

Regional School Unit 24



Regional School Unit 24 Board of Directors Meeting

October 5, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

ADA Notice

This school district will accommodate members of the public with special needs to participate fully in this meeting. Please contact Administrative Assistant Jennifer Fountaine (422-2017) if you have such needs.

Public Participation

The public is invited to comment on any agenda item as it is being considered by the Board. The chair may place time and other restrictions on such participation. The public is asked to contact Superintendent Michael Eastman (422-2017) for consideration of issues not on this agenda.

In accordance with An Act To Implement Provisions Necessary to the Health, Welfare and Safety of the Citizens of Maine in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, as enacted to read: Sec. G-1 1 MRSA §403-A Public proceedings through remote access during declaration of state of emergency due to COVID-19, the Board Meeting will be held through a ZOOM Meeting. The meeting can be accessed at:

<https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/81975411351>

Meeting Minutes

Superintendent Michael Eastman

meastman@rsu24.org

Board Members

Present					
Yes	No	TOWN	NAME	VOTES	% of Votes
x		Eastbrook	Jennifer Des Jardin	423	5.5%
x		Franklin	Roy Gott	1483	19.3%
x		Gouldsboro	Susan Dickson-Smith	1737	22.7%
x		Mariaville	Julia Sheehan	513	6.7%
x		Sorrento	Janet Wilpan	274	3.6%
x		Steuben	Keith Goldfarb	1131	14.8%
x		Sullivan	Andrea St. George Jones	1236	16.1%
x		Waltham	Mercy Hardison	353	4.6%
x		Winter Harbor	Jeffrey Alley	516	6.7%
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				7,666	100.00%

A. **Call to Order at 6:30 p.m.**

B. Adjustments to the Agenda

- New Teacher Nominations
- Donations to Peninsula School
- Educational Consortium for Telecommunications Savings

C. Approval of the September 7, 2021 and September 28,2021 Board Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2021 RSUB meetings was made by Member Janet Wilpan and seconded by Member Jennifer Des Jardin.

Votes in Favor: 7666 Opposed: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain:0

This motion passes.

The motion to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2021 RSUB meetings was made by Member Janet Wilpan and seconded by Member Jennifer Des Jardin.

Votes in Favor: 7666 Opposed: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

This motion passes.

D. Report from the Board Chair

No report from the board chair.

E. Report from the Superintendent

Mr. Eastman reported that a law was passed by the Maine legislature to observe June 19th as a holiday (Juneteenth), and due to it falling on a Sunday, it will be observed on the following Monday. Mr. Eastman discussed that after discussion with the Maine CDC, a soccer game that was to be held today needed to be cancelled due to a potential positive COVID case with a person associated with Sumner Memorial High School.

F. Business

1. Policies

The motion to approve the below policies for second read and adoption was made by Member Andrea St. George Jones and seconded by Member Janet Wilpan.

- BDD - Board- Superintendent Relationship
- BCA - Board Member Code of Ethics

Votes in Favor: 7666 Opposed: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

This motion passes.

2. New Teacher Nominations

Stacey Cook - Literacy Interventionist at the Peninsula School

The motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendations was made by Member Jeff Alley and seconded by Member Mercy Hardison.

Votes in Favor: 7666 Opposed:0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

This motion passes.

3. Personnel Committee Update

Mr. Alley reported that the committee had met that day to discuss the collective

bargaining agreements between RSU 24 and the bus drivers, custodians and Administrative Assistants/School secretaries.

A motion to approve the ratification of all collective bargaining agreements between RSU 24 and RSU 24 bus drivers, RSU 24 custodians, RSU 24 Administrative Assistants and School Secretaries through June 2024 was made by member Jeff Alley and seconded by Jennifer DesJardin.

Votes in Favor: 7666 Opposed:0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0
This motion passes.

Mr. Alley continued his committee update to discuss the Library Ed-Tech position at Cave Hill and Mountain view. The committee discussed the need to increase the position from 0.8 to 1.0 FTE, and voted to support the request. Another point of discussion was in regard to COVID pay. The committee voted to give Mr. Eastman the authority to pay employees who are out due to COVID reasons. A new maintenance position at SMHS was discussed with the committee authorizing Mr. Eastman to create that position and advertise in house first, and then outside to the public if needed. Both the Ed Tech position and the Maintenance position can be paid with the current budget. The policy for hiring administrators will be reviewed soon with hopes of ratifying this policy with approval by the board.

4. Educational Consortium for Telecommunications Savings

Mr. Eastman discussed that this is a consulting group that is being worked with as part of round 2 of the connectivity money that the current government administration has offered. Mr. Eastman let the board know that \$12,000 will be applied for internet access for student devices that are utilized at home.

A motion to approve authorization of the Superintendent to enter into a consulting service agreement with Educational Consortium for Telecommunication Savings was made by Member Keith Goldfarb and seconded by Member Jennifer DesJardin.

Votes in Favor: 7666 Opposed:0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0
This motion passes.

5. Discussion Regarding Future Board Meetings Format (Remote, Hybrid, In-Person)

Mr. Gott questioned members of the Board on their preferences as to how the meetings would be held given the current COVID pandemic. A majority of members didn't have a preference if the meetings were held in person or held remotely however Member Andrea St. George Jones said that she preferred that meetings be held in person with masks.

A motion that as long as students are being required to attend school in person, that our school board meet in person using the same precautions that students are required to use was made by Member Andrea St. George Jones and seconded by Member Jeff Alley.

Votes in Favor: 2528 Opposed: 4007 Absent: 0 Abstain: 1131
This motion fails.

At this point, meetings will continue in a remote setting and will be revisited in the future.

6. Donations to the Peninsula School

- \$1,500 donation from St. Christophers By-the-Sea
- \$5,000 Anonymous donation to support students in need

A motion to accept the donations listed above was made by Member Jeff Alley and seconded by Member Jennifer DesJardin.

Votes in Favor: 7666 Opposed:0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

This motion passes.

G. Public Comment

Community Member Abigail Hunt questioned whether the quarantine had changed regarding the mask mandate. Mr. Eastman stated that we are now able to use the 3 feet rule across the district when we have a positive case due to the use of masks.

H. Board Review of Meeting

Members expressed their thoughts on the recent future board meeting format decision, while also giving thanks to those who had given donations to our schools as well as the members who took part in the collective bargaining agreement process.

I. Future Meetings

- October 12, 5:30 p.m., Educational Programming Committee
- October 19, 5:30 p.m., Facilities and Transportation Committee
- November 2, 6:30 p.m., RSUB Directors Meeting
- November 9, 5:30 p.m., Educational Programming Committee
- November 16, 5:30 p.m., Facilities and Transportation Committee

J. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn at 7:07p.m. was made by Member Jennifer DesJardin and seconded by Member Julia Sheehan.

Votes in Favor: 7666 Opposed:0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

This motion passes.