

**Saco Board of Education
Minutes of December 9, 2008
Board Workshop – 5:30 P.M.
Finance Committee: 6:30 PM @ City Hall
Regular Board Meeting: 7:00 PM @ City Hall**

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michaud, at 7:00 PM. Members present: David Galli, Lorraine Whelan, Beth Johnston, Shirley Jones, Dan Cabral, Scott Nason, Special Education Director, Cathi Faust, Asst. Special Education Director, Jill Hastings, Principal Rick Talbot, Principal Peter Harrison, Adult Ed Director, Sharon Ultsch, Technology Director, Laurie Underwood and Superintendent Mike Lafortune,

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Approval of Minutes dated November 18, 2008

Mayor Michaud asked the Board to approve the Minutes from November 18, 2008 as written. A motion was made by Dave Galli and seconded by Beth Johnston. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Adjustments to the Agenda

Beginning a String Booster Group (Anne Wilkinson/Thornton Academy)

Anne Wilkinson presented a String Booster Program that she would like to implement. She highlighted a couple fundraising ideas, a logo that had “Saco Strings” on it, creation of bumper stickers, and water bottles to sell at the concerts.

The money raised will be used for Music Camp, and Instruments.

Correspondence:

Expenditure Report

Superintendent Lafortune reviewed the Expenditure Report with the board. He stated the current budget is at 42%, which is on target. He advised all principals to be careful overseeing their budget.

Curriculum Update

Superintendent Lafortune highlighted the December Board Report enclosed for the boards review.

Union #7 5-Year Curriculum Development Cycle

A handout was provided within the board packet highlighting where several areas of Curriculum Development are now and where they will be in 5 years.

Young School Volunteer Hours

A handout was provided to the board with Young Schools' volunteer hours for the month. The volunteer's were recognized and appreciated by the board.

Public Session

None

Superintendent's Report:

Budget 2008-2009

- Superintendent Lafortune reported the state would be cutting our subsidy by \$477,000. Budgets have been frozen and a close analysis will be done in the next few months.

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RSU Development

Superintendent Lafortune reported on the RSU. Two Joint Board meetings have taken place with an election date of February 10, 2009. Once the board is chosen a Superintendent will be hired and work on the new budget will begin. Superintendent Lafortune and Superintendent OOB, Jack Turcotte have been meeting regularly.

A nomination was made by Dave Galli to nominate him and Shirley Jones to be on the Transition Team of the RSU board. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Finance Office Update

Superintendent Lafortune informed the board of Business Manager's, Kathi Winchenbach's resignation. Jake Clockedile will be the Interim Business Manager and Sharon LaFleme will be helping out in the finance office.

Staff Reports

Special Education/K-8

Special Ed Director, Cathi Faust reported on the Special Ed Review. Improvements have been made within the resource programs.

Special Education/Thornton Academy

Asst. Special Ed. Director, Jill Hastings reported on 9-12 and Secondary programs. She stated that small fixes were needed in the secondary program. Job shadowing has been a big success.

Adult Education

Adult Ed Director, Sharon Ultsch did an overview of her program. She explained the enrichment programs were very self-sufficient. The other side of Adult Ed is the Academic program. There are six different academic programs that are offered. Sharon highlighted each one.

Technology

Technology Director, Laurie Underwood presented technology. She stated new servers have been setup separate from the City, wireless connectivity has been expanded and spam filters have been upgraded and working very effectively. She explained our website has the capability of informing her of what people are searching for so improvements can be made in the future.

Laurie explained two new software programs that are currently being utilized within the district. She also provided for the board a breakdown of what progress has been performed and what is still in the queue. These include:

- Laptops have been cleaned, repaired and functioning well.
- PowerSchool will include MEA Data
- PowerSchool Premier was implemented to assist with report cards
- Infinite Campus has taken over for MEDMS
- Transfinder is now being utilized by Transportation, and

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- Technology CDT will begin in January 2009.

Committee Reports

Advisory Council

Co-chair, Dave Galli reported on the last Advisory Council meeting, which emphasized Action Plans that were proposed. The Action Plans along with ELA, Math, and CDT were approved. He reported that Report revisions would be discussed at a later date.

Old Business/Action Items

None

New Business/Action Items

Approval for String Booster Club

A nomination was made by Dave Galli and seconded by Shirley Jones to approve a creation of a String Booster Group in Saco. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Nominations of Saco Middle School Coaches

A motion was made by Dave Galli and seconded by Shirley Jones to accept the Superintendent's nomination of Brian Dougher and Indoor Track Coach, Pattie Demaria as Indoor Track Coach, Lindsay Davis as Indoor Track Coach and Heidi Pare as 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Swimming Coach for the 2008-2009 school year at Saco Middle School. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

Annual Review and/or Appointment of Board Members to Sub-Committees

No changes to members of the current sub-committees. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

403.B

Superintendent Lafortune reported on the 403B compliance. He stated by January 2009 we are required to have a system in place for Individuals to join 403B's. Mike informed the Board that SU7 would like to contract CPI to be the Administrator for the 403B.

A motion was made by Dave Galli and seconded by Shirley Jones to enter into a contract with CPI in the amount of \$1,500 per year for Compliant Common Remitter Services.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dave Galli and seconded by Shirley Jones to adjourn at 8:20 P.M. Voted unanimously. Motion approved.

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Minutes prepared by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Lynn Ouellette, Transcriber

Michael Lafortune, Superintendent