

Our Mission is to prepare and support all students within a culture of excellence to do their best and to be their best, so that each can be a successful contributing citizen, able to adapt to change and to successfully respond to the future.

**RSU #16**  
Mechanic Falls \* Minot \* Poland  
**The 9th Regular School Board Meeting**  
for 2013–2014 was held  
**Monday, March 10, 2014**  
**6:30 P.M.**  
**Poland Regional High School, Library**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Jennifer Boenig, Melissa Hodgkin, Steve Holbrook, Tina Love, Mary Martin, Aaron Ouellette, Ed Rabasco, Julie Rioux, Scott Sawyer, Scott Tiner,  
**Absent:** Grace Gendron, Annette Hemond, Mary Ella Jones, Kylie Martin, Joe Parent, Jack Wiseman, Delaney Woodford

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** Mary Martin, Chair, Pledge of Allegiance  
Mary Martin called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a reading of the mission statement.
- 2.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**  
Dennis Sampson from the Androscoggin County Sherriff's Department spoke regarding the facilities use policy. Public safety is an issue that should be looked at, capacity, egress, parking capacity, access for emergency vehicles, etc. With the cheering competition this past weekend at the high school, there were several issues with parking and emergency doors were blocked. These issues should be considered when discussing this policy.
- 3.0 RECOGNITIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**  
**Congratulations to Cari Medd** – Maine Principal of the Year.  
Tina Meserve spoke of Cari's accomplishments since 1999. Her vision of student-focused standards-based learning that has gained us recognition. The NEASC visiting team was very complimentary of Cari's leadership being thoughtful and respective, the shared leadership model and a well-maintained vision. She attends a lot of meetings, budget and policy meetings helping out at all levels of the district.  
**Congratulations to Delaney Woodford, Valedictorian** and February Optimist Club Student of the Month  
**Congratulations to Renee Reid, Salutatorian.** Mary Martin said she has known Renee since she was five years old and she continues to be a strong student, and we are very proud of her.  
**Congratulations to C. J. Martin** – Pierre Harnois Award for the MVP  
**Congratulations to Matt Rabasco** – State Champion for Long Jump  
**Congratulations to Emily Bolduc** – 989 Career/School Points  
**Congratulations to Hannah Mickool** – Winner of the oratorical contest, 2<sup>nd</sup> to **Maddy Tiner**, 3<sup>rd</sup> to **Olivia Longchamp**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- 4.0 AGENDA ADJUSTMENT:**  
**5.0 PRESENTATION:**  
NECAP – Tina Meserve explained that in keeping with the strategic plan, we are getting more detailed reports out to the board. She reviewed the NECAP reports and explained how to read them with our scores compared to the state scores, the grade level and sub-group breakdowns.

**6.0 ACT ON MINUTES:** Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of 02/10/14

Motion: by Steve Holbrook to accept the minutes of the February 02/10/14 meeting

Seconded: by Tina Love

Vote: Unanimous

**7.0 ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Approve Financial Statement of Feb. 2014

Motion: by Steve Holbrook to accept the financial statement of February 2014

Seconded: by Melissa Hodgkin

Vote: Unanimous

Tina said things are looking good and on track with what is left in the budget. Our ending numbers are ahead of projection.

Scott Sawyer asked about page 23; student and staff support, charter commission. Tina explained it is the 3% fee we have to pay to the charter commission that is approving the charter schools.

On page 33 principal cost/bus loan/lease purchase: how could we underestimate the line if we know what the loan payment is for the year. Tina wasn't positive on this so she will find out.

**8.0 OLD BUSINESS:**

**9.0 NEW BUSINESS:** Approve out of state trip - Gran Turismo of colleges in Massachusetts & Rhode Island – Cari Medd reviewed the trip (see handout) for stats

Motion: by Steve Holbrook to approve the Gran Turismo out of state college visit trip

Seconded: by Scott Sawyer

Vote: Unanimous

Entertainment question: mini golf, a movie, mainly to keep them busy. 44 fit on the bus

Approve 2014 – 2015 School Calendar

Motion: by Scott Sawyer to approve the 2014-2015 school calendar contingent on changes to the LRTC calendar, with the understanding that Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> could be added back in as school days

Seconded: by Steve Holbrook

Vote: Unanimous

Tina explained that our calendar has to be aligned with LRTC; we can only be off by 5 days. We are off in October and March for student-led conferences. We do provide a bus to LRTC on those days so kids aren't missing school because we aren't in school. The December vacation isn't firm; there is still a chance we could be in school on Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Scott Sawyer asked why the admins have concerns about two weeks students being off. Cari Medd said two weeks away from school during the holidays is not necessarily a good thing for some kids. Scott also wanted to know if we could ask LRTC to let us know when their calendar is final so we can finalize ours.

Melissa Hodgkin asked about our early release days and LRTC. Cari said we had to work with them and adjust lunch and adjust the busses, but we made it work.

**10.0 POLICIES:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

- KF – Use of School Facilities and Grounds
- KF-R – RSU #16 Facility Use Guidelines

Kim Brandt read the handout about the school board's responsibility for the development of policy as guides for administrative action and a clear duty to be fiscally responsible. Kim received a phone call from a resident in Minot whose viewpoint was that taxpayers support our schools so they already give us money and they shouldn't have to purchase their own liability insurance to use our facilities. Kim explained the reasoning and he did not agree with her.

