

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

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

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

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

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

**II.** **Approval of the minutes of March 30, 2016.**

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the minutes of March 30, 2016.  
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 4-0.

**III.** **Agenda Adjustments:** None.

**IV.** **Principals' Reports:**

RMG: Enclosed.

MMHS: Enclosed.

**V.** **New Business:**

**1. Nomination of Probationary Teachers:**

The Superintendent nominated Linda Bowker as a Special Education teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Linda Bowker as a Special Education teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

The Superintendent nominated Susan Sexton as a Title I teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Susan Sexton as a Title I teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

The Superintendent nominated Jessica Stauffer as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Jessica Stauffer as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

The Superintendent nominated Sarah Nehrings as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Sarah Nehrings as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

The Superintendent nominated Ada Raye as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Ada Raye as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

The Superintendent nominated Jennifer Scribner as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Jennifer Scribner as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

The Superintendent nominated Emily Mawhinney as a Culinary Arts teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Emily Mawhinney as a Culinary Arts teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

The Superintendent nominated Rebecca McKenna as a classroom teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Rebecca McKenna as a classroom teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

The Superintendent nominated Dawn Gooch as a classroom teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Dawn Gooch as a classroom teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2016/2017 school year.

Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

## **2. Approval of the Teacher Evaluation Plan:**

The Superintendent distributed copies of the Teacher Evaluation Plan to the School Committee. He informed the School Committee that the plan has been approved by the Maine Department of Education.

The Superintendent reviewed the plan with the School Committee and answered several clarifying questions.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Teacher Evaluation Plan.

Second: Gerard NeCastro; Vote: 4-0.

## **3. Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Education:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission met for the first time about a week ago. The Commission will meet 6 times and will make recommendations on a number of educational issues including the cost of education.

## **4. Maine Small Schools Coalition Meeting:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Maine Small Schools Coalition meeting scheduled for April 29, 2016 has been rescheduled for May 20, 2016.

## **5. Unorganized Territory Tuition Students:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that he received a letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Education, William Beardsley. The letter stated that there will be an informational meeting regarding EUT tuition students on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. at the Whiting Community Center.

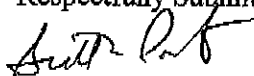
**6. Town Meeting Date:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Machias Town Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Rose M. Gaffney School.

**VI. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn at 5:05 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**  
**May 4, 2015**

**The Principal's Desk**

\*RMG received a check for \$1000 dollars from the Hannaford Helps Schools Program.

\*Students in grades 3-8 completed the administration the new State of Maine assessment "EmpowerME".

**What's going on around RMG?**

**Sports** - We ended the K-4 and 5/6 basketball seasons. Many of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders participated in the Machias Basketball Traveling Team coached by Mr. Bragg and Mr. Getchell.

We are beginning our Softball and Baseball season. I would like to nominate Jodi Wood as our softball coach, and Sam Whitney as our Baseball coach.

**Destination Imagination** - Our Destination Imagination Teams performed locally on April 8<sup>th</sup>, and attended the state competition in Orono on April 9<sup>th</sup>. We had four teams this year, three competitive teams and one Rising Stars team. Our competitive teams brought home two trophies: the Renaissance Award and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the elementary level division. One of our teams placed 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Robotics** - Our Robotics season ended with our teams attending the Robotics Expo at the University of Maine at Machias Campus. Each team did an excellent job of representing our school. One of the teams took second place in the "Rookie Team" award.

**Music** - Many of our students participated in the Washington County Music Festival. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade chorus attended the Sea Dogs Game on Friday, and sang the National Anthem. Michon Whitney threw out the first pitch. We will be holding our spring concert for grades 5-12 tonight beginning at 6 p.m. Solo and Ensemble will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Our grades Prek - 4 concert will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Community Partnerships**

Grade 3 students have benefitted from Junior Achievement classes given by Machias Savings Bank personnel. This culminated in a tour of the bank, and recognition ceremony on April 12<sup>th</sup>. MSB personnel also visited grades 1-5 for Teach a Child to Save Day on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Students visited the NYU Dental Clinic on April 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the Lee Pellon Center.

Students in grades 3-6 attended a job fair hosted by Machias Savings Bank at the UMM Lifelong Center for Learning. On April 29<sup>th</sup> our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders benefitted from a career fair held at UMM and hosted by the Washington County Superintendents Association, JMG College Success Program and Washington County Consortium.

**We Had Visitors**

RMG students participated in "Kick Butts" day. Students in grades 4-8 rotated through twenty minute workshops focusing on health. Workshops were hosted by JMG students as well as individuals representing outside organizations.

