounds upkeep bids Bids went out for Spring/Summer/Fall upkeep and Winter plowing

Karen Seaman will abstain from voting due to conflict of interest
Motion to go with Bee's Green Thumb LLC bid

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Brian deLutio
8 aye, 1 abstention;
motion carries

10. Adjourn
Motion Chris Farmer; Second Karen Seaman
unanimous; motion carries 7:50PM

Next meeting: May 13, 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