

REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING February 28, 2024

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on February 28, 2024.

Those in attendance were:

CSD	Bob Duke, Tori Manzi, Marcus Mrowka, Amelia Grant	(69.62/ea.)
Islesboro		(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Loren Andrews*, Quixada Moore-Vissing*	(77.82/ea.)
SAD 40	Matthew Speno, Danny Jackson, Joshua Blackman, Seth Hall	(77.89/ea.)
SAD 7	Jerry White*	(7.49)
SAD 8	Yvonne Thomas*	(24.58)
St. George		(54.68)

Bobby Deetjen, Director; Sherry Moody, Business Mgr.; Scott Browning, Asst Director; Kristy Hastings, Student Services Coordinator; Fred Brewer, CPA; Danica Wooster, Teacher

*Attended via Zoom

Absent – Christopher Polky

Bob Duke, Chair, opened the regular meeting at 6:00 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 855.56**

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJUSTMENTS – Add Committee discussion to the agenda

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by White, to approve the minutes of the regular January 24th board meeting

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 699.85

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Blackman(77.89): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Grant(69.62): Yes	Hall(77.89): Abst	Jackson(77.89): Yes
Manzi(69.61): Yes	Moore-Vissing(77.82): Abst	Mrowka(69.62): Yes
Pearce(77.82): Yes	Polky(77.89): Absent	Speno(77.89): Yes
Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes	

FY23 AUDIT REPORT

Fred handed out a summary of expenses, revenues and fund balances for the past nine years. He discussed reserve accounts with a current balance of approximately \$1.5 million. Fred discussed many clients use reserve accounts as safety nets for future capital outlays. Keeping a strong reserve is important for planning building improvements. Danny asked how much is allowed in undesignated funds. Fred advised that the state currently allows 9%.

MOTION by Speno, seconded by Hall, to approve the FY23 audit report as presented

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 855.56

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Blackman(77.89): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
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Grant(69.62): Yes	Hall(77.89): Yes	Jackson(77.89): Yes
Manzi(69.61): Yes	Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes	Mrowka(69.62): Yes
Pearce(77.82): Yes	Polky(77.89): Absent	Speno(77.89): Yes
Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes	

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Warrants and Budget

Matt reported the committee met and reviewed the warrants for February and the January 31st financial report. Matt discussed the budget that will be presented to the board members at our March meeting.

MOTION by Speno, seconded by Jackson, to accept and approve the warrants for February and the financial report for January.

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 855.56

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Blackman(77.89): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Grant(69.62): Yes	Hall(77.89): Yes	Jackson(77.89): Yes
Manzi(69.61): Yes	Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes	Mrowka(69.62): Yes
Pearce(77.82): Yes	Polky(77.89): Absent	Speno(77.89): Yes
Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes	

POLICY COMMITTEE

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Blackman, to approve second reading of Policies GCFB-R – Recruiting & Hiring of Administrative Staff Procedures (Revised), GCOA – Supervision and Evaluation of Professional Staff (New), ILD – Student Surveys and Marketing Information (Revised), JE – Attendance (Revised), JICH – Student Drug & Alcohol Use (Revised), JIH – Questioning and Searches of Students (Revised), JRA – Student Education Records and Information (Revised), JRA-R – Student Education Records and Information Administrative Procedure (Revised), and KI – Visitors to the School (Revised)

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 855.56

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Blackman(77.89): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Grant(69.62): Yes	Hall(77.89): Yes	Jackson(77.89): Yes
Manzi(69.61): Yes	Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes	Mrowka(69.62): Yes
Pearce(77.82): Yes	Polky(77.89): Absent	Speno(77.89): Yes
Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes	

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The committee met and created a new job description for the Special Education teaching position.

MOTION by Manzi, seconded by Speno, to approve the Special Education CTE Teacher/Services Coordinator Job Description as amended

Danny asked about the term “Mid-Coast” programs and asked if the full school’s name should be used under lines 1 and 3. The board agreed to make this change.

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 855.56

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Blackman(77.89): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Grant(69.62): Yes	Hall(77.89): Yes	Jackson(77.89): Yes
Manzi(69.61): Yes	Moore-Vissing(77.82): Yes	Mrowka(69.62): Yes
Pearce(77.82): Yes	Polky(77.89): Absent	Speno(77.89): Yes
Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes	

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Danny reported the committee discussed the need for a regional CDL program. Heidi Nolan is having difficulty finding range space for training. He discussed some of the training requirements and the steps they must follow to start the program. The committee plans to meet monthly to discuss the CDL programming startup. Bobby advised the program would be shared between Five Towns CSD, RSU 40 and MCST. We are looking to partner with someone in the community for a class B program and borrow a CDL truck for training.

DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEES

Danny asked for a board discussion of committees be added to the agenda. He is concerned about some recent criticism of board committees. He would like board input on their expectations of committee work and if they felt committees are constructive. Tori felt that committees, especially the Curriculum Committee, are important in assisting the Administration in their research on programming and vision. Bob added that part of the issue began when he assigned a board member to a committee and he was upset by the assignment and chose to resign. Marcus felt that committee work is very important and takes the work load off the entire board. Tori proposed that the Policy Committee meet to expand committee descriptions. Danny thought each committee could discuss this as well.

DIRECTOR UPDATE

Bobby reported we are gearing up for SkillsUSA. We will be headed to Bangor March 14. Students begin competing at 6:00 AM. The Baking & Pastry competition lasts six hours and is very intense. Students have submitted 400 program applications as of today. Bobby discussed a potential aquaculture program with a two year curriculum. He will be sending more information to the Curriculum Committee. This past week, the Superintendent of St. George was on Fox Business This Morning and mentioned Mid-Coast School of Technology in his interview. Two of our instructors will be training on electric outboards this summer. St. George was also featured in the Wall Street Journal and two of our students were included in the article. Our teacher, Danica Wooster, was featured in a story by the DOE – Women in the Workforce –and Danica also was featured in “Fender Bender” magazine. Café is coming soon and board members will receive invitations via email. He suggested anyone interested in coming to café should make a reservation immediately upon receiving their invitation.

ADJOURNMENT

Bob declared the meeting adjourned at 6:49PM.

Next Board Meeting: March 27, 2024

Robert Deetjen, Board Secretary