

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

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

Attendance: Richard Shaw, Joleen Nicely, Amanda Little, Carolyn Nadeau.

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

I. Call to order at 4:33 p.m. by Richard Shaw.

II. **Approval of the minutes of October 10, 2018.**

Motion by Joleen Nicely to approve the minutes of October 10, 2018.
Second: Amanda Little; Vote: 4-0.

III. **Agenda Adjustments:** None.

IV. **Principal's Report:**

RMG: Enclosed.
MMHS: Enclosed.

V. **New Business:**

1. Harvest of Ideas Workshop:

The Superintendent reported that all AOS 96 Teachers and Ed Techs attended the countywide Harvest of Ideas workshop on October 9, 2018 at UMM. There were many robust workshop sessions that were of great interest to those that attended.

2. MSMA Fall Conference:

The Superintendent reported that he attended the MSMA Fall Conference from October 24-26, 2018. The first day of the conference was a professional development day for Superintendents, then the following 2 days were for Board members and Superintendents. There were many workshop sessions with attorneys providing guidance on issues ranging from collective bargaining to student conduct. There were also Department of Education staff that provided sessions on current issues.

3. CTE Collaborative Update:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the CTE Collaborative submitted a grant to the Maine Department of Education to enhance Career and Technical Education in Western Washington County. The grant will be scored in December 2018. If funded the grant will cover the cost of purchasing and renovating a building to house four new CTE programs. The staff and equipment costs for the new programming was also included in the grant proposal.

4. School Lunch Program:

The Superintendent updated the School Committee regarding the financial status of the lunch program.

5. Resource Officer Update:

The Superintendent and Building Principals informed the School Committee that the addition of a Resource Officer on campus has been a great asset to the Machias School System.

6. Negotiations Update:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Support Staff Union is not ready to negotiate yet.

7. Balance Transfer:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the maintenance line was over expended in the 2017/2018 school year. The Superintendent recommended transferring \$28,000.00 from regular instruction to cover the deficit. He went on to explain that the School Committee has the authority to transfer up to 5% from one cost center to another cost center.

Motion by Joleen Nicely to approve the transfer of \$28,000.00 from regular instruction to cover the deficit in the maintenance cost center in the 2017/2018 budget.

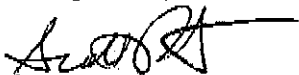
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: 4-0.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 5:30 p.m. by Joleen Nicely.

Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Scott K. Porter

Superintendent of Schools

AOS 96

Machias Bay Area School System

RMG Principal's Report
November 7, 2018
Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School

The Principal's Desk

Mr. Fitzsimmons attended workshops on IXL, as well as "Growth Mindset". He has been holding staff collaborations to update staff on some of the new features of IXL. The RMG Leadership Team for Standards Based Education will be attending workshops on Growth Mindset in December.

108 RMG students received flu shots during this year's flu clinic.

We've Had Company

We were visited by Maine Children's Author Lynn Plourde. Ms. Plourde is the Author of "Moose of Course", and "Maxi's Secrets", as well as 32 other children's books. Students enjoyed a day of reading and writing. Some even had an opportunity to be actors and actresses in a play based on Ms. Plourde's book "Baby Bear's Not Hibernating". Thank you to Ms. Di O'Neal and the Literacy Team for sponsoring this event.

Our JMG students, and their advisor Mrs. Bridges, hosted the Down East Feast in the RMG Gym. Our students were outstanding hosts and hostesses. There was a wonderful turn out and we really enjoyed having dinner with our community members. Thank you to Machias Savings Bank for hosting a "Rock Painting" station.

We've Been Out and About

Students in grades 3-8 enjoyed a performance of Brundibar which took place at the University of Maine at Machias Performing Arts Center. The production was hosted by the Passamaquoddy Bay Symphony Orchestra. Two of the actresses are our own RMG students. Congratulations to Luna Lord and Lucy Lord for outstanding performances. Thank you to the PBSO for making this available to our students at no cost.

