

REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING (via Zoom)
April 29, 2020

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on April 29, 2020.

Those in attendance were:

CSD	Tori Manzi	(69.62/ea.)
Islesboro		(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Joanne Richards, Gerald Weinand	(77.82/ea.)
SAD 40	Matthew Speno, Danny Jackson, Seth Hall, Rick Butler	(77.89/ea.)
SAD 7	Jerry White	(7.49)
SAD 8	Yvonne Thomas	(24.58)
St. George	Alane Kennedy	(54.68)

Beth Fisher, Director; Sherry Moody, Business Mgr., Bobby Deetjen, Asst Director; Kristy Hastings, Teacher; Joel Rowland, Teacher; J Bakley, Teacher; Sue Stewart, Teacher; Jonmikel Pardo, Technology Director.

Absent – Loren Andrews, Bob Duke, Brooks Crane, John Gorham

Chair Jerry White opened the regular meeting at 7:02 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 701.38**

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJUSTMENTS – Add Executive Session on Negotiations

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Hall, to add an Executive Session on Negotiations pursuant to Section 405(6)(D) of Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Jackson, to approve the minutes of the regular March 25th meeting

Motion approved with one abstention (Kennedy)

Total weighted votes: 646.7

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Hall, to approve the minutes of the special April 1st meeting

Motion approved with one abstention (Kennedy)

Total weighted votes: 646.7

SPECIAL ED DISCUSSION

Matt Speno discussed establishing a Region 8 Special Ed Steering Committee. He read aloud the possible example of the Special Education Steering Committee Vision and indicated the Mission would be created by the Committee stakeholders as a guiding principal to fulfill the Steering Committee Vision. Matt discussed the need for special ed capacity. Currently 41% of students attending Region 8 have either an IEP or 504 plan. Statewide, the average is 17% of students and the national average is 13%. He would like to establish a committee with the vision of providing guidance and best practices for special education. The committee would be comprised of teachers, board members and other stakeholders. His plan is to create a special education position at Mid-Coast School of Technology. Matt is forwarding a document to board members discussing his idea. Gerald asked about sending schools not providing assistance for Special Education. Matt advised there are no dedicated resources to

support students at Region 8. Bobby discussed the fact that being in a separate location lends to the challenge of our teachers attending IEP meetings. Also, student IEP's may be modified for a specific disability that we cannot support, such as assisting a student taking a test. Bobby felt Matt's suggestion of a specific staff person assisting with special education is a good idea.

TEACHER NOMINATIONS FOR CONTINUING AND PROBATIONARY CONTRACTS

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Hall, to approve the continuing and probationary contracts as presented

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

NOMINATION OF MARINE TECH INSTRUCTOR

Beth is recommending to the board the nomination of Joel Rowland for the position of Marine Tech instructor.

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Richards, to approve the nomination of Joel Rowland as Marine Tech Instructor

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

ANNUAL REVIEW OF COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Sherry advised the Superintendent's Advisory Committee (SAC) reviewed the agreement and recommended no changes. The plan is to revise the Cooperative Agreement next spring when the 2020 census data is released.

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Jackson, to approve the current Cooperative Agreement

Danny asked about Policy DA's dates and the discrepancy between the version on the website and the Cooperative Agreement itself. Sherry will edit the online version.

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF REGION 8 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Richards, to approve the Region 8 Emergency Management Plan, with amendments

Danny asked about the evacuation procedure and the blue lights versus red lights. Gerald asked about the locked doors under Lockdown Procedure 1. The plan wording was amended. Teachers are working on individual safe locations for their students. Gerald also asked about how teachers get instructions from Administrators. Seth asked if it's realistic for sub teachers to understand the evacuation plans. Bobby advised that sub teachers review their classroom instructions before class begins each day.

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLICY IHDCA – APPLIED LEARNING PROJECTS

Beth advised the board needs to review this policy annually per statute. We also review this policy each year with the SAC and Program Advisory Committees (PACs). Danny recommended a minor language change on page 2, step 3: "he/she" to "they".

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Hall, to approve the Applied Learning Projects policy

Bill Pearce asked that the review date be changed to 4/29/20 and the language be updated.

