

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MINUTES WILL NOT BE FINAL UNTIL THE BOARD HAS APPROVED THEM AT ITS NEXT MEETING.

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August 17, 2009

The Board of Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 75 held a **regular meeting at Mt. Ararat High School on Monday, August 17, 2009.**

The following Directors were present: Joanne Reinhart, Chairman; Dorothy "Dee" Carrier; Dorothy Gardner; Robert W. Hill; David A. Johnson, Scott McKernan; Jane Meisenbach; Joanne M. Rogers; Jane Scease; Kim Totten; and Roland Tufts.

Not present were Claudia Beckwith, Rebekah Stimpson, and Gwen Thomas.

Also present was Hayley Lapointe, student representative to the Board of Directors. The second representative's seat remains vacant.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Reinhart at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by those present.

3. To consider action relative to additions or adjustments to the agenda and to ask for comments from the audience

There were no comments from the audience

Agenda adjustments were noted, as follows:

{correction to 6.2} Agenda item should read that Janet Anderson's appointment is to a position at **Williams-Cone School.**

{add 6.5a} To appoint **Mary Anne Peabody** to a one-year probationary contract as 0.8 FTE Social Worker at Bowdoinham Community School at CAS, Step 17 (prorated), for the 2009-2010 contract year

{add 6.5b} To appoint **Trevor Slater** to a one-year probationary contract as Special Educator (TAP) at Mt. Ararat High School at Master's, Step 3, for the 2009-2010 contract year

{add 6.5c} To appoint **Kathryn "Katie" Anderson** to a one-year probationary contract as 0.5 FTE Special Educator (FLS) at Woodside Elementary School at Master's, Step 1, for the 2009-2010 contract year

3.1 RECOGNITIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

4. To take action relative to accepting as printed the minutes of the July 9, 2009, regular meeting of the Board of Directors

It was moved by Mrs. Rogers, seconded by Mrs. Gardner, and **VOTED (500 yeas, 0 nays, 221 abstentions, and 279 absent)** to accept as printed the minutes of the July 9, 2009, regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

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Voting yea were Mrs. Carrier, Mrs. Gardner, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Reinhart, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Scease, and Mrs. Totten.

There were no nay votes.

Abstaining from voting were Mr. McKernan, Mrs. Meisenbach, and Mr. Tufts.

Absent were Ms. Beckwith; Mr. Johnson {who had not yet arrived}; Ms. Stimpson; and Ms. Thomas.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- 6.1** *To appoint **Darren Akerman** to a one-year probationary contract as Gifted & Talented teacher, at CAS, Step 10, for the 2009-2010 contract year*

*It was moved by Mrs. Rogers, seconded by Mrs. Gardner, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to appoint **Darren Akerman** to a one-year probationary contract as Gifted & Talented teacher, at CAS, Step 10, for the 2009-2010 contract year.*

- 6.2** *To appoint **Janet Anderson** to a one-year probationary contract as Literacy Teacher Leader at Williams-Cone School {correction noted} at Master's +15, Step 12, for the 2009-2010 contract year*

*It was moved by Mrs. Carrier, seconded by Mrs. Rogers, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to appoint **Janet Anderson** to a one-year probationary contract as Literacy Teacher Leader at Williams-Cone School, at Master's +15, Step 12, for the 2009-2010 contract year.*

- 6.3** *To appoint **Roxanne Auclair** to the position of 0.5 FTE Kindergarten teacher at Bowdoin Central School at Bachelor's, Step 17, for the 2009-2010 contract year*

*It was moved by Mrs. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Tufts, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to appoint **Roxanne Auclair** to the position of 0.5 FTE Kindergarten teacher at Bowdoin Central School at Bachelor's, Step 17, for the 2009-2010 contract year.*

- 6.4** *To appoint **Sarah Morrill** to a one-year probationary contract as Kindergarten teacher at Woodside Elementary School at Bachelor's, Step 7, for the 2009-2010 contract year*

*It was moved by Mrs. Carrier, seconded by Mrs. Rogers, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to appoint **Sarah Morrill** to a one-year probationary contract as Kindergarten teacher at Woodside Elementary School at Bachelor's, Step 7, for the 2009-2010 contract year.*

