



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 July 11, 2018 at the Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Wilson Hess; Vice Chair Jane Sexton; Amy Arata; Wendy Ault; John Bird; Fern Desjardins; Martha Harris; Jana Lapoint; and Jaylee Rice.

Excused: Liberty Ladd

Vacant: One Member

Others Present: Scott Brown, Director of School Construction Programs; and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair, Wilson Hess called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by student member, Jaylee Rice: The Vision of the State Board is to ensure Maine public school students graduate with the skills, knowledge, and principles to be responsible American citizens; self-directed and dedicated to making contributions to society by pursuing further education and employment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by John Bird, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to approve an errata item from the May 9, 2018 meeting that was inserted into the agenda and not included in the minutes. The item being Exhibit VI.L. "Request Approval of the Competitive George Briggs Grant Award".

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Fern Desjardins, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the June 13, 2018 minutes as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

School Construction Committee (Martha Harris):

The Construction Committee met on June 29, 2018, as scheduled.

- The Committee received two presentations and both will be coming before the full Board at the business meeting on July 11, 2018.
 - Eastern Aroostook RSU 39 revised concept approval
 - Major Capital School Construction site approval for South Portland
- The Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the full Board approve the revised concept approval for RSU 39 and site approval for South Portland.
- The Committee held a discussion about the integrated consolidated proposed priority list. Next meeting will have more detailed information on how the process is done.
- Received an update from Scott Brown on other projects on the protected list.

The next Construction Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 2018. The meeting will be held in room 300 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Certification and Higher Education (Jane Sexton):

The Certification and Higher Education Committee met on June 20, 2018, as scheduled.

- The Committee received a report from the Certification Office that as of June 20th - 30% of renewals have been completed.
- The Committee voted unanimously to have Boston University and Syracuse University reports go before the full SBE for approval at the August 14th meeting. The Board will vote to receive the reports on July 11th.
- A Public Hearing for Chapter 13: Qualifying Examinations for Teachers, Educational Specialists, and Administrators will be held on Monday, July 16th. Wilson Hess, John Bird and Wendy Ault will be the three Board members in attendance. The comment period will end on July 30th.
- Next meeting – Received two reports on University of Maine at Farmington, standards here in the state and standards from CAEP (Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation). The Committee received the state report in January and the CAEP report at the June 20th meeting.
- Wilson Hess transitioned out of the Certification and Higher Education Committee effective today, but will attend meetings when available. Jane Sexton’s role as chair of the Certification and Higher Education Committee will be a gradual transition.

The next Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, 2018. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Career and Technical Education (John Bird):

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee met on June 29, 2018, as scheduled.

- In 3 years of attending, John stated that this was the shortest meeting for CTE being one hour and ten minutes. It was a fairly routine meeting.
- The Committee reviewed the Perkins Grant which is a significant amount of money that comes through the State every year.
- The State Audit went well, field work was completed.
- Each CTE meeting agenda lists the goals set in the Board's strategic plan, which are: a greater portion of funds to go to instruction, doubling enrollment in CTE programs by 2020, introducing CTE instruction to middle schools, and working to better align secondary and post-secondary CTE offerings and programs. Progress is being made on all projects. Funds have been dispensed
- Process awarding money going forward – Perkins awards will be handled by the DOE with the Board already reviewing and approving awards.
- The Committee spent some time discussing alignment of secondary and post-secondary CTE. The Committee will be gathering people together from Community Colleges and Secondary Schools over the next few months.
- Transitioning of the CTE Committee - Wilson has asked John Bird to Chair the Committee. Jana Lapoint has agreed to continue serving on the Committee and Wendy Ault has joined the Committee.
- Jana Lapoint was not in attendance for the Committee meeting as she attended the summer program at Region 9 - Mexico. Jana visited on the last day (Friday) of the summer program, held the last week of June. Region 9 originally wanted 90 students in the program but had 48 students. Every school received notices of six programs originally scheduled and they ended up with five programs – approximately ten students in each program. They paid the teachers \$500 for 2 hours per day for 5 days. This included prep time and some of the teachers spent many hours preparing. Programs were:
 - Forestry and Wood Harvesting
 - Early Childhood
 - Culinary Arts
 - Carpentry – Building Construction
 - Automotive Technology

