



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on August 12, 2008, at the Peter A. McKernan Hospitality Center at Southern Maine Community College in South Portland. The following members were present: Chair Ann Weisleder; Vice Chair Connie Goldman; James Carignan; Philip Dionne; Mabel Desmond; Marilyn Temple Tardy; James Banks, Sr.; Justin Chenette; and Honor Wilkinson. Excused: Jean Gulliver

Also present were: Commissioner Susan Gendron; Scott Brown, AIA, School Facilities; Harry Osgood, Higher Education Specialist; and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate.

CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Jim Banks, seconded by Marilyn Tardy, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the July 9, 2008 minutes as written. Note: Ann Weisleder, Chair of the Board requested one change of wording in her July 9 Chair report.

CONSENT AGENDA:

No Consent Agenda

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Note: Exhibit IV. C. SAD #32, New Ashland School Construction Project was moved to the first item on the Business agenda due to Ashland Exhibitor's flight arrangements.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; *DESIGN AND FUNDING APPROVAL CONSIDERATION*; SAD #32, NEW ASHLAND PREK-12 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

STATEMENT OF FACT: The new school will be constructed in Ashland, Maine, and house 350 students, grades preK-12. The project received Concept Approval on December 12, 2007. The subsequent referendum passed with a 95% vote in favor of the project.

A Phase I Site Preparation Design and Funding Approval for this project was approved by the State Board of Education on June 11, 2008.

The Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to MRSA Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

The basic design of the project and budget have not changed since Concept Approval, and it has met the needed criteria to move forward which will allow it to be bonded and constructed on schedule.

SAD #32 is requesting Design and Funding Approval for a new preK-12 school qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, and

- The SAD #32 proposed school construction project is eligible for school construction under MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 609;
- The proposed project and authorized method of financing are in the best interest of the State of Maine and SAD #32;
- The SAD #32 estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
- The SAD #32 proposed project is in compliance with MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 301, as it relates to special education facilities.

Project Information

Project: New PreK-12 School in Ashland

Superintendent: Dr. Gehrig Johnson

Principal: Bob Hennessey

Architect: Don Lewis, Lewis & Malm Architects

School(s) to be closed: Ashland High School and Ashland Central School

Project Budget Information

Concept Approval Date: December 12, 2007

Total Project Cost: \$22,057,929

Local Only (no State participation): \$1,720,928

Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$20,217,001

Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$120,000

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its meeting on July 25, 2008, the Construction Committee gained consensus to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #32 for a new preK-12 school construction project located in Ashland, Maine.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #32 for a new preK-12 school in Ashland, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the design and funding budget as presented.**

***This approval constitutes Design & Funding Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states: “Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time, the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.”*

MOVED by Jim Carignan, seconded by Marilyn Temple Tardy, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #32 for a new PreK-12 school in Ashland, Maine.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; *CONCEPT APPROVAL CONSIDERATION*; FALMOUTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, NEW FALMOUTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

STATEMENT OF FACT: The Falmouth School Department construction project was rated number 19 on the 2004-2005 Approved Projects List. The school will house preK-5 students. The new school will house all students from the Plummer-Motz School, the Lunt School, and grade 5 students that currently attend the Falmouth Middle School.

A complete New vs. Renovation Study is on file with the Department of Education. The study confirmed that a renovation on the existing school site would have resulted in a school with both vehicular safety problems and inappropriate play and student circulation issues.

The new building has been designed to high performance school standards. All state and local agencies have been contacted; and where necessary, documented approvals are on file.

The new school has been designed to house 917 students and is located on the same site as the high school and middle school. The initial plan is to build a new biomass boiler and to heat the new school and the high school with the same unit.

Falmouth will propose to the voters that the municipality raise \$5,946,472. If approved the town would share in the site development costs, a larger gymnasium, a larger cafeteria, larger music spaces, three additional classrooms, and small discovery rooms throughout the building. The town will also be asked to participate in sustainable energy projects and upgrades in outdoor athletic facilities.

This Concept Approval is being requested pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

The Falmouth School Department School Department is requesting Concept Approval for a new elementary school qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

Superintendent Entwistle has provided the following statement: The Falmouth community is so pleased to be in partnership with the Department of Education to design an effective and long-term solution for our elementary students (pre K – 5). Scott Brown and his DOE and state

associates have provided careful and excellent guidance to Falmouth's facilities team as we have navigated this very rigorous process. We are greatly appreciative of the support we have received on this project, as well, from Commissioner Gendron and from the State Board of Education.

