

AOS 96
Superintendent's Office
291 Court Street
Machias, ME 04654
(207) 255-6585

**Minutes
Machias School Committee
Wednesday, February 8, 2017
Superintendent's Office
4:30 PM**

Attendance: Terry Sanborn, Teresa Saddler, Gerard NeCastro, Richard Shaw, Joleen Nicely.

Others Present: Dr. James Whalen, Joyce Fragale, Mary Maker, Mitchell Look, Scott Porter.

I. Call to order at 4:32 p.m. by Terry Sanborn.

II. Approval of the minutes of January 11, 2017.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the minutes of January 11, 2017.
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 5-0.

III. Agenda Adjustments: None.

IV. Principals' Reports:

RMG: Enclosed.
MMHS: Enclosed.

V. New Business:

1. Updated Special Education Policy: Child Find:

The Special Education Director explained the changes to the Special Education Child Find Policy to the School Committee.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the updated Special Education Child Find Policy.
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 5-0.

2. Proficiency Based Education Implementation Update:

The AOS 96 Curriculum Coordinator informed the School Committee that AOS 96 staff is continuing to work diligently to implement Proficiency Based Education.

3. 2016/2017 Tuition Rates:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the new 2016/2017 tuition rates have been released by the Maine Department of Education. He informed the Committee that the new rate for Machias Memorial High School is \$10,530.49. He also informed the Committee that the tuition rate for the Rose M. Gaffney School is \$5,819.45 which is the 5th lowest elementary tuition rate in the State of Maine.

4. 2016/2017 Budget Update:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that spending is consistent with budgeted amounts.

5. 2017/2018 Budget Development:

The Superintendent distributed copies of the 2017/2018 Budget Development Timeline to the School Committee. He explained that the Governor's budget proposal might cause the budget process to be later than normal.

6. Winter Convocation Report:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that he attended the Maine School Superintendents Association Winter Convocation in South Portland on January 12-13, 2017. He mentioned that the new Acting Commissioner and State Legislators were in attendance.

7. Physical Plant:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee he is continuing to obtain estimates for replacing the Machias Memorial High School gym roofing.

8. Water Testing:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the water outlets that tested positive for lead have been shut down and the fixtures will be replaced. The water outlets that failed will be retested as soon as all of the fixtures have been replaced.

9. Legislative Update:

The Superintendent reported that Representative Will Tuell will be submitting several education bills. The bills include the following: School Funding, Common Core, In Service Days, Administrator Retirement and two Unorganized Territory Bills.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 5:19 p.m. by Richard Shaw.
Second: Terry Sanborn: Vote; 5-0

Respectfully Submitted,



Scott K. Porter

Superintendent of Schools

AOS 96

Machias Bay Area School System

Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School

Principal's Report February 8, 2017

The Principals Desk

I apologize for not being with you tonight. I am in Bangor attending a training workshop for the upcoming state assessment. This assessment will continue to be the topic of our weekly Staff Collaborations for the next few weeks. As the state updates our capability to see more in depth information, we continue to diagnose last year's data. We are working to prepare students for the upcoming assessment by exposing them to "released" items. We are also beginning to receive information about the test administration protocol.

School representatives attended more professional development workshops surrounding Proficiency Based Education in January. RMG has decided to create a plan for steps toward implementation. This will become the focus of our Staff Collaborations after we are fully prepared for the state assessment.

What's going on around RMG

Ground Hog Day – The Ground Hog created quite a commotion at RMG by seeing his shadow. Many students were excited to think that there will be 6 more weeks of winter!

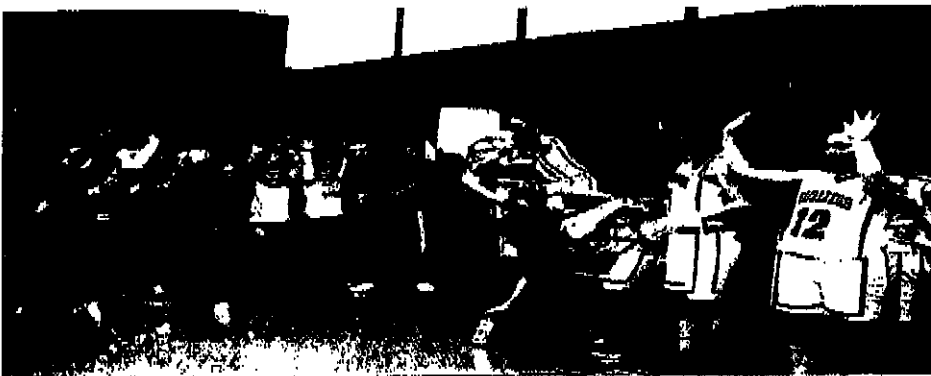
Specials - Students in grade 8 have had the opportunity to sign up for spring Thursday afternoon specials. Specials include Culinary Arts, Fine Art, Industrial Arts, Technology Masters, Fitness at UMM, Music Appreciation, Book Group, and Study Hall. Grade 7 benefitted from these specials for the first half of the year while 8th graders took Health. Grade 7 students will now take Health for the remainder of the year. We are fortunate to be able to partner with MMHS to provide these offerings.