The 5th grade class visited the Down East Institute on Beals Island. During the visit the class had an opportunity to tour the facility, observe creatures in the "touch tank", and use scientific books to identify the sea creatures. The class will be visiting DEI two more times this year to complete field work through Gulf of Maine Research Institute Vital Signs. Vital Signs is a program through which students can post observations and data. Scientists from around the world can comment on the student submissions.

Mrs. Woodward and Mrs. Roy's grade 5 classes visited Burnham Tavern. Students had an opportunity to view historical artifacts and explore the role that Machias played in the American Revolution. The students were very engaged and asked a lot of questions. Thank you to Mrs. Look and Mrs. Malloy for hosting us!

Grade 6 also visited the Down East Institute on Beals Island. During their visit students had an opportunity to set up algae growing aeration systems. They visited the shore to collect algae samples as well as mussels and rocks for the touch tank. Groups were given a tour, visited the touch tanks, and researched local organisms. Grade 6 is planning more visits to further their research. Students will be growing Algae in their classrooms as part of this learning process. Stayed tuned for more information about who/what will be eating the algae.

The 7th grade class visited both the Challenger Learning Center of Maine and Cole's Transportation Museum. Thank you to Machias Saving Bank for sponsoring the time that the students spent at the Challenger Learning Center where they were able to simulate a mission to rendezvous with a comet. Students formed teams as a Communication Specialist, Robotic Specialist, Medical Officers, Biologists, Navigators, Aeronautical Engineers, and Life Support Specialists. During this activity students were able to engage with technology in a manner that would not have been possible within the classroom setting.

Students were able to spend half of their day at the Coles Express Museum where they were able to interview a veteran and participate in a guided tour by veterans. Each veteran shared their stories with the students about their service time in the military and answered the students' questions. As stated by their teachers, Mrs. Sexton and Mrs. Herger, "It was an interview that touched their hearts and increased their knowledge of what it cost to be a free country".

Grade 7 and 8 visited the Wreath's Across America Veteran's Museum in Columbia Falls. While there, students enjoyed a presentation by Nancy Willey and two retired veterans. Students were able to speak with the veterans as well as view displays of stories shared by local heroes. It was an amazing experience for our students.

Grade 8 girls attended "Totally Trades" at Washington County Community College. This annual event exposes young ladies to careers traditionally held by men.

JMG Council Members attended their annual Leadership Education Conference in Rome, Maine. Students had to arrive with information on a fundraiser or an event and be ready to share it with other schools. They were also asked to identify a social entrepreneurship that would help to solve a need in their community. They were required to create a visual, submit a business plan and "pitch" it to a panel of business leaders. They did a great job! One of the highlights of the trip was designing a boat and competing against other schools.

Sports

Our Cross-Country Championship Race took place on campus on Thursday, October 18th, during high winds and frigid temperatures. Twenty-two RMG runners received medals, and 3 out of 4 teams received trophies. Team Champions included: 3-5 girls, 3-5 boys, and 6-8 girls. Our 4th - 8th grade Cross Country students competed in the Aurora Invitational Race. They ran a great race against some very tough competition. Ribbon winners placed 14th, 33rd, and 43rd out of 134 runners. Our girls placed 9th as a team.

This was the final week of our regular volleyball and soccer season. Congratulations to all of our student athletes. As I have mentioned before, RMG students who participate in sports are not only outstanding athletes, but are expected to represent our school as upstanding citizens, exhibit good sportsmanship, and maintain excellence in academics. As a community, we can be very proud of their accomplishments and of the manner in which they represent their school and community. Thank you to our coaches for guiding our students, as well as for your commitment to our school. Soccer - Mr. David Whitney, Volleyball - Ms. Caitlyn Maker, and Cross Country - Mrs. Toshia Day and Mrs. Janis Whitney. Basketball practices have begun. Mr. Andy Foss will be coaching our boys, Mrs. Toshia Day, our girls, and Mrs. Tammy Hooper our cheerleaders. Here comes the winter sports season! Go Bulldogs!!!