A new pre-K through grade 5 elementary school for Falmouth resolves so many issues that have currently (and historically) negatively impacted both students and staff. The new elementary school additionally creates some wonderful new opportunities that were not foreseeable without this project. A "drive by" the Plummer-Motz and Lunt Schools in Falmouth might give the impression that our elementary students attend school in idyllic, historic and charming old school buildings. While indeed there are sections of each building that at least on the exterior fit this description, the larger sections of each of these buildings are either poorly constructed or temporary structures that have outlived their usefulness...presenting environmental and life-safety concerns, with deteriorating and/or obsolete physical systems along with inadequately sized/designed classroom and program space. The largest useable portion of the Lunt School, for example, consists of modular classroom units that have already exceeded normal 'life expectancy' for such temporary space. The campus that houses both the Lunt and Plummer-Motz Schools has inherent limitations which preclude full use of the available land and presents significant challenges to ensuring a safe and secure campus setting. Just outside, along one of the perimeter sides of this campus, is an intersection designated by the Maine Department of Transportation as a 'high crash zone' intersection.

Our 5th grade students were separated from the elementary school campus due to overcrowded conditions at Lunt and Plummer Motz and they were moved to the Falmouth Middle School (formerly the Falmouth High School)...the best solution at the time. The Falmouth Middle School has its own issues with overcrowding, deteriorating modular units and aging/ailing systems and structures. While the school community has made the best of this situation it has philosophically remained committed to inclusion of grade 5 as a key membership group of our elementary student population. The new Falmouth Elementary School will allow us to bring our 5th graders and their teachers back to join their respective elementary cohorts and there is great excitement about this future reunion! The movement of the 5th grade out of the middle school will also create some much needed relief in terms of reducing the overall population and space demands on an overburdened school structure that was originally designed for a high school population. Philosophically, the Falmouth school community believes in the tremendous value of offering a full-day program option for kindergarteners but we have been unable to offer full-day K because of the current space constraints in our schools. The Falmouth community is committed as well to offering programming on a Pre-K level but has not been afforded the opportunity to do so because of the unavailability of adequate and appropriate space. The new school will make both of these program options a reality!

The new Falmouth Elementary (Pre K – 5) School will be sited on the central school campus between the Falmouth Middle School and the Falmouth High School. This location makes both programmatic and practical sense and finally will bring Falmouth's students, Pre K – 12, together in a one-campus community. Through much effort and dedication of our faculty, many 'connections' among and between our elementary, middle and high school students have

been initiated and nurtured...reading buddies, mentoring programs, cultural awareness activities, performing arts demonstrations, service learning projects, etc...despite the physical separation created by the 2 campuses. With the placement of the new school, the challenges and inefficiencies associated with the multi-campus logistics go away.

Resolved also with one, central campus is the problem of program efficiencies being lost due to shared staff commuting between campuses. Add to this the new efficiencies gained in terms of sharing meeting and performance venues, centralizing student transportation to and from one campus, single campus maintenance and grounds-keeping, central food service distribution/coordination and even shared heating systems/back-up energy systems (planned as part of the construction project and funded as a local cost) and it is understandable why there is so much excitement and enthusiasm surrounding our new school planning.

Again, we in Falmouth are very grateful for this wonderful opportunity.

Project Information

Project: Falmouth Elementary School

Superintendent: George Entwistle

Principal: John Falherty

Architect: Rob Tillotson, Oak Point Associates

School(s) to be closed: Plummer-Motz School and Lunt School

Project Budget Information

Total Project Cost: \$46,234,545

Local Only (no State participation): \$5,946,472

Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$40,098,254

Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$189,819

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

At its meeting on July 25, 2008, the Construction Committee gained consensus to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Concept Approval to the Falmouth School Department for a new preK-5 elementary school construction project located in Falmouth, Maine.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Concept Approval to Falmouth School Department for a new preK-5 elementary school in Falmouth, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the concept budget as presented.**

**This approval constitutes Concept Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education *Rules for School Construction Projects*, which states: “*Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time, the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.*”

MOVED by Jim Carignan, seconded by Jim Banks, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Concept Approval to the Falmouth School Department for a new PreK-5 elementary school in Falmouth, Maine.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; *CONCEPT APPROVAL CONSIDERATION*; SAD #22, NEW HAMPDEN ACADEMY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

STATEMENT OF FACT: The Hampden Academy school project was rated number 17 on the 2004-2005 Approved Projects List. The project will house grades 9-12 and will replace the existing Hampden Academy.

