

**Saco Board of Education
Minutes of November 12, 2002
7:00 PM**

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rivest, at 7:00 PM. Members present: Chair Allen Rivest, Vice Chair Tim Christenbury, Ronald Morton, Jeffrey Robinson, Marc Meserve, Superintendent Tomaszewski, Business Manager Terry Towle, Principals Jim Dunn, Steve Marquis and Maureen McMullin, Special Education Director Cathi Faust, and Curriculum Coordinator Pat Jackman.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ron Morton and seconded by Tim Christenbury to approve the Minutes of October 22, 2002 as presented with the amendment.

A motion was made by Jeff Robinson and seconded by Tim Christenbury to amend the Minutes of October 22, 2002 to include a question from Jeff Robinson regarding whether or not the Board would be obligated to make up the difference for the funding of the C.K. Burns Ferry Beach Ecology field trip if the fundraising goal was not met. Voted 4-0-1 (Marc Meserve abstained). Motion passed.

The primary motion was then voted. Voted 4-0-1 (Marc Meserve abstained). Motion passed.

Adjustments to the Agenda

The Superintendent welcomed new Board members Jean Leach and David Galli and mentioned Carol Doyle would be attending as well.

Allen Rivest congratulated Marc Meserve on being elected County Commissioner.

Correspondence

- A. School Nurse Reports
- B. Expenditure Reports for Current Year

Terry Towle noted there were not items of concern at this time.

- C. Thank you letter to Young School

Public Session

None

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tomaszewski stated October 23 she attended the MSSA conference where the NCLB Act and the Maine Comprehensive Education Plan were discussed. In the Board's packet they would find a list of 24 policies and 26 plans required of SAU's for the current school year. Of the 24 polices Saco School Department has all but 5, which will need to be revised or drafted.

The Superintendent noted she has put a freeze on the budget for the rest of the year. Contractual obligations will be met, but spending for other items will be closely scrutinized. This is in response to a recent memo from the Commissioner of Education regarding the state budget deficit.

The Superintendent mentioned the bus driver appreciation breakfast on October 24, and thanked not only Charles Hادياريس and Judy Goodness but students, parents and staff members who helped to make the Pumpkin Fest a huge success.

Staff Reports

Administrator reports were presented in written form.

Marc Meserve thanked the schools and city for Pumpkinfest.

Tim Christenbury noted the Saco Middle School had many activities in October for which they have had really good publicity.

The Superintendent thanked Jim Dunn and the students at the Saco Middle School for the success of the Open House.

Committee Reports

Policy Committee – Ron Morton noted they met since the last Board meeting and there will be quite a few policies for 1st Reading tonight. He also mentioned they had reviewed the Fund raising policy as requested by the Board and have brought it back for adoption tonight.

Facilities Committee – Tim Christenbury noted the committee is continuing to work on the Facilities agreement and that the Mohlin Building remains a topic with respect to finances and renovations.

Adult Ed Committee – Ron Morton mentioned they reviewed the Alternative Program and funding for the program. Sharon Ultsch is drafting a letter to send to businesses to help solicit financial support.

Another issue is the question of what adult ed is today and how to fund it. This is a big item of discussion at state level as well as local level. Tim Christenbury noted that if only 1 to 2 students are enrolled in the high school diploma program the committee questioned is it effective to run that program. There has been mention of collaborating with neighboring adult ed programs but the consensus is to run the program.

Allen Rivest asked if the solicitation of business would go through the Superintendent's Office and to the Board for approval.

The Superintendent replied it was a draft at this time but will go to the Adult Ed governing board and then the respective Boards of Old Orchard Beach and Saco.

Legislative Committee – Marc Meserve mentioned a special session will begin the morning of November 13. Currently there is a shortfall of \$246,000,000 to \$256,000,000 and there are two proposals on the table. The projected shortfall for next year is \$900,000,000.

Marc Meserve also mentioned the Dropout Prevention Program explaining he feels a member of the new board should be assigned to attend the meetings. He has been attending unofficially for the last two to three years. This program goes hand-in-hand with Adult Ed. Marc also feels the schools should possibly consider their own program for Dropout Prevention.

The Superintendent said there are currently programs through Thornton Academy

and Open Door but it could be a possibility to have a representative from Saco Middle School join in the future.

Allen Rivest asked the Superintendent to prepare her thoughts and recommendations on the matter for the next meeting.

Marc Meserve noted the next Dropout Prevention meeting would be in February.

Old Business/Action Items

Presentation of diploma from Rex family

Allen Rivest mentioned the Board had been offered the opportunity to receive a diploma.

The Superintendent gave the background of how the diploma was received from the Rex family and what they had told her about Wilson "Babe" Rex and how he had always loved Maine. The family found his diploma when sorting through his belongings and felt the Saco School Department should have it.

The Superintendent will write a thank you letter to the family and send them a picture of the Board accepting the framed diploma. The diploma will hang in the Superintendent's office.