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Richards, pursuant to Section 405(6)(C) of Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes, move that the Board enter into executive session to discuss the status of the construction project

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

Enter: 7:45 PM

Exit: 8:12 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Richards, pursuant to Section 405(6)(D) of Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes, move that the Board enter into executive session to discuss the status of negotiations

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

Enter: 8:13 PM

Exit: 8:23 PM

MOTION by Manzi, seconded by Richards, to remove Rick Butler from the Negotiations Committee and add Matt Speno as a new member and add Bobby Deetjen into the negotiations as incoming Director

Rick Butler pointed out that Jerry could make the committee appointment per policy.

Motion approved w/ one abstention (Butler)

Total weighted votes: 623.49

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Richards, seconded by Hall, pursuant to Section 405(6)(A) of Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes, move that the Board enter into executive session to discuss the Director's employment contract

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

Enter: 8:26 PM

Exit: 8:36 PM

BOARD NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR

MOTION by Manzi, seconded by Jackson, to hire Robert Deetjen as Director of Mid-Coast School of Technology effective 7/1/20 with a three year contract and starting salary of \$100,000

Motion approved with two opposed (Butler and Jackson)

Total weighted votes: 545.6

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Warrants and Budget

Joanne reported the committee met and reviewed the warrants for March and April. Joanne reviewed the Accounts Payable warrants with the board. She discussed the March 31st financial report. Joanne reported on the bank account balance remaining in the construction account.

MOTION by Richards, seconded by Hall, to accept and approve the warrant and budget reports for March and April.

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

POLICY COMMITTEE

Bill advised there are two policies for second reading JJIF and EDBA.

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Manzi, to approve the second reading of policies JJIF – Concussions and Other Head Injuries and EDBA-R – Lockout/Tagout Procedure

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Manzi, to approve the deletion of policy AB – Citizens and their Regional Career and Technical School

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Jackson, to approve first reading of Policies BG – Policy Process, DN – School Property Disposition, EDC – Authorized Use of School-Owned Materials and Equipment Computer Software, GBGAA – Bloodborne Pathogens, IJOA – Field Trips, IJOC – School Volunteers and Admission Standards

Gerald asked about the change for the field trips policy. Bobby explained how the Outdoor Leadership program routinely goes on field trips with 12 students.

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

Tori began the discussion of policy BEDH – Public Participation at Board Meetings. The committee looked at sample policies from RSU 40 and MSMA. Tori would like input from the board as a whole if the board wants to have the public discuss items not on the agenda. Seth generally feels the public should be allowed comments on non-agenda items. Yvonne asked if there should be a time limit on comments. Jerry advised the board meeting is to discuss business of the board and public comment can take time away from the meeting. Joanne commented that this could open up the board to hours of public comment. Seth commented that the Chair needs to be responsible for keeping comments to a time limit. Beth expressed concerns about public making comments about individual staff members.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

MOTION by Manzi, seconded by Hall, to approve the revised Assistant Director job description (as modified)

Danny made several recommendations to modify the Assistant Director job description including adding a statement (already included in the Education Technician II job description) about setting a good example for students. Also, a change was made under Legal and Ethical Duties standardizing the language about maintaining confidentiality of staff and student information.

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Richards, to approve the Student Services Coordinator job description (as modified)

Danny made several recommendations on language changes (same as prior job description). He asked for an explanation about the Embark Program. Bobby explained this is a Community College program for students to attend college courses and earn credits. Five students will also receive \$2,000 scholarships this year from Embark. Seth asked Bobby about his perspective on the language in the job description. Gerald asked if a new position is being added. Tori explained this is just renaming two current positions.

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Richards, to approve the Ed Tech II job description

Motion approved unanimously

Total weighted votes: 701.38

CHAIR UPDATE

Jerry has been meeting via Zoom with T-Mobile who is rolling out a program nationwide for rural students. The program is similar to the Middle School Apple program. He met with the Rural Education Committee and is working with Susan Collins' Office on some initiatives.

DIRECTOR UPDATE

Beth reported the staff are doing all they can to support our students. She and Bobby are working with sending school administrators on the various approaches they are also taking to educate students. Bobby is meeting tomorrow with sending school principals on end of year plans. Beth discussed the issue of clinical hour's attainment of the high school CNA students. The state is allowing the students to fulfill their remaining 25 clinical hours through employment. The Adult Education Program is also dealing with the same issue of students getting their final clinical hours.

Joanne Richards announced that June will be her final board meeting (after serving sixteen years on the Region 8 Board).

ADJOURNMENT

Bob declared the meeting adjourned at 9:21 PM.

Next Board Meeting: May 27, 2020

Elizabeth Fisher, Board Secretary