Examples:

- Automotive - Complete hands on for students all week - Learned how to change oil, change a tire, etc., and each student brought home a tool kit to use on their own at home.
- Carpentry/Building Construction – Students built dog houses to be given to a local animal rescue program, in their town, to be auctioned off. Made double tier wood planters that they got to take home.
- Culinary Arts – students got to take home a pizza plate and a bucket with instruments that they would need to make a pizza.

All hands on the entire week. Tool kits were provided by someone in the community. On the final day, parents and grandparents were invited to the school. There were 50 to 60 parents and grandparents in attendance. In every room, each student was talked about when they received their diploma for completing the program. Bringing in the entire community for what they were doing. T-shirts – Jana shared with Board members two of the t-shirts distributed to students displaying each program the students were in. Jana is going on Friday, July 15th to see the Bangor CTE Summer Program.

The next Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 2, 2018. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Legislative Action (Wilson Hess):

The Legislative Action Committee has not met as the Legislature is not in session.

Wilson’s hope is that the Board will work between now and September to develop some targeted/action policy issues that they want to focus on in advance of the legislative session. Sarah Forster’s presentation to the Board reminded members regarding speaking for the Board when you have a Board position from which to speak.

The Legislative Action Committee has been in search of a chair. Currently, the Committee consists of the Board Chair, Board Vice Chair and the Chairs of each Committee. It is open in the Board’s policy manual as to the appointments of members on the Committee. The Board will have general discussion on Committees at the retreat in August.

Jana Lapoint has volunteered to serve as chair of the Legislative Action Committee.

Legislative Update:

John Bird spoke about the Briggs grant and how the Board approved \$50,000.00 initially for the role for middle school summer programs.

Student Voices Committee:

Wilson Hess is taking the liberty of reactivating the Student Voices Committee. Engaged in the process of providing support for student members. Between now and the August meeting if members are interested in serving on the Student Voices Committee, please let Wilson know. Martha Harris has agreed to chair this Committee. Students are welcome to serve on other Committees of the Board as well.

Representative Positions:

- Jane Sexton will shift from the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Council to the New England Secondary School

- Consortium (NESSC)
- STEM Council position is vacant
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) position is vacant
- National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE)
 - Public Education Positions Committee is vacant
 - Government Affairs Committee is vacant

NEW BUSINESS:

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; REVISED CONCEPT APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; EASTERN AROOSTOOK RSU 39 NEW PREK-8 ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

STATEMENT OF FACT: Eastern Aroostook RSU 39 Superintendent of Schools, Timothy Doak requests that the State Board of Education approve the district's request for a REVISED Concept Approval for the new PreK-8, 750 student Elementary/Middle school in Caribou. This project will replace three school buildings in Caribou and be constructed in the heart of the community at Teague Park.

The project received State Board of Education Site Approval on October 12, 2016 and Concept Approval on December 14, 2016. The project was approved by local referendum vote on February 7, 2017. After receiving State Board of Education Design and Funding Approval on February 14, 2018, the construction documents were issued for bidding.

Due to increasing costs of materials, an extremely overloaded construction market, and limited bidding due to geographic isolation, the district received one construction bid which was much higher than estimates. Several options were immediately considered including the rebidding of the project, investigation of alternative delivery methods, and seeking a waiver of state statute regarding competitive bidding. All options above were ultimately rejected as there was no indication that any of those options would result in significant cost reductions and all would likely create additional costs by further delays in the completion of the project.

