

MSAD 58 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 16, 2025, 6:30PM
Day Mountain Regional Middle School, Gym

Board Members: Chair Jessica Cain, ~~Vice Chair Joanne Bachelder~~, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, ~~Ashley Hopwood Farrar~~, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, ~~Mary Nodine~~, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White, ~~Student Representative Addie Paul~~ (One Vacancy - Avon)

Administrators: Laura Columbia, Margaret Adams, Ronda Fournier, Chip Gilbert, Scott LeHay, ~~Jeff Pillsbury~~, Jennifer Pooler, Sabrina Reed-Carrier, Tim Richards, Geary Wheeler

Quorum Present: 738:996

I. Call to Order

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Jessica Cain called the meeting to order at 6:34pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Public Comment

A. None

III. Review and Approval of Agenda/Minutes

A. Prioritization of Items and Alteration of the Established Agenda Format Sequence as needed

1. Approval of Agenda

a) Amend to add Overnight Field Trip Request to VII, B, 2.

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| Motion to approve the January 16, 2025 Board Agenda as amended. | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | Motion: Sue Pratt Second: Laura White Motion: Passed |
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No discussion was heard.

B. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Board Meeting - [December 19, 2024](#)

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| Motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2024 board meeting | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | Motion: Brad Orbeton Second: Sue Pratt Motion: Passed |
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No discussion was heard.

2. Committee Meetings

a) [Educational Policy - 12.19.24](#)

b) [Operations and Finance - 1.14.25](#)

- c) Academic - December meeting cancelled
- d) Personnel - December meeting cancelled

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| Motion to approve the minutes from the committee meetings as presented | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | Motion: Laura White Second: Brad Orbeton Motion: Passed |
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No discussion was heard.

IV. Reports

- A. Board Chair
 - 1. None
- B. [Superintendent](#)
- C. Student Rep Report
 - 1. None

V. Presentations

- A. None

VI. Old Business

- A. Update from Strategic Planning Committee
 - 1. The first meeting was held in early January where we reviewed survey data, clarified the purpose of the committee, and began planning for focus groups in our community.
- B. Update from Operations and Finance Committee
 - 1. The committee held their first meeting to discuss the charge from the school board, and discussed different types of data that the committee is requesting to help with immediate, short, and long term facilities planning.

VII. New Business

- A. Hiring/Nominations
 - 1. Nominations (Action Required)
 - a) None
 - 2. Transfers
 - a) None
 - 3. Resignations
 - a) None
 - 4. Retirements
 - a) Daneille London, Special Education Teacher, MTA
 - b) Melissa Hoisington, Title I Teacher, KES

B. Request for Approval -

- 1. 7 x 7 Soccer Tournament, August 1 - 3, 2025, MTA - Jim Danala

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| Motion to approve 7 x 7 Soccer Tournament as proposed. | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None | Motion: Laura White Second: Jessie Stinchfield Motion: Passed |
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| | Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | |
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Wonderful event for our communities and local businesses. Has been previous concern about the septic.

2. Outdoor Club Overnight Field Trip, Feb 21 & 22, 2025 - Jim Danala

a) Requesting access to MTA as a backup.

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| Motion to approve the field trip as proposed. | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | Motion: Brad Orbeton Second: Joe Ford Motion: Passed |
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No discussion was heard.

C. State of the Schools - Administrators

1. [Mt. Abram High School](#)-Tim Richards
 - a) March 5 - MTA Town Hall
2. [Day Mountain Regional Middle School](#)-Maggie Adams
3. [Phillips Elementary School](#)-Jeff Pillsbury
4. [Kingfield Elementary School](#)-Ronda Fournier

D. Committee Discussion

1. Recommendation to merge the Personnel Committee into the Academic Committee, to form the Personnel and Academics Committee
 - a) Discussion was had about combining the above committees. It was decided that Brian and Brad would be shifted to the Academic Committee and be available as needed to meet for personnel.

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| Motion to accept the committee assignments as changed. | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | Motion: Sue Pratt Second: Laura White Motion: Passed |
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No additional discussion was heard.

E. 2025/2026 District Calendar

1. Early releases will be tied to workshop days.
2. 2 weeks at Christmas
3. Early release on Halloween
 - a) Request that the draft calendar is brought back to the board so they can compare it against the approved RSU 9 calendar.

F. Policies

1. First Reading
 - a) [KF: Community Use of School Facilities](#)
 - b) [IKF: Graduation Requirements](#)
 - c) [EEBA: Use of Multifunction School Activity Buses](#)
 - (1) Discussion around insurance coverage and driving record.

- d) [EBCB: Emergency Evacuation Drills](#)
- e) [BBA: School Board Powers and Responsibilities](#)
(1) No changes, added reviewed.
- f) [BBAA: Board Member Authority and Responsibilities](#)
(1) No changes, added reviewed.
- g) [BBAB: School Board Self-Evaluation](#)
(1) Moved to second reading.

2. Second Reading and Approval

a) [KDA: Public Information Program](#)

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| Motion to approve as proposed. | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | Motion: Laura White Second: Amanda Coolong Motion: Passed |
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No discussion was heard.

b) [ILA: Student Assessment \(Required\)](#)

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| Motion to approve as proposed. | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | Motion: Brad Orbeton Second: Joe Ford Motion: Passed |
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Request that the assessment calendar be added to the next agenda

VIII. Executive Sessions

A. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) to discuss Evaluation of Superintendent.

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| Motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) to discuss the Evaluation of Superintendent. | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0): | Motion: Sue Pratt Second: Laura White Motion: Passed |
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No discussion was heard.

Time In: 7:55pm

Time Out 8:47pm

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| Motion to extend Laura Columbia's contract by one (1) year, provide a 2.5% salary increase, and five (5) | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, | Motion: Sue Pratt Second: Amanda Coolong Motion: Passed |
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| additional vacation days. | Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | |
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No discussion was heard.

IX. Adjournment
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| Motion to adjourn | In favor: Jessica Cain, Benjamin Davis, Amanda Coolong, Brian Donovan, Joe Ford, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Susan Pratt, Jessie Stinchfield, Laura White Opposed: None Abstained: None Vote: 10:0:0 (738:0:0) | Motion: Laura White Second: Joe Ford Motion: passed |
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No discussion was heard.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Columbia

Laura Columbia, Superintendent of MSAD #58
LC/jp