Fire Prevention Day

Friday October 12, was Fire Prevention Day at RMG. Liam Prescott Brown from Mrs. Stauffer's second grade class was the lucky student whose name was drawn for the honor of being Fire Chief for the day. Liam arrived at school on a fire truck. Students were visited by our Machias

Fire Fighters who talked to them about fire safety and demonstrated what fire fighters look and sound like in full gear. Students were then able to go outside to see the fire trucks and witness "Clifford" the big red (stuffed) dog be rescued from the roof. Thank you to our Machias Fire Fighters as well as our Art Teacher/Fire Fighter Mrs. Lee for organizing this event.

PAWS

Thank you to our PAWS parent group for hosting our annual fall book fair.

Halloween

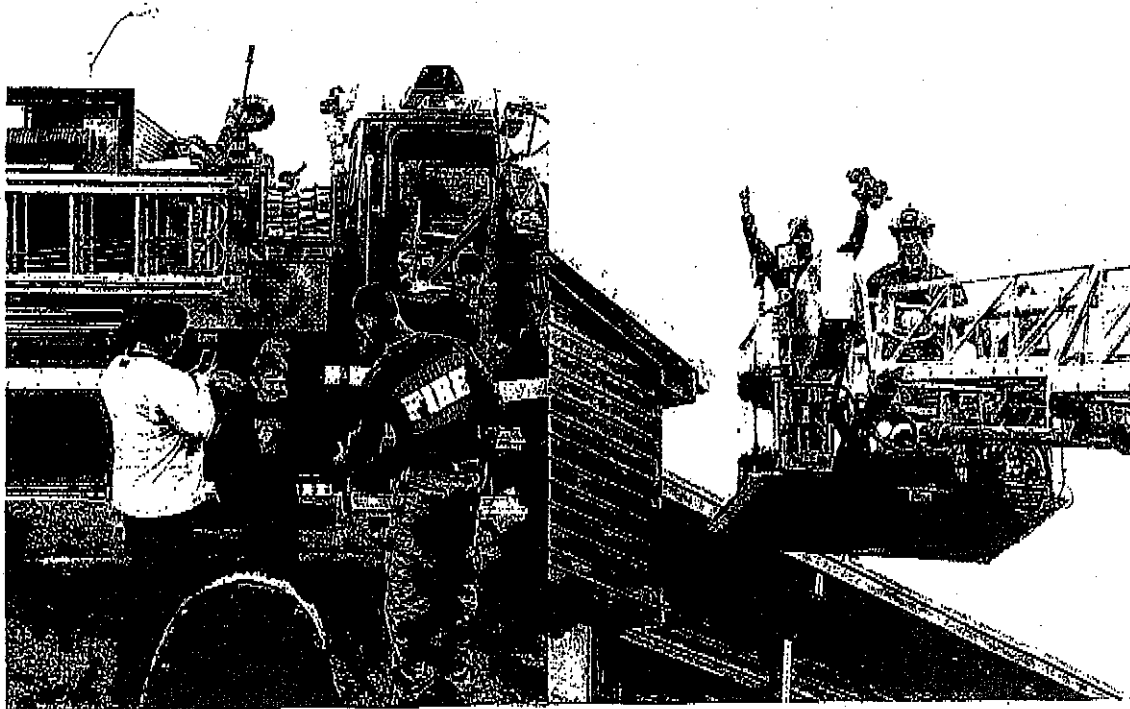
Our National Junior Honor Society in conjunction with our PAWS parent group hosted Halloween activities in the RMG Gym for students in grades PreK-4. Thank you to our National Junior Honor Society "prospective" students and our PAWS parents. Our NJHS students worked hard and did an excellent job of organizing and conducting this event.