Jen Boenig asked what it would cost a group to get liability insurance. Kim Brandt talked to a few organizations, but no one provided a quote without filling out all the paperwork. One of her colleagues gave an estimate of about \$200-\$300 per year for a small group.

Minot Hebron Athletics covers kids with their liability insurance, but not adults.

Tina Love asked how the policy was developed in terms of involving the public community groups. Kim and Don explained that there was no formal public discussion, but there were a few groups he spoke to. Some were opposed. We relied on what other schools are doing from the Maine School Management Agency. Mary Martin said she found that some people were worried about things that were just misunderstood. Aaron Ouellette spoke to a lot of people in Mechanic Falls, including the PTO. There were initial concerns about the fee schedule, but once it was explained they were open to it.

Scott Tiner asked about the smaller groups. Unless they are under the umbrella of the town's liability, they would have to get their own liability insurance.

Jen Boenig explained that the policy is not about making money, it is about protecting ourselves.

Mary Martin asked Don about pick-up basketball games during winter break. He has spoken to Scott Seagal at Poland Rec and he is working on having some groups. People who do not go through Poland Rec or Adult Ed or the PTO would have to get their own liability insurance. PTA has liability insurance, but the PTO does not. Minot Community Club does not have liability insurance. Tina Love asked how often the gyms are used. Tony Bennett has the list. Don King said the facilities are used a lot. Tina Love asked for a copy of the list.

Tina Love added that it is important to really present this and explain how it's going to impact people and groups.

Tina Meserve explained that she had a conversation with the sheriff this morning about the cheering competition held here last weekend. Fire lanes and fire hydrants were all blocked. The gym had 1,200 people in it and capacity for that event is 750. Doors were blocked. They had to stop the competition, get things cleared out and it was concerning. He wanted to know what the facilities use policy was. Something could have happened that could have reflected poorly on us, even though it was the Recreation Department using the facility. They were caught off guard by how many people showed up for this event.

Kim Brandt said we need to add that for a large event you have to have a police presence and pay the cost of that. Mary Martin said we do have another facilities meeting before we vote on this policy.

Cari added that much of this policy is already in place at the HS for the most part, but there is inconsistency across the district and schools.

Steve asked about pets on school property and if it could be re-worded. His dog is always in his truck.

Rick Benoit said he has asked people to start providing liability insurance. Only two occasions did they not have it and they did not use the facility.

Tina Love asked where the fees collected would go. Kim said it would cover the cost to offset having the groups here, paint for fields, etc.

Tina Love asked if our current liability insurance covers any groups. Yes, all school sponsored groups including co-curricular activities and adult ed classes.

Tina Love asked what the best avenue was for the public to provide input on this. Mary Martin said they can talk to her or they can come to public participation.

## **11.0 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION – REPORTS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

ATeam Reports

Spring musical is coming up at the high school this week, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM and Sunday at 2:00 PM

PCS – thanks to the PTA for their donation on the playground repairs.

Holly Day was asked about the state audit and the April 1<sup>st</sup> site visit. Holly said the state would audit 10% of our files.

Tech News for the first time.

Scott Tiner asked what we are doing with Angie T. out; Laura Parks is subbing as admin.

## **12.0 REPORTS TO THE SCHOOL BOARD:**

**Report of the Student Representative – N/A**

### **Sub-Committees:**

Educational Policy – Minutes attached

Facilities & Transportation – Minutes attached

Personnel & Finance – Minutes attached

### **Report of the School Board Chair**

- Superintendent's Evaluation Committee – Get out a survey the first week in May. Need a subcommittee formed to work on that. Joe Parent, Mary Martin and Scott Tiner.
- Board member's term expiration – Jack, Ed and Joe. Ed and Joe are going to run again, we hope Jack is going to also.
- Board member's re-election – Scott Tiner and Julie Rioux
- Board elections -
- Meeting dates revised – Mary Martin provided a handout of meeting dates and changes. The board workshop meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> will be rescheduled. Next board meeting is April 28<sup>th</sup>. There are no subcommittee meetings in April, but Mary encourages everyone to attend the public informational meetings.

### **Report of the Superintendent**

- Discuss possible draft of FY'15 budget – We are not ready to propose a draft budget tomorrow night. We will talk about the 279 reports from the state, it looks promising.
- Minot Consolidated – High Performance Reward School – see letter
- Support Staff Hire:  
Tammy McCarthy, PreK Ed Tech 11 – PCS
- Resignation:  
Joanne Cook, Literacy Specialist – PCS
- Newsletter – February 2014
- National History Day at Whittier on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to attend.

### **13.0 COMMUNICATIONS:**

Communications to the School Board

### **14.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

To enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (A) to consider a grievance(s).

Motion: by Steve Holbrook to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (A) to consider a grievance(s) at 8:13 p.m.

Seconded: by Tina Love

Vote: Unanimous

### **15.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: by Steve Holbrook to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Meserve