

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

**Minutes
Machias School Committee
Wednesday, November 2, 2016
Superintendent's Office
4:30 PM**

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

Others Present: Margaret James, Joyce Fragale, Brian Leavitt, Mitchell Look, Scott Porter.

I. Call to order at 4:35 p.m. by Terry Sanborn.

II. Approval of the minutes of October 5, 2016.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the minutes of October 5, 2016.
Second: Joleen Nicely.

III. Agenda Adjustments: None.

IV. Principals' Reports:

RMG: Enclosed.
MMHS: Enclosed.

V. New Business:

1. Proficiency Based Education:

The Superintendent reported that all AOS 96 schools are working diligently to implement proficiency based education into each classroom. High schools in Maine are required to graduate students with proficiency based diplomas in four content areas by 2021.

2. Student Information System Update:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that Machias Administrators are working on a Power School module that will track Common Core and Learning Results standards.

3. Harvest of Ideas County-Wide Workshop:

The Superintendent reported that the Harvest of Ideas County-Wide workshop was attended by most of the school districts in Washington County. The County workshops focused on Proficiency Based Education. He mentioned that county conventions for teachers were established in the late nineteenth century.

4. Teacher Evaluation Plan Implementation:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the state is requiring another pilot year for the implementation of Teacher Evaluation Systems. AOS 96 Administrators already piloted our Teacher Evaluation System last year with teachers that volunteered, but the state is now requiring all teachers participate in the pilot program.

The Superintendent also indicated that all teachers and administrators are continuing to receive Teacher Evaluation System professional development. There is also a new teacher orientation program that provides the initial teacher evaluation training.

5. School Messenger System Implementation:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee Building Administrators are continuing to work on setting up the School Messenger System. The School Messenger System will automatically notify parents through email, text messages or phone calls when there is a school emergency. The system can also be used for regular notifications to parents.

6. Maine School Management Association Fall Conference:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that he attended the annual Maine School Management Association Fall Conference from October 26-28, 2016. The conference consisted on many work sessions for Superintendents and School Boards on a variety of topics ranging from Special Education Law to meeting the Deputy Commissioner of Education. He also mentioned that many vendors attend the conference. The Superintendent said it is also a good opportunity to network with Legislators, Department of Education officials and Superintendents.

7. Maine Small Schools Coalition Meeting:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Maine Small Schools Coalition will meet at UMaine on December 9, 2016. He conveyed to the Committee that Legislators will speak to Superintendents about the implementation of current legislation and about the upcoming legislative session.

8. Maine School Superintendents' Association Funding Committee Update:

The Superintendent reported that Superintendent Heather Perry was approved as the Chairperson of the Maine School Superintendents' Association Funding Committee.

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that Governor LePage plans on submitting a bill that will impact the EPS funding formula in the future.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 5:22 p.m. by Richard Shaw.
Second: Gerard NeCastro; Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Scott K. Porter

Superintendent of Schools

AOS 96

Machias Bay Area School System

**Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School
Principal's Report
November 2, 2016**

The Principal's Desk

- * Our Veteran's Program will be held on November 9th this year. Bill Weaver will be our guest speaker.
- * Teachers and administrators participated in the "Harvest of Ideas" hosted at the University. There were many professional development opportunities many of which focused on proficiency based education.
- * We continue to pilot our teacher evaluation system as well as focus on planning for the implementation of proficiency based education.
- * Homework policy and awards committees are meeting to review our programming to ensure that we have congruent philosophies PreK-8.
- * Our Drama Club and Destination Imagination and Robotics Teams have begun meeting. Our school newspaper staff will begin meeting in November. The directors of our Drama Club are Jim Dyer, and Pat Moores. We have five Destination Imagination teams coached by Mrs. Dolley, Mrs. Kilton, Mr. Dedmon, Ms. Robish and Mrs. Burgess. Our Robotics team is being coached by Mrs. Maker, and our Editor in Chief for the Gaffney Gazette is Mrs. Jones.
- * We have completed our NWEA assessments and will be analyzing the data to inform differentiation within the classroom, as well as Title 1 eligibility. Students will partner with teachers to set goals for growth which will be measured by the spring assessment.
- * We have enjoyed hosting student interns as part of our partnership with the University.
- * Mr. Fitzsimmons and I have been meeting with Mrs. Holmes to discuss how RMG can best contribute to, and participate in, Margareta Days in June.
- * I would like to nominate Mr. Sinford for 7/8 boy's basketball coach, and Jody Wood and Toshia Day as co-coaches for the 7/8 girls basketball team.

What's Going On Around RMG?

Bulldogs Sports - Our fall sports season ended with the soccer team, coached by Mr. Sinford, coming in at 8-0 and 1. Our volleyball team, coached by Jody Wood, had an outstanding season as well. Rose M. Gaffney hosted two Cross Country meets as well as the 2016 championship race. 146 runners from AOS 96 took place in the championship race, 62 of which were RMG students. The grades 3-5 boy's and girl's teams each took home trophies. Students in grades 3-8 took home many individual ribbons as well.

