Minutes
Machias School Committee
Wednesday, May 6, 2020
Zoom Video Conference
3:00 PM


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

I. Call to order at 3:02 p.m. by Teresa Saddler.

II. Approval of the minutes of April 8, 2020.

Motion by Carolyn Nadeau to approve the minutes of April 8, 2020.
Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); Vote: 5-0.

III. Agenda Adjustments: None.

IV. Public Comment: None.

V. Principals’ Reports:

RMG: Enclosed.

MMHS:

The Principal informed the School Committee that they are continuing distance learning using on-line resources, as well as, homework packets. He also informed the Committee that he is looking into different options for a graduation ceremony.

VI. New Business:

1. School Closure Date:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the school closure date for AOS 96 is June 4, 2020.
Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the school closure date of June 4, 2020.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes),
Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); Vote: 5-0.

2. End of the Year Activities:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Machias
 Principals are working together on a plan for a graduation ceremony
 following DOE guidelines.

3. Proposed 20/21 School Calendar:

The Superintendent reviewed the proposed 20/21 school calendar with the
 School Committee.

Motion by Carolyn Nadeau to approve the 20/21 school calendar.
Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes),
Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); Vote: 5-0.

4. Probationary Teacher Nominations:

The Superintendent nominated Heidi Roesselet as an elementary teacher at
the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of
Heidi Roesselet as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School
for the 2020/2021 school year.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes),
Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Damon Weston as an elementary teacher at
the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of
Damon Weston as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School
for the 2020/2021 school year.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes),
Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Nadine Baker as a music teacher at the
Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of
Nadine Baker as a music teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the
2020/2021 school year.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes),
Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.
The Superintendent nominated Cherie Chute as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of Cherie Chute as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Brianna Bradford as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of Brianna Bradford as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Tom Manship as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of Tom Manship as an elementary teacher at the Rose M. Gaffney School for the 2020/2021 school year.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Mitchell Worcester as a Physical Education teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of Mitchell Worcester as a Physical Education teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Heidi Chutter as a Math teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of Heidi Chutter as a Math teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Chris Sprague as a Building Trades teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.
Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of Chris Sprague as a Building Trades teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Allison Paprocki as an English teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of Allison Paprocki as an English teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

The Superintendent nominated Guen Corrigan as a part time English teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the Superintendent’s nomination of Guen Corrigan as a part time English teacher at Machias Memorial High School for the 2020/2021 school year.

Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Carolyn Nadeau (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes), William Weaver (yes); 5-0.

5. Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES):

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that Maine schools K-12 will be receiving funds for Coronavirus relief (CARES Act) in several weeks.

5. Draft 20/21 School Budget:

The Superintendent reviewed the proposed 20/21 school budget with the School Committee. He informed the School Committee that a meeting with the Machias Budget Committee is scheduled for May 20, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom.

VII. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 3:57 p.m. by Richard Shaw.

Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott K. Porter
Superintendent of Schools
AOS 96
Machias Bay Area School System
The Principal's Desk

Alternatives for hosting 8th grade graduation ceremonies are being considered.

School Lunch Program
We continue to prepare breakfast and lunch weekly. Curb side pick-up takes place on Mondays and Thursdays between 10:00 and 12:00. Deliveries continue to be coordinated for those families who are working or have no transportation. Currently 10,937 meals have been served.

We recently received an additional $500-dollar grant from the “Full Plates” Fund. The $1000 dollars received thus far will be applied to our school nutrition program.

Distance Learning
Teachers are now teaching primarily through technology; however, we continue to provide physical learning packets for students who do not have access to internet at home. Based on a survey completed earlier, the Department of Education sent laptops to supplement those that we have provided for our families. “Hot Spots” for families without internet service are scheduled to arrive any day.

While we continue to use a variety of programs to conduct distance education, we are working to agree upon a school wide platform in the eventuality that it is needed in the future. This will allow us to focus on more in depth training within a single platform, and have the benefit of increasing the comfort level of parents. This platform will likely include Google Classroom for uploading teaching videos as well as digital worksheets that can be duplicated, completed, submitted, and corrected all online. “Zoom” or “Google Meets” will continue to be used for simulating classroom environments, and faculty and parent meetings, accompanied by software programs designed for practice in all subjects.

Student progress continues to be updated and can be monitored by parents through PowerSchool for students in grades 4-8. Parents are updated on progress for students in grades PreK – 3 through email and phone calls. Mr. Fitzimmons continues to work with teachers to identify and contact students who are not participating or are falling behind. Support staff have been assigned to work with students who are struggling, and hold small group or individual study groups with these students daily or several times per week depending on need.

Grading
We would like to continue to hold to our typical form of grading, while considering that we need to be lenient with scoring and quantity of assignments completed. However, we would like to move our specials to a Pass/Fail. This would include: Music, Library, Art, and Physical Education.

Community
Teachers have been reaching out to families in many ways, some by sending postcards. Mrs. Roy has been posting signs that say “My teacher misses me!”.

Teachers would like to host a community event, such as a teacher parade. This is something that we will need to put some thought into to ensure that we stay within the state guidelines.