

**Regional School Unit 78
School Board Meeting Agenda
August 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

Live Stream Link –

<https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCEo1pVagQ1Xhc4h96QAbfVQ/videos>

Kathleen Catrini, Dallas Plt	P	Deborah Ladd-V. Chair, Rangeley	P
Joanna Farrar, Dallas Plt	P	Amber Haley, Rangeley Plt	
Jessica Bottcher, Rangeley	P	Joanne Dunlap, Rangeley Plt	P
Chris Farmer, Rangeley	P	Mary Richards-Chair, Sandy River Plt	P
Wesley Dugan, Rangeley	P	, Sandy River Plt	
Karen Seaman, Rangeley		Mya Laliberte, Student Rep	

Quorum: 779/997

1. Call to Order 5:59PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adjustments to the Agenda
Elimination Action Item 9.2 motion to approve overnight athletic stay. Will make arrangements for the game to occur without an overnight stay.
4. Approval of Minutes for July 8, 2021.
Motion Chris Farmer; Second Kathy Catrini
One edit:
Jessica Bottcher, chair facilities committee
Deb Ladd, also on facilities committee
Chris Farmer, chair finance committee
Unanimous; motion carries
5. Public Comments
Jacqueline Cook, speaking to oppose mask requirement in schools. Presented packet of paper information to board chair.
Mary Richards: there will be a Special Board meeting on August 24th to discuss masking.
6. Chair, Superintendent, Principal and Student Representative Comments
Chair: Meetings are live streamed to YouTube channel. Should anyone want to make public comment, they must be in person.

August 31 breakfast sponsored by board for the teachers to welcome everyone back into the building. Participation by board is encouraged.

School board workshop survey got low response. Board feels attendance is important to understand legal, procedural, ethical issues. Participation is strongly encouraged. Could board members arrive on 8/24 at 4:00PM and have workshop from 4:00-6:00PM, and then attend special board meeting at 6:00PM.

Superintendent: Summer program “EYP” just wrapped up. Was most successful and well-attended summer program thus far. Students worked on intervention and credit recovery as needed. Coordinated with CIA to provide services for students. Thanks to Katie Willis, Kathy Remillard, Laura Cope, Jackie Haley and Janice Lowell for a great program.

School is hard at work on gathering information on upcoming school year and staying on top of new guidance from state. Survey response was robust. Survey was sent to parents, students in grades 7-12, and staff. Results are pretty split at this time.

Comment from Chris Farmer: appreciate the survey and gathering of input from community and taking the extra step. Not an easy decision.

What we know today, if children are riding the bus, they have to wear a mask. That has been mandated by the state as busses are considered public transportation. Communication will go out to community tomorrow with this information and will be asking parents to confirm if their child will be riding the bus or not.

School is in the process in putting Binax rapid testing in place.

Comment from Lindsey Savage: Implementing rapid testing. Some schools implemented it last year. RLRS decided not to pursue it at the time. Should staff or students show symptoms they will now have the option to do a rapid test at the school. Rapid testing is VERY different than pooled testing. Waiting for guidance on what a positive test will look like for close contact and quarantine requirements. No one will be tested without parental consent. 15 minutes turn around for test results. It will identify that an individual has COVID-19.

On pooled testing: At this time, RLRS has not applied for pooled testing. Considering it as an option. It's a CONSENTED test. No one would be tested without consent. Testing is done once a week. It's a PCR test that is sent to a lab with results in 48-72 hours. The goal is to pick up on asymptomatic cases. It is not a deep nose test. It's a regular swab test. If a pool comes back with a positive test, that pool then takes a rapid test. Those students who participate in pooled testing will not have to quarantine. Students who do not participate in pooled testing and are identified as a close contact will have to quarantine. There are different expectations for those who are vaccinated. Masks/no masks will impact identifying close contacts/quarantine requirements. Waiting on more information from the state on what is a close contact and what will be required for quarantine.

Waiting to hear from the state if remote school options will be available for quarantining students. At this time, that information is not available.

The goal is, and always has been, to get students in school, in person, as much as possible in as safe as possible environment.

Principal: July was mostly procedural stuff like updating handbooks and policies. PowerSchool has been built out for the new school year. Mrs L gave a key note speech at the semi-finals of the Maine State Teacher of the Year event. Shawn R and Seth at an ALICE training in Portland right now. Looking forward to seeing students in September!