A complete New vs. Renovation Study is on file with the Department of Education which supports the Department's recommendation to abandon the current Academy and construct a new high school facility.

All appropriate State and local agencies have been contacted; and where necessary, documented approvals are on file.

The building has been designed to High Performance standards and may be LEED certified. SAD #22 will construct a high school designed to house 800 students. The school system has gone through an extensive visioning process that involved both local and nationally recognized educational consultants. The result of the extensive planning is reflected in the design of the school.

The school system went through extensive work with both the Department of Transportation and the Town of Hampden. The efforts have resulted in a safe and functional site.

The building is very compact and has classrooms on three levels. The design accommodates the educational program while being very energy efficient. The building's location also has the advantage of completing a one-site campus within the town of Hampden. School officials and their architects have worked extensively with state personnel in the development of this proposal.

School Administrative District #22 will make a major effort. The school district proposes funds to build a 900 seat performing arts center, a larger gymnasium, larger science rooms, and a geothermal heating and cooling system.

Superintendent Rick Lyons has submitted the following statement: Hampden Academy and School Administrative District # 22 have a long and rich tradition of educational excellence. The district embraces innovation, displays a strong commitment to the whole child, and focuses on student learning and exemplary teaching.

The new 21st Century Hampden Academy will certainly advance the district's educational philosophy and initiatives. The performing arts center will greatly enhance the fine arts curriculum and provide the three communities a tremendous community center. The facility

will be responsive to the environmental components and the concept design being formulated will recognize current educational practices and standards that are research based. The educational specifications, a product of tremendous community input, specifically outline how philosophy and practice will intersect within the school setting.

Hampden Academy, given its strategic placement with the kindergarten to grade eight schools, will create a comprehensive K-12 campus. All schools within close proximity of one another will create a seamless learning continuum for all students and employees. As for the town of Hampden, it will positively redefine the infrastructure of the community.

SAD # 22's alternative plan has been approved, and as a result Hampden Academy will continue to provide superior educational opportunities for our three communities just like it has since it was formed in 1971.

This Concept Approval is being requested pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

School Administrative District #22 is requesting Concept Approval for a new high school qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

Project Information

Project: Hampden Academy
Superintendent: Rick Lyons
Principal: Ruey Yehle
Architect: WBRC Architects
School(s) to be closed: Hampden Academy

Project Budget Information

Total Project Cost: \$51,762,741
Local Only (no State participation): \$6,175,000
Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$45,382,741
Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$205,000

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its meeting on July 25, 2008, the Construction Committee gained consensus to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Concept Approval to SAD #22 for a new Hampden Academy construction project located in Hampden, Maine.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Concept Approval to SAD #22 for a new Hampden Academy in Hampden, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the concept budget as presented.**

**This approval constitutes Concept Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states: "*Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner*

establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time, the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.”

MOVED by Jim Carignan, seconded by Marilyn Temple Tardy, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Concept Approval to SAD #22 for a new Hampden Academy in Hampden, Maine.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; PHASE I SITE PREPARATION DESIGN AND FUNDING APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; CITY OF BREWER HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT, NEW PREK-8 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

STATEMENT OF FACT: The new school will be constructed in Brewer, Maine, and house 1,050 students, grades preK-8. The State Board of Education granted Concept Approval to the Brewer School Department project on October 10, 2007. That approval was amended on November 14, 2007, to reflect that the approval was given to the City of Brewer High School District, which is the correct title of the district. The subsequent referendum passed with a 90% vote in favor of the project.

The architect for this project is proposing that the project be bid in two phases. The proposed Phase I site preparation work is to be bid approximately three months prior to the bidding of Phase II. Phase I work would start in September 2008 and is estimated to be accomplished by the end of December 2008.

The rationale for doing Phase I separately is to eliminate one winter of working conditions, perhaps save on diesel and other fuel costs by working as soon as possible, and finishing the project approximately three months earlier than originally planned.

Phase I will consist primarily of site work including demolition, earth work, subgrade preparation, and major site utilities.

The total cost of the project is \$39,487,883. Of this it is estimated that Phase I will cost \$3,099,640. A detailed cost analysis has been prepared, reviewed and is on file at the Department of Education.

