

**REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING**  
**April 26, 2023**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on April 26, 2023.

**Those in attendance were:**

CSD	Bob Duke, Marcus Mrowka*, Lori Perez	(69.62/ea.)
Islesboro		(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Loren Andrews, Quixada Moore-Vissing, Joe Steinberger	(77.82/ea.)
SAD 40	Matthew Speno, Seth Hall, Randy Kassa, Danny Jackson*	(77.89/ea.)
SAD 7	Jerry White	( 7.49)
SAD 8		(24.58)
St. George		(54.68)

Bobby Deetjen, Director; Sherry Moody, Business Mgr.; Scott Browning, Asst Director; Kristy Hastings, Student Services Coord.

\*Attended via Zoom

**Absent** – Yvonne Thomas, Tori Manzi, Alane Kennedy

Bob Duke, Chair, opened the regular meeting at 6:04 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 839.19**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**ADJUSTMENTS** – None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION by White, seconded by Hall, to approve the minutes of the regular March 22<sup>nd</sup> board meeting

Quixada asked for an amendment to the minutes. She read aloud a phrase from the minutes regarding staff working with special education students. Matt suggested the wording “inadequate special education capacity” as a replacement.

MOTION by Speno, seconded by Moore-Vissing, to amend the minutes as stated

**Total weighted votes: 691.75**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Hall(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kassa(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kennedy(54.68): Absent</b>
<b>Manzi(69.61): Absent</b>	<b>Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Mrowka(69.62): Abst</b>
<b>Pearce(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Perez(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Steinberger(77.82): Abst.</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Absent</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

ORIGINAL MOTION by White, seconded by Hall, to approve the minutes, as amended

**Total weighted votes: 839.19**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Hall(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kassa(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kennedy(54.68): Absent</b>
<b>Manzi(69.61): Absent</b>	<b>Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Mrowka(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Perez(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Steinberger(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Absent</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

**FY22 AUDIT REPORT**

Fred Brewer discussed a handout that outlined the change in fund balance over the past few years. The reserve accounts have fluctuated depending upon projects and equipment needs. We are now at the highest reserves than in past years. Fred’s expectation is that we are spending the same amount as what we are depreciating in equipment. The fund balance is basically the same from FY21 to FY22. The state’s expectation is that fund balance should not exceed 9%. We are approximately \$230,000 over the 9% that the state expects. Seth asked about the cash on hand all being located in The First National Bank instead of being diversified over several banks. Fred suggested we talk to the bank about this issue and see what they say. Joe asked about the State Subsidy increase between the years 2018 and 2019. Fred explained that the State began paying state subsidy directly to Region 8.

MOTION by White, seconded by Hall, to approve the FY22 Audit report

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 839.19**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Hall(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kassa(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kennedy(54.68): Absent</b>
<b>Manzi(69.61): Absent</b>	<b>Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Mrowka(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Perez(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Steinberger(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Absent</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

**BOARD APPROVAL OF SKILLS USA TRIP TO ATLANTA, GA**

MOTION by White, seconded by Jackson, to approve the SkillsUSA trip to Atlanta, GA

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 839.19**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Hall(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kassa(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kennedy(54.68): Absent</b>
<b>Manzi(69.61): Absent</b>	<b>Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Mrowka(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Perez(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Steinberger(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Absent</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

**BOARD APPROVAL OF SCHOOL CALENDAR**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by White, to approve the 2023-24 draft school calendar

Loren commented that he feels the start time of schools really matters and it’s a very difficult issue to address. His board at RSU 13 will be discussing this topic tomorrow evening at their meeting. Bobby advised Camden did change their start time by an hour a few years ago. Our schedule does allow other districts to have later start times and not affect Region 8’s schedule.

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 839.19**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Hall(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kassa(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kennedy(54.68): Absent</b>
<b>Manzi(69.61): Absent</b>	<b>Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Mrowka(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Perez(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Steinberger(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Absent</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

## BOARD APPROVAL OF REVISED WAGE SCALE – CUSTODIANS

Bobby is asking the board to increase the wage scale for custodians this year. We had a resignation of a custodian and our wage scale is outdated. We are asking to increase the wage scale by \$1.50 so we can be competitive with other schools and businesses.

MOTION by White, seconded by Speno, to approve the revised wage scale

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 839.19**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Hall(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kassa(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kennedy(54.68): Absent</b>
<b>Manzi(69.61): Absent</b>	<b>Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Mrowka(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Perez(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Steinberger(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Absent</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### FINANCE

#### Warrants and Budget

Matt reported the committee met to sign warrants and discussed the March financial report. Fred Brewer attended and discussed the FY22 Audit report with the committee. Matt advised we will be inviting our First National Wealth Management advisor to our next meeting.

MOTION by Speno, seconded by Hall, to accept and approve the warrants for March and April.

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 839.19**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Hall(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kassa(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kennedy(54.68): Absent</b>
<b>Manzi(69.61): Absent</b>	<b>Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Mrowka(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Perez(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Steinberger(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Absent</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Seth Hall reported on the new Carpentry and the Baking and Pastry textbooks that were presented to the committee. The books are updated and better textbooks from what is currently being used. The committee also continued discussion about a Cosmetology program and where the State is with allowing schools to have this programming. Joe asked why the Board approves textbooks and feels he is not qualified to review textbooks. Danny asked that the policy be reviewed by the Policy Committee. Seth feels it is important for the board to know what textbooks are being used in a program. Quixada felt it's important that there are some kind of checks and balances but autonomy is given to teachers to select the text and the board can weigh in when needed. Seth asked that the Curriculum Committee be involved in looking at the current policy. Marcus also felt that board validation is important.

MOTION by Hall, seconded by White, to approve the Baking and Pastry and Residential Construction textbooks as presented.

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 761.37**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Hall(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kassa(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Kennedy(54.68): Absent</b>
<b>Manzi(69.61): Absent</b>	<b>Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Mrowka(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Perez(69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Steinberger(77.82): Abst.</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Absent</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

**DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Bobby reported the Osprey Nest Café' has been a huge success. The public has been excellent and the students are doing a fantastic job. On April 14, we hosted a Pen Bay Chamber breakfast and Senator Angus King was in attendance. Senator King toured the school and learned more about what we do at Mid-Coast. There were 80 people in attendance along with approximately 50 attendees via Zoom. Our CTE Exploratory teachers held a C02 car competition that occurred today. Our welding first year students asked to do a sculpture of an Osprey. Bobby felt it will be a two-year project as it is an eight-foot tree with an Osprey in a nest. The students are using recycled metal to do the project. Braden Luce has spearheaded the project and it attending the National Skills USA competition in June. Students visited Maine Maritime Academy today and we saw two former students at MMA. We have 35 new students being inducted into the National Technical Honor Society. The end of year student recognition is being held on May 25 at Owls Head Transportation Museum. Noah Rousseau is being honored as our representative to the MACTE Student of the Year event in Lewiston. Noah is a very gifted student who has earned a Maine Guide's license, along with Fire I and Fire II certification and his goal is to be a pilot.

Jerry updated the Board on his recent visit to Washington, D.C. as a member of the Rural Education Association. Matt discussed an upcoming workshop with the Roux Institute being held at Mid-Coast School of Technology on Saturday and at the Steelhouse on Friday.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Bob declared the meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Next Board Meeting: May 24, 2023

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Robert Deetjen, Board Secretary