

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
STEARNS JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2014
4:00 PM**

Matthew Farrington	Present
Jeffrey Gordon	Present
Kevin Gregory	Present
Michael Jewers, Chair	Present
Warren Steward	Present
Francis Boynton, Superintendent	Present
Christopher Brown, Student Representative	Present
Desiree MacArthur, Student Representative	Present

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Michael B. Jewers, Chairperson.

II. Adjustments to the Agenda

IXa. To see if the Board will approve keeping the original Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth committee

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the School Board Meetings on October 7 and October 21, 2014, barring any errors or omissions.

Motion by: Kevin Gregory **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Board Discussion:

None

Vote: 5 – Yes 0 – No 0 – Abs

V. Payroll Warrant

Motion: It was moved to direct the Superintendent of Schools to authorize payment by the Town Treasurer to each party listed herein, the sum set against each name contained in School Payroll Warrant #15-10 in the amount of \$172,869.92 on November 6, 2014.

Motioned by: Kevin Gregory **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 – Abs

VI. Payable Warrant

Motion: It was moved to direct the Superintendent of Schools to authorize payment by the Town Treasurer to each party listed herein, the sum set against each name contained in School Payable Warrant #15-18 in the amount of \$61.52 and School Payable Warrant #15-19 in the amount of \$145,076.58 on November 6, 2014.

Motioned by: Jeffrey Gordon **Seconded by:** Kevin Gregory

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VII. To see if the Board will elect the following teaching positions

7-12 French Teacher/Virtual High School

9-12 Spanish/ESL Teacher/Virtual High School

Motion: To elect Holly Gordon as a probationary (1) 7-12 French Teacher/Virtual High School Teacher at BA/BS step 1 at a salary of \$32,000, prorated to \$23,822.52 for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.

Motioned by: Kevin Gregory **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Board Discussion:

Both of these teaching candidates were hired as long-term subs until they got their certifications in order.

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Motion: To elect Maria Elena Johnson as a probationary (1) 9-12 Spanish/ESL/ Virtual High School Teacher at BA/BS step 22 at a salary of \$44,000, prorated to \$32,754.96 for the 2014-2015 school year.

Motioned by: Kevin Gregory **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Board Discussion:

None

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

VIII. To see if the Board will appoint a part-time Food Service Assistant at Granite Street School

Motion: To appoint Jessica Burke as a Food Service Assistant at Granite Street School at \$9.80 per hour, 3.75 hours per day for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.

Motioned by: Jeffrey Gordon **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

This is to replace a resignation.

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

IX. To see if the Board will appoint the following co-curricular positions
Note: These positions are due to a recent resignation.

Student Council Advisor
Junior High Activities Advisor

Motion: To appoint Samantha Harmon for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year as the:

Student Council Advisor – year 1, step 1, \$604.80

Junior High Activities Advisor – year 1, step 1, \$302.40

Note: both stipends have already been reduced by 30% and reduced by 2 months

Motioned by: Matthew Farrington **Seconded by:** Warren Steward

Board Discussion:

This is to fill the recent resignation for the remaining 8 months of school.

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

IXa. To see if the Board will approve keeping the original Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Committee

Motion: To keep the original Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Committee.

Motioned by: Warren Steward **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Board Discussion:

This is to be in compliance with the law. If there are changes after the elections, it may have to come before the School Board again.

Kevin Gregory is on the list, so he abstained from voting.

Voted: 4 - Yes 0 - No 1 - Abs (Kevin Gregory)

X. First Reading of Policies

ADC – Tobacco Free Schools (Revised)

DJB – Purchasing Policy – Purchase Orders (Revised)

GCQC – Resignation of School Unit Employees (New)

JFC – Dropout Prevention Student Withdrawal from School (Revised)

JICG – Tobacco Use by Students (Revised)

KE – Public Concerns and Complaints (Revised)

Motion: To approve the first reading of:

ADC – Tobacco Free Schools (Revised)

DJB – Purchasing Policy – Purchase Orders (Revised)

GCQC – Resignation of School Unit Employees (New)

JFC – Dropout Prevention Student Withdrawal from School (Revised)

JICG – Tobacco Use by Students (Revised)

KE – Public Concerns and Complaints (Revised)

Motioned by: Kevin Gregory **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Board Discussion:

The Superintendent explained the changes in each revised policy and the reason for the new policy.

There was discussion regarding inviting outside groups to Policy Committee Meetings and whether the meetings should be announced as public meetings.

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

XI. Student Representative Report

Chris Brown and Desiree MacArthur, Student School Board Representatives reported:

1. Fall Fun Night, Seniors won, success
2. Sophomores sponsored a Halloween Dance, success
3. Girl's high school varsity basketball in fundraising to buy new uniforms and working incredibly hard to reach their goal. They received a \$1,000 donation from Millinocket Little Pro.
4. Student Council is planning a Christmas Coffee for the entire staff and student body.
5. Christmas Dance hoping to be moved to Tuesday, December 23.
6. Truck decorating postponed until spring.
7. Three (3) students participated in Jazz All-State auditions
8. Fall Musical dates are November 14, 15 & 15. Tickets on sale for \$5 each.