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- 6.5** To appoint **Abigail Svenson** to a one-year probationary contract as 5th grade teacher at Harpswell Islands School at Bachelor's +15, Step 0, for the 2009-2010 contract year

*It was moved by Mrs. Carrier, seconded by Mrs. Rogers, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to appoint **Abigail Svenson** to a one-year probationary contract as 5th grade teacher at Harpswell Islands School at Bachelor's +15, Step 0, for the 2009-2010 contract year.*

- 6.5a** To appoint **Mary Anne Peabody** to a one-year probationary contract as 0.8 FTE Social Worker at Bowdoinham Community School at CAS, Step 17 (prorated), for the 2009-2010 contract year

*It was moved by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Gardner, and **VOTED (654 yeas, 0 nays, 67 abstentions, and 279 absent)** to appoint **Mary Anne Peabody** to a one-year probationary contract as 0.8 FTE Social Worker at Bowdoinham Community School at CAS, Step 17 (prorated), for the 2009-2010 contract year.*

Voting yea were Mrs. Gardner, Mr. Hill, Mr. McKernan, Mrs. Meisenbach, Mrs. Reinhart, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Scease, Mrs. Totten, and Mr. Tufts.

There were no nay votes.

Abstaining from voting was Mrs. Carrier.

Absent were Ms. Beckwith; Mr. Johnson (who had not yet arrived); Ms. Stimpson; and Ms. Thomas.

- 6.5b** To appoint **Trevor Slater** to a one-year probationary contract as Special Educator (TAP) at Mt. Ararat High School at Master's, Step 3, for the 2009-2010 contract year

*It was moved by Mrs. Gardner, seconded by Mrs. Meisenbach, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to appoint **Trevor Slater** to a one-year probationary contract as Special Educator (TAP) at Mt. Ararat High School at Master's, Step 3, for the 2009-2010 contract year.*

- 6.5c** To appoint **Kathryn "Katie" Anderson** to a one-year probationary contract as 0.5 FTE Special Educator (FLS) at Woodside Elementary School at Master's, Step 1, for the 2009-2010 contract year

*It was moved by Mrs. Carrier, seconded by Mr. Tufts, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to appoint **Kathryn "Katie" Anderson** to a one-year probationary contract as 0.5 FTE Special Educator (FLS) at Woodside Elementary School at Master's, Step 1, for the 2009-2010 contract year.*

- 6.6** To appoint **James McLaughlin** to a one-year contract to the position of Student Information Systems Coordinator

*It was moved by Mrs. Carrier, seconded by Mrs. Rogers, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to appoint **James McLaughlin** to a one-year contract to the position of Student Information Systems Coordinator.*

- 6.7** To reduce the contract of **Sandra White**, Middle School Special Education teacher, from 1.0 FTE to .8 FTE

&

- 6.8** To increase the contract of **Mary Hobson**, Middle School Special Education teacher, from 0.5 FTE to 0.7 FTE

*It was moved by Mrs. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Tufts, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to reduce the contract of **Sandra White**, Middle School Special Education teacher, from 1.0 FTE to .8 FTE, and to increase the contract of **Mary Hobson**, Middle School Special Education teacher, from 0.5 FTE to 0.7 FTE.*

- 6.10** To hear an introduction to Study Circles *{taken out of order}*

Dawn Prindall, Harpswell resident and volunteer, presented an introduction to Study Circles. She cited its successful employment in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, indicating that it is a proven way of solving problems and conflicts, even those that are emotional. She stated that Study Circles result in good ideas, good decisions, and good buy-in. Made up of small groups from all walks of the community, the Study Circles are neither public hearings nor “town meeting” formats in which “sides” advocate for their interests.

*After her PowerPoint presentation, Mrs. Prindall summarized by stating that Study Circles are about working **through** conflict, not **around** it. She said that people accept decisions derived from Study Circles as plans that come from the community – not “top down” from administration.*

Mrs. Prindall has received an offer from a contact in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to facilitate the first meeting of any Study Circles.

