Minutes
Machias School Committee
Wednesday, March 7, 2018
Superintendent's Office
4:30 PM


Others Present: Joyce Fragale, Brian Leavitt, Mary Maker, Mitchell Look, Scott Porter.

I. Call to order at 4:30 p.m. by Richard Shaw.

II. Approval of the minutes of January 10, 2018.

Motion by Joleen Nicely to approve the minutes of January 10, 2018. Second: Teresa Saddler; Vote: 4-0.

III. Agenda Adjustments: None.

IV. Principals' Reports:

RMG: Enclosed.
MMHS: Enclosed.

V. New Business:

1. School Safety:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that all of the Building Principals in AOS 96 are reviewing their safety plans with staff members. He also informed the Committee that Greg Mitchell (owner of Citizen Protection Group) will be conducting a school safety workshop for all AOS 96 staff members on March 16, 2018.

2. Afterschool Program:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee the 21st Century Grant that funded the Edge Program has expired. The Sea Coast Mission will continue to fund the program through endowments and fund raising.
3. Gear-Up Program:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Gear-Up Program will lose some federal funding in the upcoming 2018/2019 school year.

4. School Marketing Committee:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that a School Marketing Committee has been formed to promote Machias Memorial High School. Wendy Schoppee has been working diligently on a school promotion plan.

5. Make Up Days Options:

The Superintendent reviewed several options for make up days including Saturdays and adding days to the end of the school year.

6. General Purpose Aid Report:

The Superintendent distributed a handout detailing preliminary state subsidy amounts for the 2018/2019 school year. The Machias School Department subsidy will increase by $177,278.92 if approved by the Maine Legislature.

7. Budget Committee Meeting Date:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee the Budget Committee meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2018.

8. Electronic Sign Update:

The Superintendent reported to the School Committee that the PAWS group is working diligently to raise funds to purchase a new electronic sign for the Machias Campus.

9. Update on LD 1689 (Service Center Penalty Bill) and Other Bills:

The Superintendent reported that there are several important education bills that he has been monitoring. The most important bill is LD 1689, which encourages school districts to form service centers. He is also paying close attention to a proficiency based education diploma bill, a school safety bill and a Career and Technical Education Funding bill.


Motion to enter into Executive Session at 5:12 p.m. by Joleen Nicely.
Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

Declared out of Executive Session at 5:19 p.m. by Richard Shaw.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. by Teresa Saddler.
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott K. Porter
Superintendent of Schools
AOS 96
Machias Bay Area School System
Machias Memorial High School
Principal's Report
March 2018

Outing Club
The annual Outing Club ice fishing trip was held in February at Indian Lake in Whiting. Mr. Roy and Mrs. Case took 14 students on this trip. Students were able to enjoy the fresh outdoor air and sun while ice fishing or ice skating. Everyone had a great time. This is the fourth year that the Outing Club has sponsored this trip.

Cheering
The cheering season has ended and the team was very competitive this year. The cheering team finished the year by placing 3rd at the MPA State Class D Cheerleading Championship on February 10. The team also placed 3rd at the regional competition and runner up at the PVC Cheerleading Championship. Congratulations to Coach Murphy and the team on a great year.

Walkout
On March 14 the Student Council has organizing a school walkout in response to the recent school shooting in Florida. The purpose of the walkout will be to raise awareness for school safety and to remember the students and teachers who lost their lives on that day. Although the walkout will take place on the same day and time of the national event it is not affiliated with it. In addition, students will be walking out into the hall, not outside.

Marketing Efforts
A Marketing Team was formed several months ago. The team has met and generated some ideas to promote the school. Wendy Schoppee has been working on several projects including media coverage in the local papers.

Ms. Cirillo, some students, and myself will be going into the elementary schools during March and April to talk with the 8th grade students. Potential students will hear about our school, what makes it special, and have the ability to pre-register for classes. Machias Memorial High School will be again holding our annual Step-Up Day. The date has yet to be determined.