Board Discussion:

The Fall Musical is "White Christmas".

The boosters will pay the additional \$2,000 in order to have the uniforms before basketball season begins. They will be refunded a portion from what is fundraised.

XII. Administrative Reports

Debbie Levesque, Principal of Granite Street School and Stearns Junior-Senior High School reported:

Out of the district – no report.

Fredy Lazo, 7-12 Assistant Principal/AD reported:

The fall sports season is coming to a close. The field hockey finished the year with a record of 4 wins and 11 losses. I have met with Coach Heather Girska and she was pleased with the effort and growth of the girls this year, but was not satisfied with their record. The field hockey team is young with only three seniors and they are hopeful for a playoff appearance next year.

This past Friday night the football team faced the Raiders of Washington Academy. The coaching staff watched film and practiced accordingly to finish the season on a positive note. The final score was 28-0. The players had an outstanding game and had one of the best games of the season. This victory finalizes their record with 5 wins and 3 losses. Coach John Jamo said it was an emotional night for all the players and his coaching staff.

The fall season sports banquet will be November 18th at 6:00 in the cafeteria at Stearns High School.

Greg Marter was approved as the boys' varsity basketball coach and Nick Cullen was approved as the girls' varsity basketball coach at the last board meeting. We are currently accepting applications for assistant volunteer coaches.

We will be setting up interviews in the near future for the varsity baseball coach vacancy.

Board Discussion:

The following Field Hockey players were named to the PVC All-Stars: Jessica Girska, 2nd Team; Angela Guy, 3rd Team, Nicole Knowlton and Abbie Fiske, All-Academic.

It was noted that Stearns students Emma Alley and Anne-Laurie Kling have been playing soccer at Schenck this fall, and they have made a substantial contribution to their program.

Louie DiFrederico, Facilities Director reported:

The work at Granite Street regarding the utility pole went well, other than a couple of glitches that were corrected in a timely manner. The light on the outside of the building will also be replaced.

The insurance company is reviewing the policy regarding the electrical issue at Stearns. It could be costly with the price of wire, Emera, and electricians. Budget reductions took away any cushion we had to cover unforeseen events such as this.

Some low cost cameras have become available that are compatible with our security system. They will be purchased to try to curb vandalism.

The potholes in the parking lot have been fixed. Also, the remaining fuel is on track for this time of year.

XIII. Superintendent's Report

Report of time:

Days Worked: 87/210

Vacation days remaining: 10/10

Sick Days remaining: 9.5/10

Days worked prior to 7-1-2014: 10

We are working very hard to develop some new sources of income from new sources of international students. We have several sources that have approached us with respect to entering into agreements and are researching these sources thoroughly.

An extension has been requested of the state for the implementation of the proficiency based diploma. The Stearns review team has requested extension 4 which means we would implement English and math proficiency standards for the graduation of students in 2018, with the other curricula standards implemented by 2021.

I participated actively in work with the town and the consultant from Virginia. This was an interesting process and certainly got down to the presentation of some tough future decisions. I will be very interested in the final report due in a few weeks from the consultant.

We continue to progress forward in our initiative from the TIF grant. This is a significant work load for us and is producing results.

We have started some major movement toward the implementation of the virtual school course work and will be moving this process forward rapidly during the month of November.

The conference for School Board Members and Superintendents was very productive. We came away from the conference with several policies which we should implement within the next few months. Also, we have the templates for tuition agreements and will start to put together a proposal in detail for consideration. As I indicated in my email earlier, there is a bill going to the legislature to consolidate the property devaluation that we are experiencing into one year. Once we receive information on this I will distribute it to you as we ask the local elected officials to support the proposal. I appreciated the opportunity to share information with those who were in attendance.

Our power outage last week resulted in the loss of half a day at Stearns Junior/Senior High School. The cost will reflect the replacement of 1650 feet of power lines at \$3.50 per foot and the labor for about 14 hours of work. The figures are not yet available and we will review the situation with the insurance company.

We continue to work actively to produce the best education possible for our students with as many opportunities as we can offer.

I also will note that the evaluation of the Superintendent needs to be completed in December. I will research the instrument you used in the past and I will plan to offer a template for the next meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Motion by: Kevin Gregory **Seconded by:** Jeffrey Gordon

Voted: 5 - Yes 0 - No 0 - Abs

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 – Warrant Meeting in Stearns Junior-Senior High School Library at 4:00 PM.

Tuesday, December 2, 2014 - Regular Meeting in Stearns Junior-Senior High School Library at 4:00PM.

Tuesday, December 16, 2014 – Warrant Meeting in Stearns Junior-Senior High School Library at 4:00 PM.

Tuesday, December 30, 2014 – Warrant Meeting in Stearns Junior-Senior High School Library at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis N. Boynton
Superintendent of Schools