During the weeks of investigation of options after the bids were opened, the owner, architect, and Department staff continued to work closely with the contractor, Bowman Constructors of Newport, analyzing the bid they submitted. The parties identified a number of cost control items, some of which were permanently removed from the project. Other items were identified as essential but could be temporarily removed which allowed the owner to sign a construction contract with the understanding they would be added back after additional funding had been secured.

As a result, a construction contract has been initiated with Bowman Constructors and work has begun on the project. It is anticipated that the additional State/Local amount will be bonded through a separate issue in the Spring of 2019.

This REVISED Concept Approval is being requested pursuant to Title 20-A M.R.S. §15905(1) and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

Project Information

Project: RSU 39 New PreK-8 Elementary/Middle School

Superintendent: Timothy L. Doak

Architect: Alan Kuniholm, PDT Architects

School(s) to be closed: Teague Park Elementary, Hilltop Elementary and Caribou Middle

Project Budget Information

Total Project Cost: \$53,008,257 (\$4,865,722 increase)

Local Only (no State participation): \$2,527,423 (\$25,000 increase)

State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$50,480,834 (\$4,840,722 increase)

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner of the Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education grant REVISED Concept Approval to Eastern Aroostook RSU 39 for a new PreK-8 Elementary/Middle School in Caribou.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On June 29, 2018, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Revised Concept Approval for the RSU 39 new PreK-8 Elementary/Middle School in Caribou.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Fern Desjardins, and unanimously voted by those present to grant REVISED Concept Approval to Eastern Aroostook RSU 39 for a new PreK-8 Elementary/Middle School in Caribou.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; SITE APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; SOUTH PORTLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

STATEMENT OF FACT: Superintendent Ken Kunin requests that the State Board of Education approve a site in South Portland, Maine, for a new grade 5-8 middle school. The Mahoney Middle School rated 14th on the 2010-2011 Rating Cycle. The proposed new middle school will replace the existing Mahoney Middle School (grade 6-8) and the Memorial Middle School (grade 6-8). By including the 5th grade in the middle school it will allow space for Pre-Kindergarten classrooms and other educational needs at the City's five elementary schools.

The South Portland School Department hired WBRC Architects and Engineers to conduct a New vs. Renovations analysis of the existing Mahoney Middle School. The analysis was completed with a recommendation of new construction on a new site. WBRC then worked with the district and the South

Portland City Planner to identify potential school sites. Eighteen potential sites were identified and narrowed down to five using a site matrix which rated relevant criteria. The five potential sites were evaluated in much greater detail which resulted in the existing Memorial School site on Wescott Road clearly becoming the best option for the new middle school. The parcel is owned by the South Portland School Department and is adjacent to an existing elementary school.

The site is centrally located in the district and well established in the social context of the community. It benefits from good access and is well served by utility and transportation infrastructure. Site investigations and environmental analysis studies have been conducted and have not revealed any issues of significance. The new school can be constructed while the existing schools remain operational. A completed Site Application is on file with the Department of Education and meets all the applicable criteria of the State Board of Education's Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

In a public meeting on June 13, 2018, constructing a new facility on this site was endorsed by a straw poll vote of 151 in favor to 49 opposed.

Project Information

Project: South Portland Middle School

Superintendent: Ken Kunin

Architect: Michael Johanning and Ray Bolduc, WBRC Architects/Engineers

Schools to be closed: Mahoney Middle School and Memorial Middle School

Total number of acres: 17.25 acres

Purchase cost: N/A (district owned)

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner of the Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to the South Portland School Department for a Middle School construction project on district owned property.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On June 29, 2018, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to the South Portland School Department for a Middle School construction project on district owned property.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Site Approval to the South Portland School Department for a Middle School construction project on district owned property.

