

**S.A.D. #44 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONDAY, December 11, 2006
7:30 PM – TELSTAR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
MINUTES**

I CALL TO ORDER:

Directors Absent: None

Others Present: Mr. Brown, Mr. Davis, Mr. Tornrose, Mr. McCarthy, Ms. Graham, Ms. Littlehale, Dr. Murphy, Ms. Reed, Mr. Sabin, Ms. Aloisio, Ms. Tancredelle, Mr. Clanton, Mr. Driscoll, Mr. Reuter

Pledge of Allegiance

II ACTION ON MINUTES:

Mr. Pew motioned to approve the minutes from the Board meeting held on November 13, 2006.

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

III CITIZEN COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

None

IV BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

None

Chairman's Report

Ms. Cummings welcomed Mr. Korhonen back following a recent illness and welcomed Pat Nasta as the new Board member representing Bethel.

V COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee: Mr. Polak
Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Ms. Cross
Finance Committee: Mr. Pew
Negotiations Committee: Mr. Pew
Personnel Committee: Ms. Brown
Policy Committee: Ms. Largess
Region 9 Cooperative Board: Mr. Farrington

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VI COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETINGS:

SAD #44 Board Meeting: Monday, January 8, 2007 – 7:30 PM – Andover Elementary

Executive Committee: December 11, 2006 – 6:30 PM – Telstar High School Library (postponed)

Education Committee: Monday, December 18, 2006 – 4:00 PM - EBS

Personnel Committee: TBD

Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Monday, December 18, 2006 – 7:00 PM - EBS

Negotiations Committee: Thursday, January 4, 2007 – 2:00 PM - EBS

Finance Committee: Monday, January 8, 2007 – 7:00 PM – Andover Elementary

Policy Committee: Monday, December 18, 2006 – 5:30 PM - EBS

Region 9 Cooperative Board: Tuesday, December 19, 2006

VII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Resignations and Appointments – Dr. Murphy announced the following appointments: Diane Palmer – Bus Driver; David Jenkins – HS JV Girls Basketball Coach; Kelly Blaszcak – CPS Soccer Coach; Tera Ingrham – CPS Basketball Coach; David Jenkins – Outing Club Advisor; Beth Clarke – CPS Nordic Coach.
- Dr. Murphy updated the Board regarding the issue with the Bus Garage that they were informed of at the previous meeting. He reported that Clean Harbor came out and looked at the problem with the smell and standing water. They stated it is not a big issue and there will not be a large financial cost. One tank will be disposed of.
- Dr. Murphy informed the Board that he had just attended a Sports Done Right meeting in Orono. A presentation will be made to the Board in the near future.
- English vs. Literacy Report – Mr. Tornrose & Ms. Graham – Literacy serves all teachers in all curriculum areas. There is a real connection between reading and writing. Critical thinking is essential. Information is readily available due to advances in technology. Students must learn to critically examine this information and to evaluate it for accuracy and make choices as to what information to use. Students must be able to take in information, process that information and be able to communicate that information to others. They must be able to frame an argument and have the ability to take someone else's argument apart. Literacy is much more than just reading. Teachers must use research-based strategies to motivate and engage students. These strategies must be supported by school leaders and include strong professional development. The middle school currently has a Comprehensive School Reform Grant of which the core issue is literacy. After the presentation the Board spent several minutes discussing issues such as teaching students to problem solve and have the ability to verbalize what they are thinking, and the ability of teachers to teach literacy and still get kids ready for state mandated testing.
- School Security Update – Dr. Murphy updated the Board on security plans being considered. There will be a Final Options presentation at January Board Meeting including a DVD showing the layouts of our school buildings. This DVD has been distributed to the State Police, Oxford County Sheriff's Department and the Bethel Police.

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- Dr. Murphy distributed a Position Paper on School Consolidation, Regionalization and Collaboration from the Maine School Superintendent Association.
- Adjustment to 2007 School Board Meeting Schedule – The November 2007 Board Meeting was changed from November 12th to November 19th due to the November 11th Veteran’s Day holiday being celebrated on Monday.
- Region 9 – Following the Public Hearing on the proposed Region 9 Renovation and Expansion that was attended by several Board members, Mr. Driscoll and Mr. Clanton were available to answer any Board member questions. Mr. Clanton began by reviewing the history of Region 9 for the benefit of any Board members not present for the two previous presentations. He then reviewed the total estimated cost of the project and the funding breakdown. Mr. Clanton reminded the Board that the \$1.73 million that is available from the state revolving fund will expire in February of 2007 and will be lost if the referendum fails to pass in January. The question was raised as to when the Region 9 Board decided that a larger building was needed. Mr. Clanton responded that the project proposal was begun when it was realized that there were several deficiencies that needed to be repaired to bring the building up to code. He acknowledged that the deficiencies were known when the building was purchased in 2003. The Region 9 Board decided that it did not make financial sense to complete small projects one at a time. It was much more cost effective to repair all the deficiencies and create more program space in one project. Five separate applications were made to the state for Priority I money for repairs to the building. In the spring of 2005 the Region 9 Board was notified that \$750,000.00 was available. In September of 2004 an application was submitted for Priority III money for new space. The issue was raised regarding the cost and long-term implications to the SAD #44 budget. To cover the costs, if the project is approved, for the first four years SAD #44’s budget would increase by 2-1/2% and after year ten it would drop to 1-1/2%. SAD #44 has 40 students attending Region 9 and concern was expressed that the rest of SAD #44 students would suffer. Also, it was stated that due to our declining student population, it is unlikely that the number of SAD #44 students attending Region 9 would increase. SAD #43 could benefit the most from the project, since one of their programs might be able to be dropped. There was also some concern raised regarding the proposed Early Childhood Program. The opinion was voiced that information on the project was not received in a timely fashion and it was not an open process. It was stated that it appeared that the goal was to get the referendum passed as opposed to having the community behind the project. Some Board members felt that Region 9 was too late in coming to the community with the referendum vote only three weeks away.

VIII OLD BUSINESS:

None

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IX NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion - None
2. Adjustments to the Agenda - None
3. Ms. Cross motioned to approve entering into an executive session for a periodic review of the performance of the Superintendent of Schools pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405 (6) (A).

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

Time in: 9:18 PM Time out: 9:49 PM

4. Mr. Pew motioned to approve extending Dr. David Murphy's contract as Superintendent of Schools in MSAD #44 through June 30, 2012, effective July 1, 2007.

MOTION: Mr. Pew SECOND: Mr. Melville VOTE: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT: 9:49 PM

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

Respectfully Submitted:

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