

REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING

December 18, 2024

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on December 18, 2024.

Those in attendance were:

CSD	Tori Manzi*, Bob Duke, Amelia Grant	(69.62/ea.)
Islesboro		(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Loren Andrews, Paul Coster	(77.82/ea.)
SAD 40	Seth Hall, Matthew Speno, Danny Jackson	(77.89/ea.)
SAD 7	Jerry White	(7.49)
SAD 8		(24.58)
St. George	Chris Polky*	(54.68)

Bobby Deetjen, Director; Sherry Moody, Business Mgr.; Scott Browning, Asst Director; Kristy Hastings, Student Services Coord., Teachers: Laura Tracy, Jenna Blakey, Danica Wooster, J Bakley

*Attended via Zoom

Absent – Quixada Moore-Vissing, Yvonne Thomas, Taylor Pohlman

Bob Duke, Chair, opened the regular meeting at 6:01 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 660.33**

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJUSTMENTS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by White, to approve the minutes of the regular November 20th board meeting

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 605.65

Andrews(77.82): Absent	Coster (77.82): 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): Abs	Pearce(77.82): Yes
Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Polky(77.89): Abstain	Speno(77.89): Yes
Thomas(24.58): Absent	White(7.49): Yes	

REPORT TO BOARD ON ACTE VISION CONFERENCE

Scott reported he attended his first national ACTE conference in San Antonio, Texas with our School-to-Career teachers. They had an incredible experience interacting with other CTE teachers at the conference. [Andrews arrived 6:05 PM.] Jenna Blakey and Laura Tracy also attended and both spoke about what they learned including using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the classroom with students and what teachers in other states do to coach their students. The STC teachers found a lot of value in attending as a group and getting to know one another better. Scott spoke about how AI is taking off in the business world and how it can be used the right way in education. He gave some examples of how AI is useful for student assignments in CTE programs. Loren asked about AI and if we are at a “fledgling level” using AI. Scott agreed that we are in the beginning phases of using AI in the classroom. Bob asked what is the biggest issue in using AI. Scott advised the biggest barrier is adapting our educational system to use AI ethically.

UPDATE ON MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Bobby reported we have a meeting scheduled on January 2nd with the President of the Maine Community College system. We are proposing that the mid-coast area be moved into the SMCC geographic area. We are currently in KVCC's region but SMCC has shown a strong interest in partnering with us and potentially opening up a satellite campus in Rockland.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Warrants and Budget

Matt reported the committee met and reviewed the warrants for November and December and the November 30th financial report.

MOTION by Speno, seconded by White, to accept and approve the warrants for November and December and budget report for November.

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 738.15

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Coster (77.82): 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): Abs	Pearce(77.82): Yes
Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Polky(77.89): Yes	Speno(77.89): Yes
Thomas(24.58): Absent	White(7.49): Yes	

[Speno left at 6:30 PM]

POLICY COMMITTEE

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Jackson, to approve first reading of Policies GBGB – Workplace Bullying (Revised), Policy JKAA – Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion (Revised) and Policy JKAA-R – Procedures on Physical Restraint and Seclusion (Revised)

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 660.26

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Coster (77.82): 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): Abs	Pearce(77.82): Yes
Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Polky(77.89): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent
Thomas(24.58): Absent	White(7.49): Yes	

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Seth reported the committee met on December 10th and continued their conversation about the community college system. Also, they discussed the possibility of an entrepreneurial course track for adults relating to learning to run a business. Paul drafted a course outline for a potential program. He discussed the need for introducing fundamental concepts for people starting out in the business world. Seth felt local businesses should be invited in to give their input into a program. Bobby feels the concept has the potential to be a full-time high school program as well. Seth asked about a timeline for kicking off the program. Bobby felt the program could begin in the fall.

DIRECTOR UPDATE

Bobby reported we are running in-house student competitions this week in our programs. Our student application for the 25-26 school year opens on January 1. We have had some of our former students visiting the school this past week while on break from college. Bobby asked board members to contact

their Senators from Maine about the Social Security Fairness Act (S597). This Act will impact our teachers and we are hopeful that the bill will pass this time around.

ADJOURNMENT

Bob declared the meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Next Board Meeting: January 22, 2025

Robert Deetjen, Board Secretary