Support Staff

Welcome to our new Head Cook Mary Sue Thompson. In October, we celebrated National School Lunch Week, National Custodian Week, and National School Bus Drivers Week. We would like to thank some very special members of our RMG Family for their hard work, and dedication to our school! Thank you, Mrs. Emily Fitzsimmons, Mrs. Brenda Cloney, Mrs. Grace Look, Mrs. Lydia Moholland, Mrs. Donna Weaver, Mr. David Smith, Mr. Wayne Stoddard, Mr. Mike Smith, Mrs. Lois Decatur, Mr. Dan Smart, Mr. Sam Floyd, Mr. Mike Chandler, Mrs. Julie Roberts, Mrs. Lisa Hanscom and Mr. and Mrs. Norman and Lou Ann Cox. \

Veteran's Program

On Friday, November 9th, we will honor our veterans. Our Veteran's Program will begin at 8:00 a.m. with breakfast and performances in the Rose M. Gaffney Gym, followed by a ceremony at the Machias Memorial High School Gym beginning at 9:00. We look forward to this opportunity to honor those who have given so much to ensure our freedom. There will be no school on Monday, November 12, in honor of Veteran's Day.



Machias Memorial High School

Principal's Report
November 7, 2018

Culinary Arts Serve 600 at Harvest of Ideas

Chef Emily and her students represented Coastal Washington CIT and Machias Memorial High School extremely well at the county-wide Harvest of Ideas event. This event brings together teachers, administrators, and staff throughout Washington County for a day of professional development. The highlight of the day, for me, was the food and seeing our students excel at their trade.

Machias Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Presentation

I was the guest of the MBACC on October 11. The topic of my presentation was the proposed CTE project to expand programming. The Chamber was very supportive of the effort and wrote Coastal Washington CIT a letter of support. I also asked the Chamber to distribute a Business Needs Survey to assess how Coastal Washington CIT can better meet the needs of businesses in the area.

Community Service Day

This year students participated in various community service activities. Students visited nursing homes, animal shelters, helped with the Turkey-a-thon, and made greeting cards for veterans.



Unity Day 2018

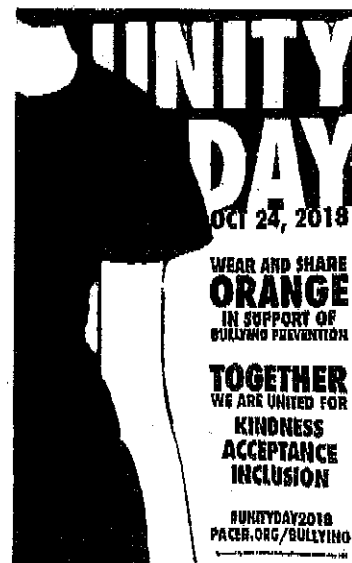
The 2nd Annual Unity Day at Machias Memorial High School was very successful. This year students were involved in activities all week. The focus for the week was bullying prevention and being united for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. The week long event is making a difference in student attitudes.

Robotics Club

This summer Machias Memorial High School received a donation to start a robotics club. I would like to seek approval from the Board to move forward with establishing a club. We have a teacher interested in being the advisor and student interest as well.

Mock Election

Machias Memorial High School held a Mock Election on November 6. Shawn Moody was elected Governor and all of the ballot questions passed.



Vaping

Machias Memorial High School is struggling with the issue of vaping. Vaping is when an electronic device is used to turn a liquid, called "juice", into a water vapor or aerosol. Vaping has been marketed as a safe alternative to smoking, but evidence is emerging that it is unsafe.

Vaping is widespread throughout society and in every school in Maine. I have been fighting this issue for sometime now. I am now working with our teachers, Healthy Acadia, the Maine Principals Association, and our Student Resource Officer Bill Sternbergh to address the problem.

DAR Good Citizen Award

Smita Martin was selected as the DAR Good Citizen for the Class of 2018. The faculty and staff select a student each year who demonstrates the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their homes, schools, and communities.



Girls Basketball Team

The number of girls interested in playing basketball is very low. Four students have expressed interest in playing. The Maine Principals Association, who regulates athletics in Maine, allows schools with low numbers of girls to use 8th grade students when necessary. There are several schools across the state that are in a similar situation and use 8th graders.

This is a great opportunity for students and will allow the high school girls basketball program to continue. I have great confidence that Coach Johnson will turn the program around and increase participation at the high school level.

HALLOWEEN 2018



Teacher, staff, and students dressed in costume for the day.