Update on 90 Beach Street property

The Superintendent mentioned both she and Terry Towle had met with the school attorney last week regarding a lease purchase of the building. She also noted the City Council will be holding a workshop on this matter on November 25.

Allen Rivest inquired about a fleshed out plan for cost of renovations.

The Superintendent said she had heard from the site engineers but not the architect.

Allen Rivest requested the plan in advance of the 25th for the Council to consider if possible.

Discussion was held on how to handle legal fees.

Update on SMS Construction

The Superintendent noted they are down to the punch list and the last few code items. They met on November 8 with Dick Lambert, Code Enforcer and reviewed the list.

Terry Towle distributed a project balance sheet showing the funds still available and the total bonded amount. Terry noted there is a projected surplus of \$9,947.

Remaining items should be completed within 4-6 weeks depending on product delivery.

Report of MSBA Conference attendance

Tim Christenbury reported.

He attended sessions on Bargaining Techniques, Meet the Commissioner – a roundtable discussion where they discussed Maine Learning Results, No Child Left Behind, enrollments and budgets, a session with Jamie Vollmer entitled Building

Community Support and a session on School Board Procedures and Law. He gave highlights from each.

Tim recommended the conference to others.

New Business/Action Items

Notification of Grant Awards 02-03

The Superintendent mentioned that annually they write grant applications and are notified when they are approved. She asked Pat Jackman to highlight the areas in which the grants would be used.

Pat Jackman reviewed Title IA – Basic Disadvantaged – total allocation of \$265,848, Title IIA – Teacher Quality – total allocation of \$113,054, Title IID – Ed Technology – total allocation of \$6,391 25% of which is required to be set aside for professional development in the area of technology, Title III – Language Instruction for LEP and Immigrant Students – total allocation of \$2,992, Title IVA – Safe & Drug Free Schools & Communities Act – total allocation - \$13,672 an Title V – Innovative Education – total allocation of \$11,647.

A motion was made by Allen Rivest and seconded by Tim Christenbury to accept the No Child Left Behind Act Grants Plan for 2002-2003 funding as presented. Voted 5-0. Motion passed.

Nomination of Special Ed Teacher – District Wide

A motion was made by Tim Christenbury and seconded by Ron Morton to accept the nomination of Kathleen Dekker as Special Ed Teacher – District Wide. Voted 5-0. Motion passed.

2nd Reading and adoption of Policy JJE – Fund Raising

Allen Rivest thanked the Policy Committee for reviewing the policy but noted he still retains the thought there should not be a constraint on the fund raising.

A motion was made by Ron Morton and seconded by Tim Christenbury to approve the 2nd Reading and adoption of Policy JJE – Fund Raising. Voted 3-2 (Allen Rivest, Jeff Robinson). Motion passed.

2nd Reading and adoption of Policy JLCB - Immunizations

A motion was made by Ron Morton and seconded by Tim Christenbury to approve the 2nd Reading and adoption of Policy JLCB – Immunizations. Voted 5-0. Motion passed.

1st Reading of Policies BCC – Nepotism, BG – School Board Policy Process, BG-R – School Board Policy Process Administrative Procedure, BIA – New Board Member Orientation, BIB – Board Member Development Opportunities and CHD – Administration in the Absence of Policy

A motion was made by Allen Rivest and seconded by Ron Morton to accept for 1st Reading the following 6 policies:

- Policy BCC – Nepotism
- Policy BG – School Board Policy Process
- Policy BG-R – School Board Policy Process Administrative Procedure

Policy BIA – New Board Member Orientation
Policy BIB – Board Member Development Opportunities
Policy CHD – Administration in the Absence of Policy

Voted 5-0. Motion passed.

Ron Morton mentioned Policy BCC had been expanded in the language used for the definition of immediate family.

1st Reading of Policy CBI – Evaluation of Superintendent

A motion was made by Allen Rivest and seconded by Ron Morton to accept for 1st Reading Policy CBI – Evaluation of Superintendent. Discussion included a suggestion for more than one evaluation meeting per year. Voted 5-0. Motion passed.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Allen Rivest to move into Executive Session at 8:10 PM to discuss Teacher Contract Negotiations and to discuss the evaluation of Superintendent. Voted 5-0. Motion passed.

Declared out of Executive Session by Chair Rivest at 9:40 PM.

Action(s) as a Result of Executive Session

A motion was made by Allen Rivest and seconded by Jeff Robinson for the Board to authorize Board negotiating team to enter into preliminary negotiations with the Saco Education Association regarding the teacher’s collective bargaining agreement. Voted 5-0. Motion passed.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Marc Meserve and seconded by Ron Morton at 9:43 PM. Voted 5-0.

Minutes prepared by: Respectfully submitted by:

Tonya S. Muchemore, Recorder

Elaine Tomaszewski

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