

REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING
March 25, 2026

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on March 25, 2026.

Those in attendance were:

CSD	Tori Manzi, Bob Duke, Amelia Grant	(69.62/ea.)
Islesboro		(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Loren Andrews*, Brad Choyt	(77.82/ea.)
SAD 40	Seth Hall, Julie Swindler, Danny Jackson	(77.89/ea.)
SAD 7	Jerry White	(7.49)
SAD 8	Yvonne Thomas*	(24.58)
St. George	Mike Felton*	(54.68)

Bobby Deetjen, Director; Sherry Moody, Business Mgr., Kristy Hastings, Student Services Coord., Scott Browning, Asst Director; J. Bakley, Danica Wooster, Laura Overlock

*Attended via Zoom

Absent – Matthew Speno, Nick Keeney, Taylor Pohlman

Bob Duke, Chair, opened the regular meeting at 6:00 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 762.73**

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJUSTMENTS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Jacksonl, to approve the minutes of the regular February 25th board meeting

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 738.15

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Yes	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Absent	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Abstain	White(7.49): Yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Employment [1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(D)]

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

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 762.73

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Yes	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Absent	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent

Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes
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Enter: 6:02 PM
Exit: 6:31 PM

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Bob appointed Brad Choyt to the Curriculum/Adult Ed Committee.

FY27 FINAL BUDGET PRESENTATION & BOARD APPROVAL

Sherry reviewed the draft budget with the board. The proposed budget has an overall increase of 1.72%. The revenues include use of \$239,000 of undesignated fund balance and reflects a slight decrease in state subsidy and a slight increase in the local assessment. The Adult Education budget remains flat with no increase in the local assessment request. Food Services revenues include use of \$14,736 in undesignated fund balance and a decrease in the local share. Seth commented that the local schools in the region were experiencing budget difficulties this year.

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Hall, to approve FY27 General Fund and Adult Education budget totaling \$6,640,357.00

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 762.73

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Yes	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Absent	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

MOTION by Swindler, seconded by Manzi, to approve the FY27 Food Services budget totaling \$272,836.00

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 762.73

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Yes	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Absent	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

SKILLSUSA UPDATE

Bobby reported forty-three students went to the Skills state competition in Bangor. Many students spent two full days at the event. Bobby applauded both Chelsea Moore and Scott Browning for their hard work. Students were very supportive of one another during the event. Once competitions wrapped up, students spent time at the Sports Arena. We had a number of students who won medals and six will be going to Atlanta for the national competition in early June.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Warrants and Budget

The committee met and reviewed the warrants for February and March and the February 28th financial report.

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by White, to accept and approve the warrants for February and March and the financial report for February.

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 762.73

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Yes	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Absent	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

POLICY COMMITTEE

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by White, to approve second reading of Policies EEBB – Use of Multifunction School Activity Buses (New/Revised) and JL – Student Wellness (Revised)

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 762.73

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Yes	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Absent	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

MOTION by Manzi, seconded by Swindler, to approve the revised Teacher job description

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 762.73

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Yes	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Absent	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Employment [1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A)]

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Swindler, 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 evaluation

Motion approved

Total weighted votes: 762.73

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
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Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Yes	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Absent	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Absent	Speno(77.89): Absent
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

Enter: 6:55 PM
Exit: 7:27 PM

DIRECTOR UPDATE

Bobby informed the Board that we are wrapping up the third quarter, finishing up student shadows and the Osprey Nest Café reservations are now open. We are running the café for three weeks this year. He also reported that Monique Moreau, our CNA teacher is retiring this year and we are currently advertising her position.

ADJOURNMENT

Bob declared the meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM

Next Board Meeting: April 29, 2026

Robert Deetjen, Board Secretary