7. Committee Reports

- 7.1 Policy Committee: - K. Catrini Met on July 28. Got a lot of work done. Meet again on September 1.
- 7.2 Finance Committee: - C. Farmer Met tonight at 5:00PM. Will be presenting one motion later on. Also, in board packets is a 5 year comparison. These documents are also online at the school website. Can see what's been impacting the budget. Second document shows how things shook out for the prior year, as well as financials to date. Will be able to set some funds aside for capital reserve as well as a few others. Looking forward to being fiscally minded but socially conscious.

7.3 Facilities Committee – J. Bottcher New signs for new egress and updating emergency plan to include new egress. Discussed internet in the outdoor classroom and outdoor security. Still looking for a winter plow bid. Meetings are now the first Thursday of each month.

7.4 Negotiating Committee – M. Richards Met with support staff negotiators and had a long session and came to a mutual agreement. Board will review contract in executive session this evening.

8. Appointments, Resignations, Nominations and Transfers:

Kimberley Hockmeyer, grade 4 teacher
23 years experience. MA in Ed from Lesley University in Cambridge MA, undergraduate UNH. Experience ranges from grade 1 through 5, as well as Title I experience as teacher and director.

Roxanne Tanner, financial manager

Worked in HS central office for 20 years. And yes, she has a place to live.

Food Service Resignation: Brittany Moura resigned

K-5 line up for 2021/2022 school year:

Ashley Ferrar, PreK

Michelle Laliberte, K

Rebecca Ellis, 1

Alison Loud, 2

Bridget Morton, 3

Kimberley Hockmeyer, 4

Doris Mitchell, 5

Fall coaches

Varsity Soccer, Girls: Jeff Hawksley

Varsity Soccer, Boys: Rowenna Hathaway

Middle School Soccer, Girls: Chip Smith

Middle School Soccer, Boys: Lindsay Richards

Varsity Golf: Tim Straub

9. Action Items:

9.1 Motion to transfer \$10,500.00 from Instruction in Article 1 – Pre-K Salaries to Student/Staff Support in Article 5 – Behavior/Therapist Salaries

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Joanna Farrar unanimous

~~9.2 Motion to approved overnight athletic stay at Vinalhaven~~

9.3 Motion to approve 2021-2022 Employee Handbook

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Jessica Bottcher unanimous

9.4 Motion to approve 2021-2022 Student & Parent Handbook and Code of Conduct

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Kathy Catrini

Seth Laliberte: complete attendance policy; updates to denial of credit procedure (page 14); clarified grade scale (page 28); communication if the bus transportation plan changes

Joanne Dunlap: edit to page 17

Unanimous; motion carries

- 9.5 Motion to approve 2021-2022 Interscholastic and Extracurricular Handbook
 Jeff LaRochelle: Last year, teachers are required to update their grade books every 2 weeks, but eligibility is checked every week. Moving to checking academic eligibility every two weeks. Will communicate dates in advance.
 AD/Principal have to review academic plan for homeschool students.
 Motion Deb Ladd; Second Kathy Catrini
 Unanimous; motion carries
- 9.6a Motion to approve revised policy IJNDB-E, Student Technology Protection Plan
 Tabled until next regular board meeting
- 9.6b Motion to approve revised policy JJJ, Interscholastic and Co-Curricular Academic Eligibility
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Joanne Dunlap
 Unanimous; motion carries
- 9.7 Motion to approve revised policy JLCA, Physical Examination of Students
 Motion Joanne Dunlap; Second Jessica Bottcher
 Unanimous; motion carries
- 9.8 Motion to adopt policy JHB, Truancy
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Kathy Catrini
 Unanimous; motion carries
- 9.9 Motion to adopt policy IMGGA, Service Animals in Schools
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Deb Ladd
 Unanimous; motion carries
- 9.10 Motion to rescind policy JEAA, Attendance
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Kathy Catrini
 Unanimous; motion carries
- 9.11 Motion to rescind policy CBJ, Superintendent's Termination of Employment
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Joanne Dunlap
 Unanimous; motion carries
- 9.12 Motion to approve new apportionment plan
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Joanne Dunlap
 unanimous vote; motion carries
- 9.13 Executive Session: Labor contract negotiation 1 M.R.S.A §405 (6)(D)
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Kathy Catrini
 Unanimous vote; motion carries
- Entered executive session at 7:35PM
 Ended executive session at 8:01PM
 Motion to re-enter meeting
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Kathy Catrini
- 9.14 Possible Vote upon exit of Executive Session
 Motion to approve
 Motion Chris Farmer; Second Jessica Bottcher
 Unanimous vote; motion carrier

Adjourn 8:05PM

Motion Chris Farmer; Second Kathy Catrini

Special board meeting: August 24, 2021

Next regular board meeting: September 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.