

**REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING  
November 29, 2017**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on November 29, 2017.

**Those in attendance were:**

CSD	Tori Manzi, Bob Duke, Pete Orne, Faith Vautour	(69.62/ea)
Islesboro	John Gorham	(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Loren Andrews, Kim Appleby, Joanne Richards	(77.82/ea)
SAD 40	Danny Jackson, Sara Andrews, Matthew Speno, Seth Hall	(77.89/ea)
SAD 7	Jerry White	( 7.49)
SAD 8		(24.58)
St. George		(54.68)

Beth Fisher, Director; Sherry Moody, Business Mgr., Brandon Soards, Design Tech Teacher

**Absent** – Renee Jones, Sherman Hoyt

Chair Jerry White opened the regular meeting at 7:03 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 920.74**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Seth reported to the board that the average public funding of American schools declined by 36% over the past ten years as reported by NPR (National Public Radio).

**ADJUSTMENTS** – None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Duke, to approve the minutes of the October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting

Motion approved with three abstentions (Richards, Orne, Vautour)

**Total weighted votes: 703.68**

**LOGO COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Brandon Soards discussed the mural design that is going on the front of the building. The logo will be implemented into the design of the mural. A lot of decision making and design choices need to be made over the coming months. A lot of work needs to be done to identify where the current logo is in use. Brandon discussed various areas including letterhead, student ID cards, t-shirts, etc. At some point, there will be two logos in use. Ultimately, Brandon hopes the over-lapping period will be shortly before we move into the new school. Brandon is proposing we unveil the logo in early spring 2019. Re-designing the sign out front would be the beginning of the phase-in. The goal is to have the new logo fully in use at the ribbon cutting in the fall of 2019. Tori asked if we could share the new logo with the sending school boards. Brandon thought there would be a soft unveiling and an official unveiling of the new design. He'd like to avoid a press event if possible. Seth would like to see the logo released sooner.

**CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS UPDATE**

Beth reported the work is moving quickly. They have had an unsuitable soils issue that is being handled well with minimum cost. The plan is to put up steel beginning in January. Beth advised anyone visiting the site may do so by coordinating a visit with our Project Manager. Bruck is doing an excellent job managing the daily work with detailed reports. Bob asked about change orders and if the board could receive monthly reports on any change orders. Beth will report these to the board. She has also asked for a design proposal to add outdoor seating behind the new school. Beth will bring this to the board when she receives the proposal.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### FINANCE

#### Warrants and Budget

Pete reported the committee met and signed the warrants for October and November. Pete reviewed the October 31<sup>st</sup> Financial report with the board.

MOTION by Orne, seconded by Jackson, to accept and approve the warrant and budget reports for October and November

Seth Hall asked about the purchase of a new CNC mill (Haas) for the Machine Shop.

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 920.74**

The committee had a quick overview of the draft budget. We are waiting to hear how the new funding formula will work. The Department of Education will be issuing us an ED 279 which means the CTE schools will receive subsidy directly from the state. Beth will be attending a meeting tomorrow to continue to discuss details of the formula. Some of the concerns have been addressed. Equipment is not currently included in the formula nor is transportation costs. Funding for technology appears to be inadequate. The formula is program based. Sherry found out today that we do not have to build in the teacher share of MePERS into the budget as the state pays this cost. There will be a new timeline for program proposals (startups). Beth anticipates there will be glitches that need to be worked out. We have spent months verifying student data from our sending schools. The sending school data must be submitted before we can verify the CTE student data. Our sending schools will see the bond payment assessed plus the difference between the state subsidy and the actual budget. Tori sees this change as very positive in moving the conversation from CTE costs to programming. Danny asked about start-up programming and how costs are covered. Beth discussed how funding new programs might work and the accuracy of the data being used.

### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Kim reported the committee met and are recommending the adoption of two new textbooks: Foundations of Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts (National Restaurant Foundation) for the Culinary Arts program. The cost of the textbook and workbook is \$83 and grant money is available to offset some of the cost.

MOTION by Appleby, seconded by Vautour, to approve the textbook for Culinary Arts

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 920.74**

The committee is also recommending the adoption of a new textbook for the Small Engines program. The textbook cost is \$79 per book and there is \$1,000 in the budget for textbooks.

MOTION by Appleby, seconded by Vautour, to approve the textbook for Small Engines

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 920.74**

Matthew asked about the availability of peripherals for the Small Engines program.

The committee also discussed programming in the new school. Beth outlined the process of approving programming and funding. The first step is surveying students. A student survey was done in the spring of 2016. We will likely do another survey on programming. Programs formerly surveyed included Business/Marketing, Electrical, Plumbing/HVAC, Law Enforcement and Computer Information Services. There was no overwhelming response for any particular program. Kim asked

what programs the board feels would be proposed in the new school. Beth feels one program should be applied for in the next cycle (2019 school year). Tori felt only three or four programs should be on the next student survey. Beth explained the rules surrounding starting up a program including the Department of Labor statistics and student interest. The program must also be aligned with identifiable industry standards and approved by the DOE. There must be 350 hours of instruction and an instructor with industry experience in the area approved. Jerry felt it might be more productive to get some information out to the board on programming for discussion at the next board meeting. Beth will send the board a link to the pages on the DOE website. Joanne felt a new program should tie in with a community college program. Beth discussed the courses being offered through a grant with Kennebec Valley Community College (agriculture based). Kim advised the committee will meet again next month.

#### **CHAIR UPDATE**

Jerry attended the National Rural Education conference in October. He had an opportunity to discuss rural needs and CTE with the US Department of Education. Jerry also attended the Maine Small Schools Coalition meeting.

#### **DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Beth reported that Region 8 is receiving a mini grant for approximately \$45,000 from the DOE. We are strategically purchasing items from the new building using Perkins grant monies. Beth visits the construction site daily. She is working on CIP code changes for our programs. The applications are tedious and time consuming. Middle school programming has been mandated by the state but the rules have yet to be developed. She plans to work with Middle School Principals on the concept.

Danny thanked Beth for hosting the RSU 40 Board meeting on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Jerry declared the meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Next Board Meeting: December 20, 2017

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Elizabeth Fisher, Board Secretary