

Subject: Minutes of the Union #93 Joint School Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2015

Time: 5:31 p.m.

Place: Penobscot Community School

School Committee members Present: Joe Spinazola (453), Temple Blackwood (453), Kathy MacArthur (453), Jan Snow (0), Ben Wootten (2675), Charles Tarr (186), Matt Freedman (186), Helen Condon (186), Brad Jones (186), Jerald Markley (252), Charles Brenton (252), Marlene Tallent (1465), Michelle Berger (0), Don Driscoll (0), Jim Goodman (252) arrived at 5:45pm

School Committee Members Absent: Sean Walsh (0), Annie Rice (0), Jim Lacasse (0), Anne Hayes-Grillo (252), Carla Hutchins (252), Monica Hardy-Torrey (0), Joan Welgoss (0), Gail Ladd (186)

Others Present: Mark Hurvitt, Allen Cole, Shelly Schildroth, Vernetta Bannister, Sheila Irvine, Heather Lanpher, Diana Stearns, Dawn Robbins, Susan Duddy, Richard Avery, Tevlin Schuetz (Reporter for Penobscot Bay Press)

1. Joe Spinazola called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

2. There was a flag salute.

3.A. Election of a Chair (currently Joe Spinazola)

Nominations were solicited from the Board by Mark Hurvitt.

A motion was made by Charles Tarr, seconded by Jerry Markley, to nominate Joe Spinazola as Chair. Joe Spinazola abstained from voting.

Ayes: 4103

Nays: 0

A motion was made by Jerry Markley, seconded by Temple Blackwood, to close nominations.

Ayes: 4103

Nays: 0

Joe Spinazola was unanimously elected as Chair.

3.B. Election of a Secretary (currently Marlene Tallent)

Nominations were solicited from the Board by Mark Hurvitt.

A motion was made by Kathy MacArthur, seconded by Joe Spinazola, to nominate Marlene Tallent as Secretary.

Ayes: 4556

Nays: 0

A motion was made by Temple Blackwood, seconded by Kathy MacArthur to close nominations.

Ayes: 4556

Nays: 0

Marlene Tallent was unanimously elected as Secretary.

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

A motion was made by Jerry Markley, seconded by Temple Blackwood, to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2015 meeting.

Ayes: 4556

Nays: 0

4. Communications

Mr. Hurvitt reported that the next meeting of the Union Board will be Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at 5:30pm at the Penobscot Community School

Continued on page 2

5. Comments and Questions from the Public:
None

6. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Jerry Markley, seconded by Temple Blackwood, to approve the agenda.

Ayes: 4556

Nays: 0

7. Old Business

None (Jim Goodman arrived at 5:45pm)

8. New Business:

A. Hire ½ Time Tech Coordinator

Mr. Hurvitt reported that Luke Allen left on June 30, 2015. Richard Avery started in the position on July 20. Mark gave a brief history as reported from Richard's resumé while giving the members a chance to read the resumé. He suggested the pay rate be \$21.85 an hour as a half time employee with the funds coming out of Title IIA.

A motion was made by Ben Wootten, seconded by Kathy MacArthur, to hire Richard as per Mr. Hurvitt's recommendation.

Ayes: 4808

Nays: 0

B. Technology Coordinator Report – Richard Avery

Mr. Avery stated that the Union 93 office is a great place to work. Setting up the new server has been a challenge. He suggested that the PowerSchool program be reviewed as 4 of the 5 schools are not really utilizing it. He'd be happy to discuss PowerSchool with Board members.

C. Hire Interim Curriculum Coordinator

Mr. Hurvitt explained that this is an interim position until June 30, 2016. He recommended Dawn Robbins and gave a brief history as reported from Dawn Robbins' resumé while giving members a chance to read the resumé. He recommended a pay rate of \$62,200.00 pro-rated starting November 18, 2015.

A motion was made by Temple Blackwood, seconded by Ben Wootten, to hire Dawn Robbins per Mr. Hurvitt's recommendation.

Ayes: 4808

Nays: 0

D. Special Education Director Report – Sheila Irvine

Ms. Irvine reported that percentages of identified students at our five schools are 15% and under. This is phenomenal. There are 170 students from Kindergarten through grade 12 who are identified as Special Ed or 504 students. Rtl is strong in all schools.

At this time, she fielded questions and stated that she feels there is a strong connection with Union 93 and the GSA Special Education program.

E. Affordable Care Act Update – Diana Stearns

Mr. Hurvitt presented a 2 page report that was prepared by Chris Stevenson of Drummond/Woodsum. Four schools may have to go to the "Exchange" in 2017 due to those towns having less than 50 employees. Diana Stearns commended Mr. Stevenson for his assistance. Jerry Markley commented that Drummond/Woodsum has done good work on the Affordable Care Act.

F. Sharing Resources Discussion (Brooksville Board request)

Charles Tarr reported that Brooksville and Penobscot are currently sharing teachers and coaches. They would welcome any thoughts on “economy of scale” and sharing resources. He suggested that a working group be formed – perhaps one member from each Board.

Joe suggested that this discussion be placed on the December 2015 Union 93 Board meeting agenda.

G. Union 93 Central Office Work Regulations – First Reading

Kathy MacArthur left at 6:14pm.

Mr. Hurvitt reported that the Union office has most recently been following the work regulations for the Penobscot Community School and would like the Central Office to have its own.

Discussion followed on the suggested changes for vacation time for current employees, medical insurance and sick bank.

There was also discussion on whether a Union finance committee should be formed to discuss Union 93 budget prior to being presented at the November meeting. This will be a December 2015 agenda item.

H. Presentation and Discussion of Preliminary Central Office Budget for 2016-2017

Mr. Hurvitt reported that they worked hard to keep the increase at 2.98%. Ms. Irvine’s increase would still put her one year behind the state average. Curriculum Coordinator and Technology Coordinator are paid through the Title IIA program. Two of the current employees would receive 80% of coverage for 2 adults if approved.

I. Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6)(D) for the Purpose of a Personnel Matter

1. Superintendent evaluation/discussion

A motion was made by Marlene Tallent, seconded by Jerry Markley, to enter Executive Session at 6:30pm.

Ayes: 4103

Nays: 0

Exited Executive Session at 6:48pm with no action taken.

9. Other Business:

None

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Temple Blackwood, seconded by Jerry Markley, to adjourn at 6:50pm.

Ayes: 4103

Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Vernette Bannister, Secretary