

RSU #63 Board Meeting
Date: April 29, 2024
Location: Eddington Elementary School
Minutes

RSU 63 Board Member(s) Present:

Town of Holden: Tracy Roberts, Amy Hart, Matthew Campbell, and Heather Lander

Town of Clifton: Linda Graban

Town of Eddington: Tracy Bigney, Rachel Downs, Heather Grass

Tracy Roberts, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the flag salute and moment of silence.

Motion by Tracy Bigney with a second by Heather Grass to move the Executive Session, regarding discussion of employment of officials/appointees/employees pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(5)(A), to the end of the agenda.

Discussion: None

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Motion by Tracy Bigney with a second by Heather Grass to approve the minutes for the March 25, 2024 Board Meeting.

Discussion: None

Vote: 7 Approved; 0 Opposed; 1 Abstained

Motion by Tracy Bigney with a second by Heather Lander to approve the minutes for the March 26, 2024 Special Board Meeting.

Discussion: Tracy Bigney noted that her name was omitted from the roll call votes and should be corrected prior to posting.

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Recognition and/or Awards of Students, Staff, and Other: None

Acceptance of Gifts and Donations: Superintendent Fulgoni recognized David Noonan, resident of Holden, for his donation of baseball equipment to the Holbrook Middle School. He also recognized the local Masons, Seminary Hill Daylight Lodge, for sponsoring the annual “Bikes for Books” for both of the elementary schools.

A motion by Linda Graban with a second by Heather Grass to approve the acceptance of the gifts.

Discussion: None.

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Presentation: None

Questions and Comments from the Public: Inez Laverdiere, Holden resident, and Kelly Davis, Clifton resident, both presented a petition to build a greenhouse for the Holden Elementary Garden Club. They explained that they have fundraised via Seed Funding, as well as

the Friends of Acadia Grant. They will not need funds from the District to proceed. In addition, Benjamin Breadmore, Holden Town Manager, presented a letter of intent to form a committee regarding the facilities of the District, he noted the 20% decline of the student population the last ten years. He requested that this be a future agenda item for the Board.

Dates of Next Committee Meetings:

Board Meeting (Executive Session Only): May 2, 2024 at 6:30pm, Holbrook Middle School

Budget and Finance Committee: May 15, 2024 at 5:30pm, Holbrook Middle School

Board Meeting: May 20, 2024 at 6:30pm, Holbrook Middle School

FY25 Proposed Budget Informational Meeting: May 22, 2024 at 6:00pm, Holbrook Middle School

RSU 63 District Budget Meeting: May 22, 2024 at 6:30pm, Holbrook Middle School

Budget and Finance: Kelly Theriault, Business Manager, discussed that there will be a FY25 Proposed Budget “Nuts and Bolts” Informational Meeting prior to the RSU 63 District Budget Meeting for any questions regarding the FY25 Proposed Budget. She also let the Board know that the Budget and Finance Committee scheduled their next meeting for May 15, 2024 at 5:30pm at the Holbrook Middle School.

Superintendent’s Report: Superintendent Fulgoni presented the academic performance of Maine students on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). He reviewed the sharp decline in reading and math, in order to display the driving force behind the proposed FY25 budget, which commits 70.4% to student instruction. He also discussed his recommended date of November 22, 2024, for the Chris Greeley Community Service Day, which is reflected on the 2024-2025 calendar. The calendar also noted the final day of school assuming three (3) snow days.

Acceptance of Reports: Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Heather Grass to accept the written and verbal Budget and Finance Committee, Policy Committee, and Superintendent’s Reports.

Discussion: Tracy Bigney cited that the Special Services Report outlined that the district is currently planning for Holbrook Middle School to become a Unified Champion School.

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Approval of FY25 Budget

A motion to approve the FY25 Budget was made by Tracy Bigney with a second by Linda Graban.

Discussion: None

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Approval of Guide for Returning to School

Discussion: There was a discussion regarding the safety of the pick-up lines that are congesting the main roads.

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

2024-2025 School Year Calendar

Discussion: The Board reviewed the times of the open houses at the elementary schools, as well as step up days for 1st graders going into 2nd grade and 4th graders going into the 5th grade.

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Policies to Approve, 1st Reading

A motion to approve the BEDB-R (Agenda Format) Policy was made by Heather Lander and seconded by Linda Graban.

Discussion: It was noted that moving the Executive Session to the end of the public meeting was implemented based on public feedback. Tracy Bigney inquired about the idea of placing the Executive Session at the beginning and end for instances that it is logical to have the session at the beginning, but the Policy Committee did consider this option and opted against it.

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Appoint Negotiation Committee for Collective Bargaining

A motion to appoint Tracy Bigney, Rachel Downs, and Matthew Campbell to the Negotiation Committee was made by Linda Graban and seconded by Heather Grass.

Discussion: There was a short discussion regarding the number of people assigned to the committee, as well as the positions that the collective bargaining will encompass: Food Service and Ed Techs.

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

At 7:15pm, motion by Tracy Bigney with a second by Amy Hart to enter into executive session for the discussion of employment of officials/appointees/employees pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A).

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Heather Lander, Yes; Tracy Roberts, Yes; Matthew Campbell, Yes; Amy Hart, Yes; Linda Graban, Yes; Rachel Downs, Yes; Heather Grass, Yes; Tracy Bigney, Yes.

Vote: 8 Yes; 0 Opposed

Public Session resumed at 8:25pm.

Personnel Actions:

Resignations/Retirements: The District received a notice of resignation Esther Yoder, Substitute, effective as of March 4, 2024; Lauren Moulton, Elementary School Counselor, effective as of April 12, 2024; and the retirement of Brian Glass, RSU 63 Bus Driver, effective as of June 21, 2024.

Elections:

A motion by Matthew Campbell with a second by Rachel Downs to approve the Probationary Year 1 Contracts to Probationary Year 2 Contracts as recommended by the Superintendent.

Discussion: None

Vote: 6 Approved; 1 Opposed; 1 Abstained

A motion by Matthew Campbell with a second by Heather Grass to approve the Probationary Year 2 Contracts to Continuing Contracts as recommended by the Superintendent.

Discussion: None

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Appointments: Gene Worcester, A Team Baseball Coach and Jason Smith, B Team Baseball Coach.

Reassignments: None

Searches: Elementary School Principal, Music Teacher (Grades 5-8), Speech Language Pathologist, Long Term Occupational Therapist, Anticipated Special Education Bus Driver, and Substitute Bus Drivers.

Adjournment: At 8:29pm, motion by Matthew Campbell with a second by Rachel Downs to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion: None

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed

Respectfully submitted by,



Jared Fulgoni
RSU 63 Superintendent of Schools

Approved: May 20, 2024