Sports – We are entering the playoffs for our grade 7/8 basketball teams. Our Pee Wee league has begun. K-2 practices take place on Saturdays. Grades 3 and 4 practices take place in the evening. Games against other schools in our AOS are held on Saturdays.

Robotics – Our competitive Robotics Teams have begun meeting to Prep for the local Robotics competition/exhibition held in March at UMM. The teams are led by Mrs. Colleen Maker with the assistance of Mr. Nick Luuring.

100 Day - According to our calculations, if we don't have snow days in between, Day 100 celebrations will take place next Wednesday.

School Messenger – We have been notifying parents when there is no school, or a late start, through our new School Messenger System. We had our first early release of the season this week. We ran a dual system for notifying parents by using the School Messenger System as well as the traditional calling notification. Moving forward we will be using only School Messenger for notification. Parent options are to receive a text, email, and phone call through School Messenger. Parents may opt to receive all three or any one. Within minutes of the school messenger notification being complete, a report is generated which allows us to determine that all parents were reached.



Grade 3 and 4 Rising Star Bulldogs join our 7/8 Lady Bulldogs to cheer on our 7/8 Boys Team

Machias Memorial High School
Principal's Report
February 2017

Proficiency Based Education

The teachers have selected the essential standards for the PBE diploma. I am working on putting the standards into a document that I can share with the Board. Some next steps are to select a tracking system for meeting the standards, discuss grading in a PBE system, and how to implement a PBE system. Emphasis will be on the incoming freshmen class of 2021.

Culinary Students Earn Industry Certification

Recently the Culinary Arts students at Coastal Washington CIT earned their ServSafe industry certification. Congratulations to Nick Mallar, Stephen Fletcher, Ellie Burns and Santana Perry.



The ServSafe Food Handler Program is an industry-based food safety training program for employees. The program covers five key areas: basic food safety, personal hygiene, cross-contamination & allergens, time & temperature, and cleaning & sanitation

Food industry employers are more apt to hire people, and initially pay them higher starting wages, if they hold this certification. Coastal Washington CIT, and their instructor, Mrs. Fitzsimmons, are very proud of these students and their accomplishment.

More CTE Success Stories

These students created projects in the Building Trades or Industrial Arts classes at Coastal Washington CIT located on the campus on Machias Memorial High School. Nick Smart built a chest, Riley Pettigrew a gun rack, and Mikala Conlin a chessboard table. Great work students!



Athletics

The Cheering Team has competed in three events this past month. They placed second in the Penobscot Valley Conference, first place in the Downeast Athletic Conference, and third at the MPA North Regional Class D Competition. This weekend they will compete in the MPA State Class D Cheering Competition at the Augusta Civic Center beginning at 10:00 am. The team has a very good chance of placing first or second at the state event.



The girls won their first basketball game at Bangor Christian. The girls and coaches have worked hard this season and are much improved. Coach Fitzsimmons is taking steps to build programming in the off-season to increase skill level and participation.

The boys team will go into the MPA tournament with one loss to Greenville. They are a favorite to win the Class D title this year. Good luck to them at the Cross Center.

James Mersereau has been invited, by Senator Maker, to be recognized in front of the Senate, for scoring 1,000 points.

Rotary Dinner

Machias Memorial High School and JMG hosted a dinner and business meeting for the Machias Rotary Club. The Culinary Arts program prepared the meal and JMG students provided information about their program. I received feedback from several rotarians about the excellent meal.

Drop Out Prevention

The Drop Out Prevention Committee met on Monday, February, 6. Agenda items for the meeting were identifying what is currently being done, analyzing the requirements of the law, and considering additional intervention strategies and procedures.

Currently Machias Memorial High School uses these strategies: alternative education, CTE, early college, RTI/PBIS, Bulldog Block, half-day programming, apprenticeships/internships, outside counseling with Sunrise Opportunities, small class size, advisor/advisee programs, and MELMAC.

In addition the group discussed early prevention programming beginning as early as Grade 6, "standard recovery" opportunities, after school programs, and appropriate resources to support these. We also considered the BARR system for our school, but felt that other initiatives currently have priority. The group decided to revisit BARR next year.