RECEIPT OF THE BOSTON UNIVERSITY REPORT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICATION TO OFFER CREDIT BEARING COURSES AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK-RELATED CLINICAL ROTATIONS AND FIELD PLACEMENTS IN THE STATE OF MAINE

BACKGROUND: Boston University is seeking authority to offer online academic courses and programs, credit and non-credit, in Maine and to offer health and social work related clinical rotations and field placements in Maine for both campus-based and distance programs offered by Boston University. On April 20, 2018, a review team chaired by Dr. Ellen Beaulieu of the University of New England, interviewed representatives from Boston University. Following the visit a report was generated and the Maine Department of Education submitted the document to Boston University to determine if errors of fact were present. Upon the return of the document, the Certification and Higher Education Committee discussed the contents at the June 20, 2018 meeting and voted unanimously to forward the report to the State Board of Education.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education receive the Boston University report of findings to offer credit bearing courses and health and social work-related clinical rotations and field placements in the State of Maine.

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the Boston University report of findings to offer credit bearing courses and health and social work-related clinical rotations and field placements in the State of Maine.

RECEIPT OF THE SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY REPORT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICATION TO OFFER CREDIT BEARING COURSES IN THE STATE OF MAINE

BACKGROUND: Syracuse University has been offering the Syracuse University Project Advance with Maine high schools. This dual enrollment program provided capacity building opportunities for participating high school teachers. Participating high school student receive college credit from Syracuse University, thus creating a physical presence in the State of Maine. On September 22, 2017, a review team interviewed representatives from the Syracuse University Project Advance and Edward Little High School personnel. The team was chaired by Dr. Joseph Atkins of Colby College. After the visit a report was generated and the Maine Department of Education mailed the document to Syracuse University to determine if errors of fact were present. Upon the return of the document, the Certification and Higher Education Committee discussed the contents at the June 20, 2018 meeting and voted unanimously to forward the report to the State Board of Education.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education receive the Syracuse University report of findings to offer credit bearing courses in the State of Maine

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the Syracuse University report of findings to offer credit bearing courses in the State of Maine.

CHARTER COMMISSION REPORT (Jana Lapoint):

- The Commission has no report this month.

REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE BILLS

Debra Plowman, Director of Policy and Programs, Department of Education, reported on the Bill Status of the 128th Legislature as of July 11, 2018. Debra had two handouts giving an update on each bill.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chair, Wilson Hess

- He attended the Commissioner's Conference at the Civic Center in Augusta on June 27.
- Wilson attended one day of the Maine Principals' Association (MPA) Summer Leadership Retreat at Sugarloaf. Most of the schools in attendance were rural schools and each school sent teams. The first day was presentations on concepts and the next day teams were working together.
- He thanked Martha, Jana, and Jane for work done so far as a transition team. The team will meet a couple times before the August Retreat.
- He met with staff of the Department of Education regarding the Board's budget.
- Wilson and Jane met with the Commissioner for an initial meeting as chair and vice chair of the State Board.
- He met with William "Billy" Thompson, Governor's Policy Advisor for Education, regarding scheduling a meeting with the Governor to discuss CTE secondary/post-secondary and other topics.
- He attended the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on June 20.
- He attended and chaired the Career and Technical Education Committee meeting on June 29. Also, attended the Construction Committee meeting and Agenda Review meeting with the Commissioner.
- Wilson thanked Board members for giving him the opportunity to serve as Chair of the Board.

Vice Chair, Jane Sexton

- She attended the Commissioner's Conference on June 27 and 28. Jane thought it was an excellent conference this year. She attended a Technology session and learned a lot of what is going on in the schools. Stephanie Fyfe did a great presentation on what you need to know about Certification. Jason Libby had a good slide show presentation on Higher Education. Glenn Cummings, President, University of Southern Maine and Steve Levesque, Executive Director of the Mid-Coast Regional Redevelopment Authority of Maine were on a panel discussion on

workforce needs – talking about employment and how to better align institutions with employers.

