

Maine School Administrative District No. 35
Board of Directors – Regular Meeting Minutes
Marshwood High School – Learning Center
Wednesday, – April 3, 2019 - 7:00 PM

Present: Mrs. Keri Tice, Chair, Mr. Joe Long, Vice Chair, Mrs. Susan Berman, Mr. Paul Stanley, Mr. Matt Taylor, Mrs. Lisa Flynn, Ms. Katie Taran and Dr. Mary Nash.

Also present: Mr. John Caverly, Mr. Ryan Cormier, Ms. Katherine Barber, Mr. Paul Mehlhorn, Mr. Anthony Bourbon, Mr. Jerry Burnell, Mrs. Maureen Goering, Mrs. Nina D’Aran and interested members of the public and press.

7:00PM Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Scheduled Audience to the Public - None

Opportunity for Public Input on Items Not on the Agenda - None

Requests to address the Board on matters not on the agenda must be made to the Superintendent and must set forth the specifics of the subject to be addressed.

Public input for Budget Priorities

Members of the public are invited to present to the Board their budget priorities and concerns at the beginning of each Board meeting. No advance notice to the Superintendent is required to provide input to the Board during the budget process. All efforts will be made to answer specific budget questions at the time the question is asked. If there is a need to research the answer to your question, the question will be restated and answered at the beginning of the next regularly scheduled board meeting. The Board meetings where the budget will be discussed are: March 20th, April 3rd, and April 24th. Before each of these meetings the Board will convene a budget workshop in the Learning Center at Marshwood High School from 5 - 7 PM to review each of the District’s cost centers in detail. A fourth budget workshop has been scheduled for May 1st if needed.

Report of the Secretary:

1. Consideration and action to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

Motion: Mr. Long Second: Mr. Stanley Vote: 6:0

Report of the Chair:

1. Town Officials Meeting – Mrs. Tice reported the next Town Officials Meeting is scheduled for April 10th at 8:00 a.m. at the Superintendent’s Office.
2. Highlights of the Budget Workshop – Mrs. Tice provided the highlights for the Budget Workshop for the elementary schools. She stated over all budgets are remaining much the same at each school. Mrs. Tice reported there are some shifts in personnel, as noted by Dr. Nash in her recommendation, due to increases in enrollment. She reported the supply lines remain the same. Mrs. Tice stated there are some shifts between the grade levels by adding a half time PreK teacher and two third grade teachers one at Eliot Elementary School and one at Central School.
3. Mrs. Tice reported the announcement was issued this week that John Caverly will be the district’s new superintendent as of July 1, 2019. She stated the Board worked very hard to choose someone who would lead the district going forward. Mrs. Tice wished to thank the Advisory Committee that assisted the Board as their input was invaluable. Mrs. Tice stated the Board is looking forward to working with Mr. Caverly.

Report of the Superintendent:

1. Proficiency Based Diploma Task Force Recommendations - Dr. Nash reported last fall to the Board and to the community that she would be convening a Proficiency Based Diploma Task Force in light of changes in Maine law shifting the design of graduation requirements to local school districts. She stated several years ago the state passed a law requiring all districts to implement a standards based diploma for the Class of 2021 and beyond. She stated the district worked hard in this regard and developed graduation requirements based on standards as outlined in the current Board policy *Graduation Requirements [IKF] (for the Class of 2021 and Beyond)*. Dr. Nash stated to delineate these requirements, our teachers and administrators worked tirelessly to unpack the standards, organize the work into scopes and sequences, created units of study and common assessments in each learning area. She said this is the strong foundation upon which we need build our future efforts!

Dr. Nash reported last spring, the legislature changed the law to allow districts to either continue with a proficiency based diploma, return to a credit based diploma or create a hybrid model using the best elements of the standards based work and the credit based system.

Dr. Nash was pleased to report that the Proficiency Based Diploma Task Force has recommended that our district combine the best elements of the standards based diploma work and the credit based system. She stated this means that the work the district has done over the past several years can continue to flourish as the district endeavors to make clear to our students and their families what constitutes proficient work and what a student would need to do to perform at proficient levels. Dr. Nash said this also means that not much will change from either the students’ point of view or from the parents’ point of view in terms of how we grade student work from what we do now.

Dr. Nash stated this sensible approach also means that the district would continue to provide our students and their families with feedback on their work habits in developmentally appropriate ways. In an effort to provide feedback to our students and their parents that is well defined and

coherent from grade level to grade level, the Task Force recommends that each school continue to review and revise the work habits upon which they will provide feedback and the rubrics upon which their feedback is based.

Dr. Nash stated these two indicators taken together are paramount in providing students and their families with information around exactly how well a student is performing in each content area and how well they are honing the work habits that will serve them well into adulthood.

Some highlights of the Task Force's recommendations include:

- Required courses are identified by name rather than just as "experiences"
- The World Language requirement under the standards based diploma law is recommended to be an elective rather than a required set of courses
- Students must successfully demonstrate proficiency or standards *and* demonstrate acceptable work habits in all required coursework for graduation
- Students with disabilities will be expected to meet all graduation requirements as stipulated in their Individual Educational Plan to meet required credits in specific content areas
- Should the state mandate testing in one or more subject areas, students will need to participate in all such tests as a requirement of graduation

Dr. Nash stated last week the Board's policy committee reviewed the revised *Graduation Requirements [IKF]* and asked her to place the revised policy on the Board's agenda for tonight's meeting for a first reading. It is important to note that the newly revised *Graduation Requirements [IKF]* will replace the former Board policy for the Classes of 2021 and beyond but it will not replace the Board's original policy for the Class 2019 or 2020 which will expire in June 2020.

