

**Saco Board of Education
Minutes of March 14, 2006
7:00 PM**

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mayor Johnston, at 7:02 PM. Members present: Chair Mayor Johnston, Vice Chair Galli, Jeff Robinson, Cindy Belanger, Lorraine Whelan, Beth Johnston, Superintendent Lafortune, Principals Rick Talbot, Peter Harrison, Steve Marquis, Maureen McMullin, Special Services Director Cathi Faust, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Carol Marcotte and Technology Director Justin Cole.

Members Absent: Dan Cabral and David Versel

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Approval of Minutes dated February 14, 2006

The Mayor asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes after their review. Seeing none the minutes were passed.

Adjustment to the Agenda

None

Correspondence**Expenditure Report**

The Expenditure Report for February was reviewed by the Board. Superintendent Lafortune reported they were on track at approximately 67%.

Letter from Department of Education to Roni Strout

A letter from the Department of Education to teacher Roni Strout congratulating her on being the school nominee for the 2007 Maine Teacher of the Year was reviewed by the Board.

Saco Food Pantry Letter

The Board received a copy of a letter from the Saco Food Pantry to the Fairfield School students and staff thanking them for their donations.

Public Session

None

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent reported on the March 2 Professional Development early release day.

Staff Reports**Presentation by Burns School on Hooked on Books**

Steve Marquis introduced Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Grenier, the Burns School librarians.

Mrs. Grenier did an overview of the number of students served and the tremendous amount of books that are checked out of the library.

Mrs. Richardson spoke on the new concept – Hooked on Books. Students can earn t-

shirts and bumper stickers. Approximately 318 students have earned these items so far. In order to receive an item they must read 10 books from their reading level.

Special Education Law regarding students placed at Thornton Academy by parents

Cathi Faust, Special Education Director spoke on Child Find and the duties to evaluate the students. There are new laws coming out regarding this issue. She is working with the school attorneys to develop a policy to reflect what our responsibilities will be under the new guidelines for students from other towns.

The Board thanked her for her presentation.

Committee Reports

Policy - Superintendent Lafortune noted the committee had met and reviewed some policies.

Old Business/Action Items

None

New Business/Action Items

Recommendation of 7 th Grade Boys Baseball Coach

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Lorraine Whelan to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of Joe Johnson as 7 th Grade Boys Baseball Coach for the 2005-2006 school year only. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Recommendation of 8 th Grade Boys Baseball Coach

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Beth Johnston to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of Thomas Ventura as 8 th Grade Boys Baseball Coach for the 2005-2006 school year only. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Recommendation of Track Coaches

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Lorraine Whelan to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of Patricia Demaria as Track Coach for the 2005-2006 school year only. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Recommendation of Track Coaches

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Lorraine Whelan to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of Mark Snow as Track Coach for the 2005-2006 school year only. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Recommendation of Track Coaches

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Lorraine Whelan to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of Christine Reasor as Track Coach for the 2005-2006 school year only. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Recommendation of 7 th Grade Girls Softball Coach

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Jeff Robinson to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of Stan Scontras as 7 th Grade Girls Baseball Coach for the 2005-2006 school year only. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Recommendation of 8 th Grade Girls Softball Coach

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Lorraine Whelan to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of Robert LePauloue as 8 th Grade Girls Baseball

Coach for the 2005-2006 school year only. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Approval of 2006-2007 Budget

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Lorraine Whelan for the Saco Board of Education to approve the 2006-2007 school budget in the amount of \$25,504,018.00. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Superintendent Lafortune explained the budget process. He reported that only a half-time gifted and talented teaching position was added. There is a 4.55% increase and they are \$460,000 under EPS.

Jeff Robinson requested an inventory list of the assets at the school department. He would also like more transparency in the contract negotiation process. He does feel that the budget, as it stands is a fine budget. The development of the budget was a thoughtful process with a lot of hard work going into it.

Cindy Belanger thanked all the Principals for developing their budgets in a responsible way. She made a comment to all taxpayers that a lot of the budget was based on the increase in heating and electricity costs. She would like the City Council to take this into consideration when the budget comes before them. She also feels the budget is very responsible and will benefit students without any excess.

Mayor Johnston assured her the Council has heard comments about this.

Executive Session

None

Action(s) as a Result of Executive Session

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by David Galli, seconded by Beth Johnston to adjourn at 7:40 PM. Voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Minutes prepared by:

Tonya S. Muchemore, Transcriber

Respectfully submitted by:

Michael Lafortune, Superintendent

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