

Minutes
MSAD #8 School Board Monthly Meeting
February 28, 2018
Middle School Science Room
6:30 PM

Board Members Present: Renee Jones, Rachel Noyes, Virginia Wadleigh, Laura Lazaro, Kathi Young

Administration Present: Superintendent Roy Crawford, Principal Ann Kirkpatrick

1. **Call to order at 6:36** by R. Jones and Pledge to the Flag
2. **Action on the minutes of the January 24, 2018 Regular Meeting. Motion R. Noyes/second L. Lazaro to approve. (4-0-1)**
3. **Communications:** None
4. **Approval of the agenda adding a presentation by Randy Pitts to New Business: Motion R. Jones/second R. Noyes to approve (5-0)**
5. **Questions and comments from the public:** No comments
6. **Principal's Report by A. Kirkpatrick**
 - Student of the Month Assembly today. Received the Spirit Award from Winter Kids and a prize of \$250 donated to the Playground Fund.
 - At the assembly, recognized our Southern Maine Champion Girls' Basketball Team. The team "high fived" the entire school. State Championship game in Augusta at 1:00 PM Saturday.
 - March and April are assessment months. Grades 3-8 will do state reading and math and grades 5/8/11 will do science. Thanked Robb Warren for volunteering to coordinate the assessment process and scheduling.
 - MS science fair on March 29.
7. **New Business**
 - a. 2018-2019 budget kick-off.
 1. Kathy Warren, Renee and Rachel will arrange a telephone conference call with the school auditor to arrange a teleconference to review the 2016-2017 audit.
 2. Reviewed budget development timeline with budget workshops on March 28, April 4 and April 25.
 3. Roy reviewed budget development process including:
 - Staff request form and how Kathy gathers information from teachers to support their programs and classrooms.

- The development of a 5-10 year facilities maintenance plan. Our school is now 15 years old and we will be planning for needed repairs, replacements and upgrades including:
 - ✓ Theatre: lights, sound, curtains, storage, etc.
 - ✓ Roofing
 - ✓ Interior paint
 - ✓ Flooring
 - ✓ Mechanical systems
 - ✓ Grounds: pavement/sidewalks/fields/playground
- Roy summarized the challenges we face in providing for the needs of a number of students with significant special needs and the trickle down effect on our ability to meet the needs of all students and to support our education staff. Roy emphasized that we have a moral, ethical and legal responsibility to provide appropriate programming for these students.
- The budget that is being developed will include employee salary and benefit commitments as per the teacher collective bargaining agreement (contract).
- Roy and Kathy have reviewed all staffing level requirements to insure budget accuracy.

4. Roy presented an eight-year revenue spreadsheet including our expected State revenue for 2018-2019.

We are pleased the Maine Bond Bank has waived interest charges on the last years of our school's debt service as this marginally decreases both the state and local share to the debt service payments.

Unfortunately, VS no longer qualifies for "Economically Disadvantaged" funds which is based on the number of families who apply for, and qualify for, free and reduced lunches. We have approximately the same number of economically disadvantaged student as last year, but the state average number of identified students increased, so we fell under the new established threshold of 45%. This amounts to a loss of approximately \$104,000. We will file an appeal, but Roy is not optimistic.

5. The Board then discussed the format and content for upcoming budget workshops and decided the following:

- Workshops will have specific posted agendas indicating which specific aspects of the budget will be discussed.
- Each workshop will feature just one significant budget area, two of which will be special education and long term facilities maintenance and upkeep.
- Each agenda will also include several less challenging aspects of the budget.
- Renee, Kathy and Roy will meet to plan each agenda.
- Rachel expressed her desire to discuss special education in detail and specifically the amount of time we contract the special education director. She currently is just one day per week.

- b. Randy Pitts presented the school's plan for this year's seniors regarding their final transcripts; computation of credits earned and grade point averages given that in grades 9 and 10 students were in a traditional grading system, but in grades 11 and 12 they were in a proficiency system. Principal Kirkpatrick will communicate this computation to parents of seniors.

Since student transcriptions and such computations have not been a Board policy matter, the Board reached unanimous consensus: 1.) To support the calculations as presented, 2.) That the current online college course policy will be used for the class of 2018 including a weight of 1.2 given to these courses when computing GPA, and 3.) Roy, Ann and Randy will bring forward policies and guidelines to address these issues for future graduating classes in a proficiency based system.

8. **Superintendent's Report:**

- Continues to attend Our Island Cares meetings and there is a high comfort level from that group that our Health curriculum adequately addresses addiction information. Three VS teacher will attend a three-day Aces training next week.
- Is developing the 2018-19 School Calendar and will present a draft placing the winter break (2 weeks) in March consistent with the practice for the past number of years.
- Presented a copy of a contract with the Medical Center that includes nursing services one day per week on site at VS.
- Reviewing crisis plan with drills to be done soon.
- Met with playground vendor on campus yesterday along with the Playground Committee. The design is nearly final and updated information will be put on the school's website and Facebook.
- Presented a one-page spreadsheet that the Priority Team will use to track progress toward school goals. He will re-visit this in future Board meetings.
- Met with staff regarding the new transportation Policy: 5 applications submitted so far.
- Met with staff to review the new Staff Conduct with Students policy.

9. **Personnel matters – nominations & resignations:** Special education director Deb Bailey has resigned effective June 30, 2018. The position has been advertised.

10. **Next meeting March 21, 2018.**

11. **Executive session to discuss a personnel matter:** Motion R. Jones/Second L. Lazaro (5-0). In at 8:20, out at 8:25.

12. **Adjournment:** Motion R. Jones/second R. Noyes at 8:25 (5-0)