Twelve Cross Country runners represented RMG in the Aurora 1.9 mile invitational race. 168 boys and 150 girls participated in this event. RMG students Chloe Kilton placed 42nd, Jaydin Anderson placed 35th, and Ethan Libby placed 20th.

Approximately 80 RMG students participated in fall sports.

EDGE -- Our grade 7 students enjoyed team building activities at the Edge Leadership Camp. Activities included: the ropes course, an art project which stresses student's roles in school and community, "trust falls", and the zip line. The goal of the course is for students to learn to work together by keeping themselves as well as the team safe.

JMG- The JMG Opening Ceremony took place on October 6th. This was a combined RMG and MMHS ceremony this year. The formality was nice, as was the fact that it was student centered and student run. The JMG advisory council attended Pine Tree Camp on October 18th and 19th.

Literacy -- The Literacy Team sponsored a "drop everything and read" event on the afternoon of October 7th. Students names were drawn for gift certificates to the PAWS Book Fair. Author Tim Caverly visited our school yesterday. Mr. Caverly is an author of Maine stories including "Marvin the Merganser" and "The Allagash".

Walk to School Day

Friday October 14th students walked to school to recognize "Walk to School Day" as a way to promote a healthy life style. RMG teachers as well as many MMHS students helped guide youngsters from Broadway to the school building.

PAWS – The PAWS sponsored book fair was held on October 18, 19, and 20. The PAWS group also hosted a staff Harvest Luncheon.

UMM – We were excited to be invited to Shakespeare's "The Tempest". Students in grades 6-8 enjoyed the presentation. Our Drama Club students were invited to work with the actors for an hour after the main performance. Everyone who participated felt that this was an outstanding event and enjoyed the opportunity.

Fire Prevention – This week we observed Fire Prevention. We are fortunate to have an outstanding group of first responders in our town. Mr. Thompson, Mr. McKenna, and Mr. Merrill did an outstanding job of discussing with our students what to do in the case of a fire. Mr. McKenna wore full fire gear and showed students what a fireman looks like, and what the fire gear sounds like, when a fireman enters a building to rescue people inside. The firemen talked to students about creating a plan with their families that outlines what to do in case of a fire. This was followed by an afternoon fire drill.

Totally Trades – Grade 8 Girls traveled to Washington County Community College to view some possible trades. Plans are in the works for the boys to attend on a different date.

Dental Hygiene - The Tooth Fair Dental Truck has been visiting grades PreK-5 this week.



Principal's Report

Machias Memorial High School
November 2016

Harvest of Ideas County-Wide Workshop

Teachers, staff, and administration attended the full day workshop on October 11. The workshop was very valuable and offered an topic of interest for everyone. Many of the staff, including myself, focused on the topics of proficiency-based education, response to intervention, and positive based intervention strategies. I received a lot of positive feedback from participants.

Downeast Hospital Tournament

I attended an organizational meeting related to the tournament. It will be held on December 2nd and 3rd at UMM. The following schools will be participating with both boys and girls teams: Narraguagus Jr./Sr. High School, Jonesport-Beals High School, Machias Memorial High School, and Washington Academy. The focus of the tournament is to raise awareness and funds for the DECH Emergency Room Project.

Shared PBE Leadership Group

This group has been charged with moving AOS 96 through the process of creating and adopting a district-wide PK-12 proficiency-based educational system. This was our second meeting and the the group is trying to work out the best way to approach this huge task. It is clear that we don't know what a district-wide PBE system will look like, but we are going to work together and make decisions based what makes sense for each school and community.

PSAT

On October 19 sophomores and juniors from around the State took the PSAT. This is a practice test for the SAT. Machias Memorial High School students take the test off site and we provide breakfast, snacks, and lunch in an effort to provide an ideal testing environment.

Coastal Washington CIT Advisory Meeting

Administrators met in the Bulldog Cafe to be briefed on the career & technical education programs. This briefing is held twice a year and provides an opportunity for administrators to participate in improvement efforts. One action the group took was to develop an interest survey focused on new programs. We are hoping to get the survey administered and collected by Thanksgiving break.

The Tempest

Machias Memorial High School was invited by UMM to the annual fall play. This year the play was Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. 75 students attended the play and received prior instruction in the English classrooms. After the play five students attended the actor's workshop. Both events were well liked by the students and staff. I was especially impressed with the behavior of our students.

Honorary Diploma

Machias Memorial High School has been asked if they would issue an honorary diploma to Robert Coles to honor him and his service to our country at a ceremony in December.

Halloween

Many students and staff dressed in costume on Monday. This has always been a fun day for students and staff.

