

**Regional School Unit 78
School Board Meeting Minutes
December 12 2023 5:30 p.m.
RLRS Multi-Purpose Room**

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ebq-bdgi-vai>

Or dial: (US) +1 315-813-7228 PIN: 154 618 002#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/ebq-bdgi-vai?pin=8015517034650>

Kathleen Catrini, Dallas Plt	X	Joanne Dunlap, Rangeley Plt	X
Joanna Farrar-V. Chair, Dallas Plt	X	Amber Haley, Rangeley Plt	
Kayla Alexander, Rangeley	X	Mary Richards-Chair, Sandy River Plt	X
Karen Seaman, Rangeley	X	Robert Greene, Sandy River Plt	
Chris Farmer, Rangeley	X	Angelica Chavaree-Woodward, Student Rep	X
Deborah Ladd, Rangeley	X	Nichole Lemay, Student Rep	X
Danielle Lemay, Rangeley	X		

Quorum: 910/997

1. Call to Order by Mary Richards
 - Time: 5:32
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adjustments to the Agenda
 - Add action item 10.1
 - Add action item 10.2
 - Add action item 10.3: To enter into executive session for update on labor negotiations by MRSA 405 (6)(d)
4. Approval of Minutes for November 11, 2023
 - Motion to approve: Chris Farmer
 - 2nd: Kayla Alexander
 - Passed Unanimously
5. Public Comments: None
6. Presentations:
 - 6.1 Delaney Arbore, Sarita Crandall, Rohan Doherty-MS MYAN Conference
 - Presentation on the middle school trip to the MYAN conference.
7. Comments:
 - a. Chair (Mary Richards)
 - i. Staff party is Dec 19th. Board is supporting the staff by providing the party.
 - b. Superintendent (Georgia Campbell)
 - i. November 16 th & 17 th I attended the National Forum to Advance Rural Education in Chattanooga, TN. The focal question was, Why Rural Matters? The

information I am about to present is sited from the U.S. Census Data that was provided to us by The National Rural Education Association.

1. More than 1 in 5 students, or 9.5 million students attend rural schools in this country
 2. And across the United States, 89.8% of rural students graduated, compared to 87.2% of non-rural students
 3. Maine 3 has 67.5% of its schools classified as rural with \$81,953 students
 4. Nearly 1 in 2 students live in a rural community
 5. Only 3 states have proportionally more rural schools: South Dakota, Montana and Vermont
 6. Although 68% of Maine's schools are rural, less than 50% of the state's education funds goes to rural districts, making Maine a top priority for equitable state funding for rural schools.
- ii. On Thursday, December 7th , Jeff LaRoche and I met with Kyle Sheridan from the Maine Municipal Association in regards to the Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program or WCSIP. This program helps businesses improve workplace safety, while preserving employee assets and provides those that join with financial incentives dependent on a tiered system of three levels. Tier 1 – 5%, Tier 2 – 7.5%, Tier 3 – 10% credit towards our Worker's Compensation premium. Our district has opted in as Tier 1 to start. Our goal is to complete all three Tiers.
 - iii. On Friday, December 8th , Chris Farmer and I met with the Foster Tech Advisory Board at the Mt. Blue campus. This Board is made up of the superintendent and a Board member from each sending district along with the tech directors. The topics of focus were a review of current programs, and possible locations for future programming and the development of a five-year strategic plan. Our next meeting is January 12th .
 1. Chris Farmer added his thoughts re: funding sources, future needs and the collaboration efforts
 - iv. The last thing I have regards the Regional Educational Collaborative of Northern Franklin County meeting held last evening at the Carrabassett Public Library. It was hosted by the Carrabassett Valley School Committee and Facilitated by Judy Sanders. The committee is made up of a superintendent, an administrator, and a board member from Stratton, Carrabassett, and the MSAD 58 school district. Deb Ladd, Seth Laliberte and I attended this meeting as guests. The purpose of this committee is to create partnerships whereby resources can be shared for the staff and students benefit. RSU 78 has joined the committee and will report after each meeting. In last night's meeting we created three small initiatives to work on. The first a fiscal initiative whereby we look at possibly collaborating with a paper purchase. The second initiative involves the principals gathering together each month for a meeting of the minds and the third initiative focuses on ways that we can share the great things going on in each of our schools, in our communities and the schools as a way of celebrating the great things happening.
- c. Principal (Seth Laliberte)
 - i. Student Leadership team is meeting with him to plan school spirit and how to celebrate our seniors. Also looking at making murals. Will be meeting again after break.
 - ii. K-8 made Toboggans with an outside couple for a week. They built them, steamed them, stained them. On display