Tim Caverly visited grades 6, 7, and 8 on Monday April 11<sup>th</sup>. He is the author of several books about camping, hunting and the Allagash. He spoke to students about skills needed to become a writer.

On April 25<sup>th</sup> the Planetarium visited RMG. Students in PreK - 5 visited the big dome set up in the gym to learn more about our solar system.

On Monday we were treated to a production of The Velveteen Rabbit by Monmouth Theater.

### **We Were Out and About**

On March 15, K-5 students attended a performance of Hansel and Gretel at the UMM Performing Arts Center. This performance was offered as part of a grant and was free to the school. Teachers and students enjoyed the performance.

Mr. Fitzsimmons and some of our junior high students attended the "Brain Seminar" at UMM. The students found the activities to be very interesting.

Mrs. Bridges and a group of junior high girls ventured to the University of Maine at Orono to participate in workshops that highlight women in Science, Technology and Math careers.

Zain Fitzsimmons represented Rose M. Gaffney at the state geography bee held at the University of Farmington.

Grade 7 spent April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Challenger Learning Center learning what it is like in the day of an astronaut. Grade 3 visited the center on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Grade 8 JMG attended Urban Adventure on April 8<sup>th</sup>. This is a statewide program that takes place at UNUM in Portland. Students tour local businesses, do teambuilding, and attend workshops on employment skills.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> graders attended the Shrine Circus on Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup> free of charge thanks to the generous donation of tickets by the Shriners.

### **Coming Right Up**

Saturday make up days that we have left are May 21<sup>st</sup>, and June 11. There will be an 11:30 dismissal for each. On the 21<sup>st</sup> we will hold our curriculum Fair. This will be combined with a PAWS sponsored Chinese Auction. On June 11<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our Prek - 4 concerts. Grades 5-7 will attend Margareta Days. Our last day of school for students in K-7 will be Monday June 13<sup>th</sup>. 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation will take place on Thursday June 9. Awards for grades PK-7 will take place on Friday June 10.



**Machias Memorial High School**  
Principal's Report  
May 2016

**State Testing**

On April 12 juniors and third year students took the SAT exam. On April 28 these same students took the MEA Science exam. Both exams are used for school accountability.

**Maine Department of Education Visit**

Mr. Henry, Mr. Look, and myself met with representatives from the Maine Department of Education. The purpose of the visit was to identify ways that they could help us move towards the creation of a standards based diploma. As a result of the meeting we have identified a consultant to help facilitate the process of creating a standards based diploma.

**Step-Up Day 2016**

Step-Up Day was on held on Friday, April 15. This year we dedicated the day to upcoming freshmen only. The sophomores, juniors, and seniors did alternative activities off campus. The day was a success and the new format worked well.

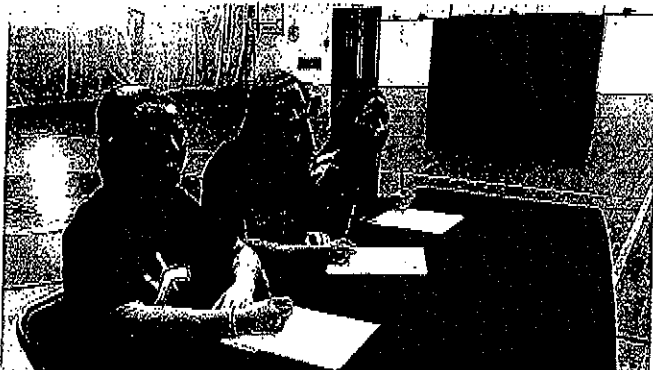
**Career & Technical Education Student of the Year**

Courtney Kafka, a culinary student from Narraguagus High School, was named the 2016 CTE Student of the Year for Coastal Washington Institute of Technology. Courtney was one of 26 students from over 3,500 eligible students in Maine who were chosen for the award. Courtney was honored at the CTE Student of the Year Banquet held at The Green Ladle Restaurant in Lewiston. Courtney's family and I were her guests at the banquet.



**Softball and Baseball Teams**

The spring season is well underway. The softball team's record is 1-3 and the girls have 14 players participating. The baseball team's record is 2-2 and the boys have 12 players. Both teams are expected to make the playoffs this year.



**Signing Ceremony**

This year Machias Memorial High School started a new tradition called Signing Day. This includes an event where students sign a letter of intent to participate on a sports team in college. Students invited friends, family, and coaches to the event to take part in this event. College representatives attended and the media was invited.

This year Ciara Schoppee signed to play volleyball at the University of Maine at Machias, Magenta Johnson signed to play basketball at the University of Maine at Machias, and Tate Dolley signed to play basketball at Husson University.