

**S.A.D. #44 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008
7:00 PM – TELSTAR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
MINUTES**

I CALL TO ORDER:

Directors Absent: Ms. Chaisson, Mr. Pew, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Arizzi, Ms. Brown, Mr. Polak

Others Present: Mr. Brown, Mr. Davis, Mr. Tornrose, Ms. Graham, Dr. Murphy, Mr. Rice,
Mr. Sabin, Ms. Tancrelle, Mr. Raymond, Ms. Aloisio

Pledge of Allegiance

II ACTION ON MINUTES:

Ms. Cross motioned to approval the minutes from the May 12, 2008 meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Ms. Largess VOTE: Unanimous

III CITIZEN COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

A community member stated that he had attended an excellent production of Lumberjacks and Wedding Bells put on by the Bethel Performing Arts Program. He noted that the facilities' sound and lighting needs improvement and hoped that these improvements could be made in the near future. He also noted that performing builds self-esteem in the students.

IV BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

Ms. Nasta thanked the Community member for attending the performance and showing interest. Mr. Davis noted that 38 students were involved and worked on the production for months.

Chairman's Report

Ms. Cummings noted that this meeting was the last for Ms. Thurston. She thanked her for her hard work on the Board.

V COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETINGS:

SAD #44 Board Meeting: Monday, June 9, 2008 – THS Library – 7:00 PM

Executive Committee: TBD

Education Committee: September, 2008 - Date TBD

Personnel Committee: Monday, June 9, 2008 – THS Library – 6:45 PM

Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: September, 2008 - Date TBD

Negotiations Committee: TBD

Finance Committee: Monday, June 9, 2008 –THS Library – 6:30 PM

Policy Committee: September, 2008 - Date TBD

Region 9 Cooperative Board: Tuesday, June 17, 2008 – 7:00 PM

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VI COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee: Ms. Arizzi – no report
Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Ms. Cross –agenda item
Finance Committee: Mr. Pew – agenda item
Negotiations Committee: Mr. Pew – no report
Personnel Committee: Ms. Brown - no report
Policy Committee: Ms. Largess – agenda item
Region 9 Cooperative Board: Mr. Farrington – no report

VII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Appointments and Resignations – Dr. Murphy reported the resignation of Patty Brown, AES Secretary, and the retirement of Judy Coolidge, Grade 2 teacher at CPS. He also noted that he had granted a one year leave of absence to Caroline Lowe, THS Food Service employee and the transfer of Louise Chapman from AES to THS.
- School Consolidation Update, Rangeley Visit, Meeting with the Commissioner and Description of an Alternative Organizational Structure (AOS) – Dr. Murphy reported that he met with the Superintendent of SAU 37 and with the Commissioner. They discussed the distance between SAD 44 and SAU 37 and an AOS. An AOS is more complicated and involves inter-local agreements. It also involves the consolidation of central office functions, SPED, transportation and curriculum. It allows for a regionalized Board and the continuation of local committees. An AOS must have a minimum of 1000 students. If we are allowed to count tuitioned students, children from the unorganized territories and add a 4 year-old program, we would be close to the required 1000 students. If we do not consolidate the on-going financial penalty is approximately \$195,000 per year for SAD 44 and \$100,000 per year for SAU 37.
- Freedom of Access Board Training Requirement – Dr. Murphy noted that this training is required by November 1, 2008 and will be provided by the MSBA.
- 2008 Graduation, Recognition Dinner and District Wide End of the Year Activities – Dr. Murphy congratulated Mr. Davis on a very successful graduation. He also reminded the Board of the TEA dinner on June 16th.
- Budget Validation Referendum Reminder – Dr. Murphy reminded Board members of the Referendum Vote on June 10th.
- Virtual High School – Western Maine Educational Consortium – This subject was raised during the Accreditation visit. The registration fee of \$750.00 was paid several years ago. Dr. Murphy and Mr. Hart will explore this further over the summer. It would open a larger array of courses to THS students.
- Generator Update for Telstar Middle/High School – Dr. Murphy stated that the \$116,000 grant has been received for the generator at THS. He stated that additional funding may be required for the installation due to increased costs since the awarding of the grant.