- iii. Interact did the annual senior luncheon
- iv. Ski Tuesday will be happening. They are currently meeting and planning the collaboration. Some modifications have been made. Grades 1-8 this year. Registration is open. Starts Jan 9th. There may be some changes in coming years as to who runs the program but for this year it is a Saddleback/RLRS partnership
 - 1. Chris Farmer would offer his historical expertise if he can be helpful to the process
 - 2. Johanna: What happens to the students who are not going skiing?
 - a. Seth: Will wait to see what the numbers look like. If $\frac{2}{3}$ of MS are present, classes may run normally. HS will likely run normally. Elementary will be playing it by ear.
 - b. Johanna would be willing to come in and do cooking classes or other activities with the kids who are left.
 - 3. Danielle Lemay: How can kids who are not in Ski Tuesday getting to the mountain
 - a. Seth: Any kids NOT in Ski Tuesday will need to be dismissed and transported by their parents
 - i. Discussion among board members around transportation opportunities for kids who want to ski
 - ii. The program is with mountain ski instructors. Some kids don't want to take lessons and free ski.
 - 4. Mary - Keep board in the loop as to numbers and needs
- c. Student Representative(s)
 - v. Angie: Winter Sports have started. MS/HS Production of Seussical was great. Seniors sold wreaths. Interact helped with senior luncheon at BMC and the holiday craft party
 - vi. Nichole: Juniors are doing Kettlecorn fundraiser and a sweetheart's dance. Students stayed after school to make school spirit posters for winter sports. Fun assembly and games will be happening on the 22nd. They have started a student leadership team with Mr. Laliberte as a take-away from the DC leadership trip.

8. Committee Reports

- 8.1 Policy Committee: - K. Catrini
 - Policy did not meet due to weather. Next meeting Dec 20th at 3PM.
- 8.2 Finance Committee: - C. Farmer
 - Going great. Finalized contractor for tank installation and working on scheduling work. Budget season is starting. Georgia has outlined the schedule. Board hopes to review first draft in February
- 8.3 Facilities Committee – D. Lemay
 - Walkway lights - work in progress. Will need to rent a lift to fix. Fuel tank is done. Delivery in January. Will need a temp tank during installation. Sewer is good.
- 8.4 Negotiations – ~~B. Greene~~ Mary Richards
 - Comprehensive update will be given during executive session

9. Appointments, Resignations, Nominations and Transfers

- Ed Tech - Kaitlyn Hammond,
- No retirement announcements as of yet

10. Action Items:

10.1: Approval in district membership in the MMA Worker's Compensation Fund Safety Incentive Program

- Motion to approve: Chris Farmer
- 2nd: Danielle Lemay
- Discussion: No cost. Only saves money if we do the steps. No penalties
- Passed Unanimously

10.2: Approval of overnight Varsity Basketball trip to Vinalhaven

- Motion to approve: Debb Ladd
- 2nd: Danielle Lemay
- Discussion: It is budgeted for
- Passed Unanimously

10.3: Motion To enter into executive session for update on labor contract negotiations by MRSA 405 (6)(d)

- Motion to enter session: Chris Farmer
- 2nd: Kayla Alexander
- Passed Unanimously
- Session begin: 6:23
- Session end: 6:54

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn at 6:55: Chris Farmer
- 2nd: Danielle Lemay
- Passed Unanimously

Next meeting: January 9, 2024

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.