Project Information

Project: New Brewer PreK-8 School

Superintendent: Dr. Daniel Lee

Principal: Joan Staffiere

Architect: Steve Pederson, WBRC Architects

School(s) to be closed: Capri Street Elementary School, Pendleton Street Elementary School, State Street Elementary School, Washington Street Elementary School, and Brewer Middle School.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its meeting on July 25, 2008, the Construction Committee gained consensus to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Phase I Site Preparation Design and Funding Approval to City of Brewer High School District for a new preK-8 school construction project located in Brewer, Maine.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Phase I Site Preparation Design and Funding Approval to the City of Brewer High School District for a new PreK-8 school in Brewer, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the design and funding budget as presented.**

**This approval constitutes Design & Funding Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states: “*Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time, the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.*”

MOVED by Jim Carignan, seconded by Marilyn Temple Tardy, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Phase I Site Preparation Design and Funding Approval to the City of Brewer High School District for a new PreK-8 school in Brewer, Maine.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT CONCERNING THE REQUEST FROM LESLEY UNIVERSITY TO RENEW ITS CURRENT AUTHORIZATION TO OFFER ACADEMIC CREDIT PROGRAMS IN MAINE.

Background: 20-A MRSA, Chapter 409 provides that the State Board of Education may approve an application from a postsecondary educational institution located outside the State of Maine to offer within the State courses of programs for academic credit. Officials from Lesley University, located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, requested renewal of its current authorization to offer, in Maine, the degree of Master of Education in the areas of; Creative Arts in Learning; Technology in Education; Literacy; Language, Reading and Writing; Special Education, Pre-K-9; and Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

The Lesley University request has been reviewed in accordance with the rules established by the Board and evaluated through the use of standards adopted by the Board. Members of the Lesley University Review Team assessed this request, along with its supporting materials; met in Portland, on June 25, 2008, with Lesley University representatives; and subsequently developed its report of findings for Board consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education accept the Team Report recommendation and authorize Lesley University to continue to offer, in Maine, the degree of Master Education in the areas of; Creative Arts in Learning; Technology in Education; Literacy; Language, Reading and Writing; Special Education, Pre-K-9; and Teaching, Learning and Assessment. The period for approval would be from summer 2008 through summer 2011.

MOVED by Connie Goldman, seconded by Jim Carignan, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Approval for Lesley University to continue to offer the degree of Master of Education in the State of Maine.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT CONCERNING STATE APPROVAL FOR THE HUSSON COLLEGE MASTER OF SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

BACKGROUND: Husson College had requested a focused campus visit to review the following new educator preparation program:

- Master of School Counseling Program

The Husson College School of Education is currently program approved by the Maine State Board of Education. Although the State program approval visit is due to be conducted in the fall of 2008, the College requested that its Master of School Counseling Program be reviewed for State program approval in advance of the next approval cycle. To conduct this focused visit State team members were approved by the Board during its May 9, 2008 meeting and on May 30, 2008, the Review Team conducted an on-site visit for the purpose of evaluating the Husson College Master of School Counseling Program. Thereafter, the Team Report was compiled, shared with the applicant for an error check, and was distributed to Board members during the July 9, 2008 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education accept the Review Team recommendation and grant program approval to the Husson College Master of School Counseling Program. This program will be reconsidered, along with all other unit programs, during the College's fall 2008 State site visit.

MOVED by Jim Banks, seconded by Marilyn Temple Tardy, and unanimously voted by those present to grant program approval to the Husson College Master of School Counseling Program.

REPORTS

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Susan Gendron reported the following:

- That all budget request need to be in to the Budget office by September 1st.
- That if the Board plans to submit any Legislative Bills the first deadline is September 1st. The notice for Chapter 125 has already been submitted.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chair Weisleder presented the following report:

- That she has signed Certificates of Organization for two Regional School Units.

- That she attended and gave opening remarks at the Maine Diploma ceremony held at the Blaine House.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Marilyn Temple Tardy:

- No Report

Jim Banks:

- That he attended the NASBE New Board Member conference in Washington, DC. It was a very informative session.

Honor Wilkinson:

- No Report

Justin Chenette:

- No Report

Jim Carignan:

- No Report

Mabel Desmond:

- No Report

Connie Goldman:

- That the Certification committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 25th.

Phil Dionne:

- That he attended the Compact for Higher Education meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Jim Banks, seconded by Marilyn Temple Tardy, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the August 12, 2008, State Board of Education meeting at 4:03 PM.