

RSU #63 Board Meeting
Date: January 22, 2024
Location: Eddington Elementary School
Minutes

RSU 63 Board Member(s) Present:

Town of Holden: Amy Hart and Heather Lander

Town of Clifton: Linda Graban

Town of Eddington: Tracy Bigney (arrived during executive session), Rachel Downs, Heather Grass

RSU 63 Board Member Absent Excused:

Town of Holden: Tracy Roberts, Matthew Campbell

Linda Graban, sitting in as Chair for Tracy Roberts, called the meeting to order at 6:38pm followed by the flag salute and moment of silence.

At 6:39pm, motion by Heather Lander with a second by Rachel Downs to enter into executive session for discussion of Superintendent Jared Fulgoni's evaluation pursuant to 1 MRSA section 405(6)(A).

Discussion: None.

Roll Call Vote: Heather Lander, Yes; Amy Hart, Yes; Linda Graban, Yes; Rachel Downs, Yes; Heather Grass, Yes.

Vote: 6 Yes; 0 Opposed

Public Session resumed at 7:08pm.

Motion by Heather Lander with a second by Tracy Bigney to approve the minutes for the November 27, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

Discussion: None.

Vote: 6 Approved; 0 Opposed

Recognition and/or Awards of Students, Staff, and Other: Superintendent Fulgoni recognized the 4th Grade Santa Elf Fund, which raised \$998 and provided gifts and Christmas dinners to over thirty (30) children. He also acknowledged the 25 Days of Kindness program for funding a trip to the Maine Discovery Museum for the Holden Elementary School students. Lastly, Superintendent Fulgoni acknowledged and congratulated Principal Don Spencer for his thirty-five (35) years of service to RSU 63.

Acceptance of Gifts and Donations: None.

Presentation: None.

Questions and Comments from the Public:

Anne Veal of Holden questioned why the executive session is held after the public meeting is called to order. She inquired why it isn't held either prior to or after the public session. She also asked why the Superintendent Evaluation was not mailed out to the entire community. In addition, Sarah Lane of Holden clarified for November 23, 2023 Minutes that she not only asked what is the accountability for teachers, but also the community as a whole.

Dates of Next Committee Meetings:

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

Executive Session followed by MSMA School Board Workshop: February 5, 2024 at 6:15pm at Holbrook Middle School Library

Curriculum Committee: March 19, 2024 at 5:30pm, Holbrook Middle School

Board Meeting: February 26, 2024 at 6:30pm, Holbrook Middle School Cafeteria

Budget and Finance: Nothing to add to the report or Budget and Finance Committee minutes.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Fulgoni stated there was nothing to add to the Superintendent's Report, but wanted to highlight the hard work of staff for the improvement in the District's chronic absenteeism.

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

Discussion: Tracy Bigney brought up discussion regarding the Curriculum and Special Education Reports. Tina Dumond, Curriculum Director, explained that ELA Assessments have not been consistent, but the District's goal is to move towards more uniformity, which includes adding data points. The plan is that at the end of this year there will be an assessment given to the students so that there will be baseline data to begin next school year. Tina Dumond also clarified that RSU 63 did not apply for the literacy grant, it was awarded to the District by the State of Maine and allocated based on Title I. The District was awarded eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) and there will be a requirement to write an explanation to the State about the manner the funds are utilized. In addition, Tracy Bigney asked if a student is either on an IEP or a Section 504 or if they can be on both simultaneously. Superintendent Fulgoni explained that it is possible that a student is on both, however, RSU 63 does not currently have any students that are on both at the same time.

Vote: 6 Approved; 0 Opposed

Old Business:

A motion to approve the contractor for the bus garage was made by Rachel Downs and seconded by Tracy Bigney.

Discussion: Superintendent Fulgoni explained the process that was used to obtain the contractor for the bus garage repair. He also disclosed the relationship between Zachary Chenier, Transportation Coordinator, and the out-of-state contractor. Kelly Theriault, Business Manager, further explained that this process was unique, given that the District's insurance company could not find an adjuster to submit a quote for the claim. The chosen contractor was initially contacted for just an estimate to submit for the insurance claim; they were not contacted to be the contractor. As a result of the winter, there is now additional damage caused by water and the weakening of the support from the accident. Linda Graban stated that she proposes that this work goes out to bid in the normal process. There was additional discussion that the normal bid process would take a minimum of two weeks plus factoring in Board Approval. Heather Lander expressed that although they are approving the contractor, it is important to note that the Board preferred local contractors, but due to the December storm many contractors are delayed in the locality.

Vote: 4 Approved (Amy Hart, Heather Lander, Tracy Bigney, Rachel Downs); 2 Opposed (Linda Graban and Heather Grass)

New Business:

Policies to Approve, First Reading:

A motion to send back the IJND (District Issued Computing Device Usage at Home) Policy to the Policy Committee was made by Heather Grass and seconded by Amy Hart.

Discussion: Linda Graban inquired about whether there is a scholarship assistance to waive the \$25.00 fee. George Cummings, Technology Coordinator, explained that this fee covers the replacement, damage, and repair, since we do not carry insurance due to the rates. The \$25 fee has been sufficient in the past for covering the related expenditures of maintenance that are all completed in-house. There was further discussion about a program offered to parents to participate in an online safety class with a Maine State Trooper in order to have the fee waived.

Vote: 6 Approved; 0 Opposed

A motion to send back the JKAA (Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion) Policy back to the Policy Committee was made by Tracy Bigney and seconded by Amy Hart.

Discussion: Tracy Bigney mentioned formatting errors that need to be fixed prior to approval.

Vote: 6 Approved; 0 Opposed

A motion to send back the JKAA-R (Procedures on Physical Restraint and Seclusion) Policy back to the Policy Committee was made by Tracy Bigney and seconded by Amy Hart.

Discussion: Tracy Bigney inquired whether the Reports to the Maine Department of Education that are mentioned in JKAA-R are public information that the Board can review. Superintendent Fulgoni explained that as long as it is a report that does not have student identifying information, the Board can request copies to review from his office.

Vote: 6 Approved; 0 Opposed

Representation of Education Technicians and Food Service Workers by the Maine Education Association:

Superintendent Fulgoni brought to the Board's attention that RSU 63 received a Petition for Bargaining Agent Certification by Majority Sign-Up from the RSU 63 Education Association and the Maine Labor Relations Board to

represent Education Technicians and Food Service Workers. He outlined the process of the Majority Petition and explained that there is no action required by the Board.

Personnel Actions:

Resignations/Retirements: Stephen Inman, Eddington Custodian resigned, effective as of January 16, 2024.
Hannah Foster, Occupational Therapist resigned, effective as of February 11, 2024.

Elections: None

Appointments: None

Reassignments: None

Searches: Substitute Bus Drivers, Anticipated Custodian, Track and Field Coach, A Team Baseball Coach, B Team Baseball Coach, A Team Softball Coach, and B Team Softball Coach.

Adjournment: At 7:54pm, motion by Heather Grass with a second by Rachel Downs to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion: None

Vote: 6 Approved; 0 Opposed

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jared Fulgoni', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Jared Fulgoni
RSU 63 Superintendent of Schools

Approved:
February 26, 2024