- Met with Wilson Hess and the Commissioner for an orientation to Chair and Vice Chair positions on the Board.
- She attended the Agenda Review meeting with Commissioner Hasson and Wilson Hess.
- Mary Becker created a map with locations that the Board has visited throughout the State. Jane received suggestions from Commissioner Hasson and Scott Brown regarding schools to visit this fall. Mary Paine will give her some suggestions on academic programs.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Jana Lapoint

- Jane Sexton did a great job reporting out on the Commissioner's Conference that Jana attended as well.
- On June 20, she attended the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting.
- She visited Region 9 – Mexico CTE Summer Program and reported out during the CTE Committee report.

Fern Desjardins

- She attended the Commissioner's Conference on June 27 and 28. Fern thought the conference was very well done.
- She worked with Tyler Backus, School Finance and Operations Coordinator, DOE; Superintendent Heather Perry from Gorham; Assistant Superintendent from Lewiston; Business Manager; Special Education Director; and herself as a retired Superintendent to work on language for disadvantaged rule – funding for disadvantage kids - free and reduced kids. They are looking for suggestions on what to put into the rule. They shared ideas of summer successes with programs and tutoring.

John Bird

- He attended the Commissioner's Conference on June 27. Last one he attended was two years-ago in Bangor. John found more energy in the room than previous years. Duke Albanese's presentation was great - planning is always good advice. Don't put in a plan anything you don't intend to get done. John had a side-bar conversation with Duke that was very interesting. The Board was very well represented at the Conference this year.
- He attended the CTE Committee meeting on June 29.

Wendy Ault

- She attended the Commissioner's Conference on June 27 and 28.
- She has been on vacation since June 29.
- MELMAC Foundation notified 18 applicants that will receive \$18,000.00 to work on Best Practices. Innovation grant for \$20,000.00 to six applicants.

Amy Arata

- She attended the Construction Committee meeting on June 29. She found it very interesting to hear about the challenges that remote school districts have regarding the cost and access of materials along with the cost for winter projects.

Jaylee Rice

- She attended the Commissioner's Conference on June 27 and 28. She really enjoyed it and was specifically interested in the Legislative update.
- She is working at a Credit Union.
- She has been doing summer homework for 4 AP classes she is taking.
- She passed the AP test that she took last year

Martha Harris

- She attended the Commissioner's Conference on June 27 and 28.
- She attended and chaired the School Construction Committee meeting on June 29.
- She attended her last Agenda Review meeting with Commissioner Hasson.
- On July 2, she participated in the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) By-Laws Committee meeting via conference call.
- Educate Maine will receive the Friends of Education Award at NASBE's National Conference in Denver, Colorado in October.

TWO PRIVILEGED MOTIONS:

The Order of Agenda is established in the SBE policy manual. With discussion at the workshop session, Chairman Hess suggested for the August 14, 2018 Business meeting only, that the "public comment" item be moved to the beginning of the business meeting. If an opportunity for public comment is there, it should be at the beginning of the meeting and can have a limit of time for public to comment.

MOTION by Wilson Hess, seconded by Amy Arata, and voted unanimously by those present to make a change in the business meeting agenda on August 14, 2018 meeting only – change being to move the item public comment to the beginning of the agenda before the committee reports and after approval of the minutes.

MOTION by Jane Sexton, seconded by Wilson Hess, and voted seven in favor with one member abstained (Martha Harris) to create a new title designating Martha Harris as a chair emerita status for the Board. Martha can use the title when she mentors student Board members and other roles she is volunteering for.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION by John Bird, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and voted unanimously by those present for the Board to go into executive session to discuss a student transfer appeal at 2:48 PM.

The Board returned to the regular business meeting at 3:12 PM.

STUDENT TRANSFER APPEALS:

MOTION by Amy Arata, seconded by Jane Sexton, and voted five in favor with three members opposed (Wendy Ault, John Bird, and Fern Desjardins) to overturn the Commissioner’s decision in the approval of a transfer for RL. The transfer is denied.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary Becker at the end of this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- No public comment

ADJOURNMENT:

The July 11, 2018 State Board of Education meeting adjourned at 3:14 PM.