Mrs. Carrier asked whether Mrs. Prindall planned to implement Study Circles without going back to the Board for input.

Mrs. Scease shared Mrs. Carrier’s concerns, stating that such an initiative should be carefully structured. Mrs. Prindall assured the Board that meetings are not going to be held “randomly.”

Mrs. Rogers reminded the Board that all meetings of the Board (and committees) are held in a very similar fashion. She asked the difference between this proposal and what was done in the CSPC meetings.

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Assistant Superintendent Sally Loughlin indicated that these meetings would be smaller so that people don't have to make a speech for one side or the other.

Mrs. Rogers asked what the Board was doing when the forums broke into smaller groups. Mrs. Carrier reminded the Board that action similar to Study Circles was done in four very different communities.

Mrs. Prindall emphasized she thought it key to approach the Board first, as she is doing tonight.

Superintendent Wilhelm indicated that successfully doing this requires a way to interact with the larger community in a supportive way and that it will have to be done in small steps.

Mr. Hill expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Prindall, indicating that he is in favor of any way to talk with people vested in any interest. He envisions hundreds of people sitting down and having a dialogue instead of emotional presentations.

Mrs. Gardner reminded those present that all are welcome to attend any meeting of the Board.

Mrs. Scease would want to move forward, with the understanding that there can be any number of groups. She emphasized it is critical to train and use facilitators.

Mrs. Totten would like public input, indicating that the Board at its forums last spring tried to insure that stakeholders from all groups were represented. She welcomes input, as long as people understand that it is the entire District that the Board has to "hear."

Mrs. Prindall conceded that Study Circles may not work for all topics. In answer to a question from Mrs. Carrier, Mrs. Prindall assured the Board there are no hidden costs.

This issue will be discussed further.

6.9 To hear a report on the high school Capstone project

Principal Craig King stated that this project has been in its planning stages for a year. The Capstone project is the culminating portfolio of a student's 9th-12th grade years of school. In the ninth grade a student will start the project, maintaining it through the remainder of his years at Mt. Ararat High School. This advisory group activity is geared to answer the questions of "Who am I? and What have I done?"

Dr. King said that parents can be "cued" to view the project.

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Karen Tilbor indicated she will attempt to have an article placed in the September Cryer (reminder to parents to access the website, view announcements and calendar). Ms. Tilbor has an AmeriCorps student working with her this year and hopes to create a website connecting curriculum to careers.

6.11 *To consider and adopt Board goals for the 2009-2010 school year*

Board members were asked to endorse the Board goals.

Mrs. Rogers stated that her objection to the Study Circles was that the concept sounded like a group was going to develop a plan. She wished that the proposal had been presented as a way to gather more information from the public. She felt that the proposal seemed to be a process independent of the Board.

*It was moved by Mrs. Scease, seconded by Mr. McKernan, and **VOTED (unanimously)** to adopt Board goals (as presented) for the 2009-2010 school year.*

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

7.1 *Curriculum Committee*

The Curriculum Committee, at its meeting this evening, heard a presentation on the Toastmasters International Youth Leadership Program. This after-school program which begins September 14th is designed to enhance students' public speaking skills and is not for credit.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

8.1 *Financial Report*

Superintendent Wilhelm presented this report.

The District's audit is being performed during the week of August 24-28, 2009.

8.2 *Consider dates for Board meetings for the 2009-2010 year*

The proposed schedule of 2009-2010 Board meetings was presented for the Board's consideration.

8.3 *Capital Improvement Cycle 2010-2011*

The Board had been presented with a copy of the State's official chart regarding school construction cycle.

8.4 *Qualified School Construction Bond*

In preparing to enter Phase III of the Performance Contract, it was discovered that the payback period was too long. There are some capital projects which may qualify.

8.5 *Mrs. Totten reminded Superintendent Wilhelm that administration was to evaluate the success of Chris Shaw's shortened work week. Dr. Wilhelm indicated that he has met with Mr. Shaw and has put together a survey form, which those working under Mr. Shaw's supervision can answer anonymously.*

8.6 *The CSPC will need to meet right after the start of the new school year.*

9. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

/bb/minutes81709