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- Project updates for Revolving Renovation Projects – Dr. Murphy informed the Board that the THS Entryway Project will go out to bid on Wednesday, June 11th. The project should be completed by the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. He also stated that phase one of the sprinkler system will be completed over the summer. The entire project should be completed by the fall of 2009.
- Title 1 Funding Issues and Concerns – Dr. Murphy stated that SAD 44 is experiencing declining state funding for Title I due to declining student enrollment. We may have to shift or decrease personnel. Services may have to be reduced but not significantly.
- Declining Enrollment Issues – THS is currently working on class scheduling. We have not been able to fill some classes, which may result in shifting teachers to different areas. Nothing is specific as yet and Dr. Murphy stated he will keep the Board updated.
- Drop Out Prevention Committee Annual Report – Mr. Davis updated the Board on the Drop-Out Prevention Committee using a power-point presentation. He explained the goals and objectives of the Committee. The THS drop-out rate is 25% which is less than the state average of 28%. Mr. Davis explained that the committee went back over five years and analyzed not only the number of students who dropped out but determined the reasons for dropping out. The three main themes they discovered were health issues, disengagement and educational practice/literacy. Dr. Murphy thanked everyone on the committee, which has met at least 4 times this year. Most other district's Drop-Out Prevention committees meet only once per year.
- Annual Federal Funds Report – Ms. Graham explained to the Board that NCLB funds are used to measure Adequate Yearly Progress, which is measured in many categories. The funds are not tied to scores but rather to the population and poverty rate. The state receives a lump sum from the Federal government and these funds are divided up to districts. Ms. Graham distributed a handout to the Board with specific figures for Title IA, IIA, IV and V. She noted that up to ½ of Title money can be transferred to another Title with the exception of Title I. She also explained that any child that meets the requirements scholastically can receive services regardless of poverty level.

VIII OLD BUSINESS:

None

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IX NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion

~ Cooperative Education Program possibility for THS for 2008 – 2009

Dr. Murphy informed the Board that the Cooperative Education Program has been cut from Region 9. The Superintendent has been working with the Bethel Business Association in looking for ways to develop a local program. Dr. Murphy will update the Board at the July 14 meeting and may have an action item for the Board to consider at that time. This type of program lines up well with the efforts of the Drop Out Prevention Committee.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda - none

3. Ms. Largess motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the SECOND AND FINAL READING of Policy EBCA Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

MOTION: Ms. Largess SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

4. Ms. Largess motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the SECOND AND FINAL READING of Policy JEA Compulsory Attendance.

MOTION: Ms. Largess SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

5. Ms. Cummings motioned to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Jolene Perry to a first year probationary teaching contract for the Andover Elementary School.

MOTION: Ms. Cummings SECOND: Ms. Thurston VOTE: Unanimous

6. Mr. Brown motioned to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to authorize initial sanctioning for a girls' soccer program at Telstar High School as outlined in Policy JJ pending approval of the 2008-2009 budget.

MOTION: Mr. Brown SECOND: Ms. Nasta VOTE: Unanimous

7. Ms. Brough motioned to accept the Education Committee's recommendation and approve the continuation of the Football program at Telstar High School as a sanctioned sport in MSAD 44.

MOTION: Mr. Brough SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

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8. Mr. Brough motioned to accept the Education Committee's recommendation and approve the continuation of the High School Musical Program at Telstar High School as a sanctioned activity in MSAD 44.

MOTION: Mr. Brough SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

9. Mr. Brown motioned to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation and approve authorizing the Superintendent to use up to \$40,547.27 in unexpended balances, as available, from the FY 08 budget to pay off the outstanding 2007 bus lease debt. It is estimated that this expenditure will save approximately \$7,000 in interest. Priority # 1

MOTION: Mr. Brown SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

10. Mr. Brown motioned to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation and approve authorizing the Superintendent to use up to \$49,320 in unexpended balances, as available, from the FY 08 budget to make an additional payment on the track project. This expenditure will reduce the interest over the life of the loan by more than \$10,000. Priority #2

MOTION: Mr. Brown SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

11. Mr. Brown motioned to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation and approve authorizing the Superintendent to use up to \$10,000 in unexpended balances, as available, from the FY 08 budget for improvements to the Telstar Auditorium lighting and sound systems. – Priority # 3

MOTION: Mr. Brown SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

12. Mr. Brown motioned to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation and approve authorizing the Superintendent spend up to \$10,000 in unexpended balances, as available, from the FY 08 budget for improvements to the Telstar Cafeteria. – Priority #4

MOTION: Mr. Brown SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT: 8:45 PM

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Mr. Farrington VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

David W. Murphy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