Culinary Demonstration
Recently Mrs. Fitzsimmons and the culinary students held a demonstration where they cooked crepes for the students and staff. The event was well received and promoted the culinary program. On the Facebook page there is a video and more pictures of the event.
Principal’s Report
March 7, 2018

The Principal’s Desk
*Proficiency Based Education Update: We have chosen both Language Arts and Math “Foundational” Standards. We are in the process of investigating options for computerized standards tracking systems. Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Whitney recently visited RSU #4 schools to look at their programming, and came back with some great ideas. At RMG we are beginning to have discussions about developmentally appropriate student led tracking systems. We are also in the beginning stages of developing school wide standard operating procedures.
*We have begun Staff Collaborations in preparation for the Empower State Assessment. Due to technology constraints, we will be testing over a four-week period from March 19th to April 13th.
*I am extremely pleased to announce that Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School has a new web page. Thank you very much to Cindy Rossignol who continues to volunteer her time to manage our web page and spent countless hours developing our new site. Please check it out at rmgcs.org
*We have two new future Bulldogs. Mrs. Congelosi gave birth to twin boys Easton Albert and Micah Calvin on February 16th! Easton was 5 lbs. and 18 in., Micah was 6 lbs. 6oz. and 20 in. Congratulations to Sarah and Michael!

What's Going on Around RMG?

Sports
*Our Junior High Bulldog girls have finished their season. They improved steadily and did a great job representing our school. Our Junior High Bulldogs Boys’ Team won the Down East Championship. Thank you to our cheerleaders for doing an excellent job in supporting our teams.
*Pee Wee Basketball for grades K-2 had ended. Mr. Fitzsimmons did an excellent job of coaching our youngest athletes.
*Our 5/6 basketball teams have been practicing hard. Our coaches this year are Mr. Ingalls and Mr. Prout for the boys, Mrs. Kilton for the girls, and Mrs. Reese for the cheerleaders. Games begin next week.
*Our grades 3/4 Pee Wee teams have started practicing.

Bulldog Student Activities
*We Recognized Ground Hog Day, Day 100 (February 25th), and Valentine’s Day.
JMG sponsored a Semi-Formal Valentine’s Dance for grades 6, 7, and 8. The event included a hot cocoa bar, candy buffet, concession, and photo opportunity. Students were admitted for $3 with a donation of pet or cleaning supplies for the Ark Animal Shelter. Valentine parties were held in younger grades.
*The Tooth fairies visited PreK-5 students who signed up to be seen.
*Grade 5 students participated in the EDGE Marion Kane Winter Leadership Program.
*Monday we recognized Fire Prevention Day. Our local firefighters were here to speak to our students about fire safety. We had a fire drill in the afternoon. Thank you to our very own fire fighter, Mrs. Lee, for helping to organize this.

PAWS
I would like to recognize our PAWS group for the wonderful Teacher Appreciation Luncheon that they hosted on January 26th. Everything was wonderful!

Coming Right Up
Cole Transportation Museum has generously donated several instruments to our Machias schools. We will be hosting a gifting ceremony in the near future.

On Friday our 8th graders will be attending workshops at the Cobscook Learning Center (girls) and Washington County Community College (boys). PreK-7 will enjoy a performance by the Frog Mountain Puppeteers beginning at 1:00.
*Read Across America Celebration*

We ended our first week back from break by celebrating Read Across America Day and Dr. Seuss. Students (and teachers) marched through the building dressed as their favorite story book characters. The Cat in the Hat (Mr. Fitzsimmons) led them, but was often distracted by Thing #1, (Mrs. Day) and Thing #2 (Mrs. Rhodes). A huge thank you to the Literacy Team, Ms. O'Neal, and Mrs. Stoddard, as well as the rest of the faculty and staff who all pulled together to make this a wonderful day for our students.