Dr. Nash thanked the QEA members and the administrators who served on the Proficiency Based Task Force. She believes the recommendations they have put forward will serve the district well in the future by clearly outlining the Board's expectations for graduation.

2. Resignation of Lisa Greenblatt, MMS Gifted/Talented Teacher – Dr. Nash reported she recently received notice from Lisa Greenblatt of her intention to resign her position at the end of the current school year. Lisa has worked in the district for the past 13 years as the gifted talented/AVID teacher. The district thanks Lisa for her many contributions to our middle and high school students over the years.

Transition to Retirement: Sue Berg – Dr. Nash reported she also received notice from Sue Berg, who is affectionately known as the payroll master, of her intent to transition to retirement. Our vision would be for her to stay on as a payroll consultant coming in on an as-needed basis while also utilizing her vacation time beginning July 1, 2019. Once her vacation balance is completely exhausted, she will retire from the District. The district wishes Sue well during her transition into her retirement.

3. Student Report – Ms. Taran reported Tuesday April 9th is Everything Day. She stated each class will do different things. The freshman class will participate in activities that will raise career awareness and community service. Ms. Taran stated the freshman will first meet in small groups

and then will speak with Marshwood Alumni, asking them questions about their high school experience on how their classes and extracurricular activities prepared them for their current careers. Ms. Taran reported the freshman will meet with Ed Cervone from Educate Maine and who will speak about job opportunities. The students will take a survey to match their interests for some potential careers. Ms. Taran stated the last presentation will be with large companies from the area for potential employment opportunities offered and maybe of interest. She reported the afternoon session the freshman will be providing community service in the South Berwick area. Ms. Taran reported the sophomores will be visiting either 2 year community colleges or 4 year colleges based on their choice of careers. She reported the juniors will be taking the SATS and will be updating their college board accounts on their post high school plans. Ms. Taran reported the seniors will be meeting on graduation activities, opportunity to register to vote for those that are eligible and attend a financial fitness fair which allows them to manage a virtual budget based on a career of their choice. She stated they will have a presentation by Think First and for the afternoon session they will also be providing community service. Ms. Taran reported the Math Team competed in a state meet on Tuesday, placing 7th overall. She reported that Noble Mushtak and Stephen Rezack both received perfect scores. Noble Mushtak is ranked number two overall in the state and will mostly likely be going on to the Nationals. Stephen Rezack is ranked number three overall in the state. Mr. Graunke, Math team coach, is very pleased. Ms. Taran reported this Sunday, April 7th at 1:00 p.m., the percussion team will be performing.

Correspondence – Mrs. Tice reported receiving notice from David Graichen that MHS will be hosting the Maine Band Directors' Association Winter Guard and Percussion Finals on April 7th at 1:00 p.m. Mrs. Tice stated it is a great performance.

Report of the Committees:

1. Report of the Finance and Facilities Committee – Mrs. Tice reported the next Finance and Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for April 24th.
2. Report of the Educational Policy Committee – Mrs. Tice reported the Educational Policy Committee met on March 27th for the review of the policy, Graduation Requirements-IKF (Graduation years 2021 and beyond). She stated the first read for this policy is on tonight's agenda.

New Business:

1. Consideration and action to approve *first reading and discussion of Graduation Requirements – IKF (Graduation years 2021 and beyond)*.

Motion: Mr. Stanley

Second: Mrs. Berman

Vote: Yea: 6 Nay: 0

Additional comments:

Mrs. Flynn stated she has been a panelist at Berwick Academy's Innovation Celebration for the last five years. She is not able to attend this year and had spoken to the administrator at Berwick Academy who would be very happy if someone from the district, board member, administrator or

teacher, particularly from the high school level would be interested in attending in Mrs. Flynn's place. Mrs. Flynn stated she has forwarded the email to Vicki Stewart with the details and asked to her to forward to members of the District.

Mrs. Tice highly recommended attending the MHS Musical.

Administrators:

Mrs. Goering thanked Matt Taylor for help pouring sap. She stated the students had a lot of great questions and the students had a lot of great answers. The 3rd grade concert was held on Tuesday night. She stated it was phenomenal. The finale was the entire 3rd grade class playing ukuleles and the song "Stand By Me".

Mrs. D'Aran reported over the last few weeks each grade has had their concerts as well.

Mr. Bourbon reported the MMS lacrosse teams have begun with 19 boys and 19 girls forming this seasons teams. He reported the 2nd annual Allied Art night inviting all the incoming 6th grade students that will be entering in the fall. This is to let them know about the elective and exploratory program. The teachers take time with the parents and explain about the program that is offered. He stated they had 100 parents and it was a very successful and well organized.

Mr. Burnell wished to thank the Interact Club with their assistance at the recent pancake breakfast. Last week they held Artist Night with students showing off their artwork and performances. He reported the upcoming 5th grade play, "The Grunch" will be this Thursday

Mr. Mehlhorn reported the MHS musical will be performing this weekend. He reported the junior class today held future planning for them to think about what they want to do after graduation.

Adjournment

Motion: Mrs. Flynn Second: Mr. Taylor Vote: 6:0

The Board adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Attest: True Record



Dr. Mary C. Nash
Superintendent of Schools