Minutes
Machias School Committee
Wednesday, April 5, 2017
Superintendent's Office
4:30 PM


Others Present: Dr. James Whalen, Bob Berta, Joyce Fragale, Brian Leavitt, Mary Maker, Mitchell Look, Amanda Sprague, Scott Porter.

I. Call to order at 4:30 p.m. by Terry Sanborn.

II. Approval of the minutes of March 1, 2017.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the minutes of March 1, 2017.
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 5-0.

III. Agenda Adjustments:

Motion by Teresa Saddler to add Alternative Education Program as Agenda item #5.
Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

IV. Principals' Reports:

RMG: Enclosed.
MMHS: Enclosed.

V. New Business:

1. Approval of Proposed 2017/2018 School Calendar:

The Superintendent distributed copies of the proposed 2017/2018 School Calendar. After reviewing the calendar with the Superintendent the School Committee took action.

Motion by Gerard NeCastro to approve the proposed 2017/2018 School Calendar.
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 5-0.
2. Legislative Update:

The Superintendent reported that he had traveled to Augusta to testify on several bills since their last meeting. There is an EUT Bill that is coming up at the end of the month that is very important to the towns that have EUT tuition students.

3. Review of Draft 2017/2018 School Budget:

The Superintendent distributed copies of the proposed 2017/2018 school budget. The Superintendent reviewed the proposed budget with the School Committee and answered several clarifying questions.

4. Meeting Date with Selectmen:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the meeting with the Machias Selectmen is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Machias Town Office.

5. Alternative Education Program:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that there are currently nine students in the Alternative Education Program at Machias Memorial High School. He also conveyed to the Committee that he hopes to expand the Alternative Education Program next year.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 5:40 p.m. by Richard Shaw.
Second: Gerard NeCastro; Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
Scott K. Porter
Superintendent of Schools
AOS 96
Machias Bay Area School System
Principal’s Report April 5, 2017

The Principal’s Desk
We have been moving through the Empower State Assessment. We are in our third and final week, with next week being set aside for make up exams. Writing will be administered May 8 through May 19th. Science will be administered April 24th through May 5th for grades 5 and 8.

What’s going on around RMG
PAWS - Our PAWS parent group hosted a benefit supper for Suzie James, our EDGE after school program coordinator, and her husband DJ who has been recovering from a medical condition in Maine Medical Center in Portland. $1300 dollars was raised.

Sports – Basketball and Cheering for grades 3 and 4, as well as our 5 and 6 girl’s and boy’s teams are in their final weeks. Play off games for our grades 5 and 6 Bulldogs will be next week. Baseball/Softball season is upon us. Practices will be starting soon.

Music – PreK-12 students enjoyed a performance by the UMO Black Bear’s Symphonic Band. The band also performed for the community during an evening concert. Mrs. Atkinson, and UMaine Professors Christopher White and Philip Edelmen organized this event.

Harlem Rockets – The Harlem Rockets visited RMG and MMHS today performing for students in grades PreK-12 in preparation for tonight’s performance at UMM.

Dental Clinic – We are busing students in PreK-5 to the Lee Pellon Center for the dental clinic this week. We are extremely fortunate to have this free clinic available to our students. This combined with our “Tooth Fairy” visits are making a big difference in the dental hygiene of our students.

Destination Imagination – After practicing during a local exhibition for students and community members, RMG DI teams attended the state competition in Orono on Saturday March 18th. RMG hosted four teams this year, three of which were eligible to compete in the state competition. “80 pounds of Awesome” coached by Linda Dolley, won the state competition for their challenge and age group (See picture).

Robotics – RMG was represented by three teams at the Robotics EXPO held at UMM. Robotics is coached by Mrs. Colleen Maker, who also teaches grade 6. She reported that the EXPO was a lot of fun and the kids did a fantastic job. Mythlogic A.I.R. placed second for best overall design and program (See Picture).

Winter Carnival – Karen Beeftink, Assistant Professor of Environmental Recreation, and UMM Recreation students, hosted a winter carnival for RMG students on March second. In spite of the previous snowfall and the early date in March, it was a mud fest, but students had a great time.

JMG - The sixth grade Random Act of Kindness project is in full swing. Students submit the caring acts of other RMG students in a box located outside of the front office. JMG students draw from the box weekly and send a small token of appreciation to the chosen student. JMG raised $300 for the American Heart Association through fund raising activities which included a Movie Night. JMG students are also working on cleaning up the green house, have created a seed catalogue, and are submitting a Donors Choose proposal to start a “come grow with me” community project.
Mythlogic A.I.R. Students: Nick Luuring, Izabelle Lamb, Alex Keene, Rowen Luuring

Destination Imagination Team Members for “80 Pounds of Awesome”: Cooper Robicheau, Lucas Robicheau, Cleo Hines, Nora Vicalire, Addison Demarest, Ayla Bladen and William Good.
Machias Memorial High School
Principal's Report
April 2017

Make Up Days
Machias Memorial High School will making up snow days with Rose M. Gaffney. There will be one exception. MMHS will be in session on April 8 instead of June 17. Both days are Saturdays. Please see Machias Memorial High School 2016-2017 calendar. The make up student and teacher workshop days are highlighted in blue.

State Assessment Testing
Machias Memorial High School will be administering the SAT exam on Wednesday, April 5 and the MEA Science exam on Saturday, April 8. I'm concerned that these tests are mandated to be given in the window of only 8 school days. I requested more time, but was denied.

Drama Performance
The MMHS Drama Club performed, The Complaint Department and Lemonade on March 24 and 25. The performance featured Emily Mattox, Sammie Cox, Stephen Flether, Maddi Conlin, Carol Smith, Keely Tibbetts, Taya Wood, and Farrow McKenna.

The performance received a lot of laughs and the characters memorable. The students and Mrs. Leavitt deserve congratulations for a successful show.

JMG Career Development Conference
MMHS JMG students and Ms. Mack participated in the 25th Career Development Conference held at Thomas College in Waterville last Tuesday. Ms. Mack had the students well prepared. As a group they brought home two first place trophies and Olivia Dinsmore earned an individual first place trophy. I was able to attend the awards ceremony and was extremely pleased with the results.

Student participants were Jasmine Bell, Veronica Green, Amber Heath, Tyler Wentzel, Olivia Dinsmore, and Kaylee Alley.

UMO Symphonic Band
Machias Schools were honored to host the UMO Symphonic Band last week. Their visit began with a concert in the high school gym for all students and ended with a concert at Rose M. Gaffney that night. It was an excellent enrichment experience for our students. Mrs. Atkinson
should be congratulated for all her work on this event. It takes many hours of organizing to pull off an event of this caliber.

Senior Exhibitions
Machias Memorial High School Senior Exhibitions are scheduled for next week. Senior Exhibitions are a capstone project required for graduation and is part of the senior English class. The projects are driven by student interest and students learn a lot during the process. Many of the students rise to the occasion and impress their panels.

CLOSE UP Washington
Regan Bragg and Becca Greene are visited the nation's capital last week along with Mrs. and Ms. Albee. The group is part of CLOSE UP Washington, which is a week-long educational experience attended by students from around the United States. Students learn about our country's history and how it operates. Students from Machias Memorial High School attend on a yearly basis. We are fortunate to be able to offer this excellent program to our students.

Spring Sports Season
Softball and baseball season has finally begun. The season opener, for both teams, is scheduled for April 17 versus Narraguagus High School. The games will be played in Machias and start time is 1:00 pm. The softball and baseball teams play on the same days and travel together. The full schedule is provided below.

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