

AOS 96  
Superintendent's Office  
291 Court Street  
Machias, ME 04654  
(207) 255-6585

**Minutes  
Machias School Committee  
Wednesday, January 2, 2019  
Superintendent's Office  
4:30 PM**

**Attendance:** Teresa Saddler, Richard Shaw, Joleen Nicely, Carolyn Nadeau.

**Others Present:** Joyce Fragale, Brian Leavitt, Mitchell Look, Scott Porter.

**I.** Call to order at 4:27 p.m. by Teresa Saddler.

**II.** **Approval of the minutes of December 5, 2018.**

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the minutes of December 5, 2018.  
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 4-0.

**III.** **Agenda Adjustments:** None.

**IV.** **Principal's Report:**

**RMG:** Enclosed.  
**MMHS:** Enclosed.

**V.** **New Business:**

**1. CTE Grant Update:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that there has been no notification from the State regarding the CTE Grant.

**2. Budget Committee Meeting:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that he met with the Machias Budget Committee on December 13, 2018 to discuss the current school budget.

**3. Tuition Revenue:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Maine Department of Education has not released the new tuition rates at this time.

**4. School Lunch Program:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that he is continuing to look into options for collecting past due school lunch bills.

**5. Legislative Update:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee of several important education bills that will be presented to the Maine Legislature this session. There will be bills on minimum teacher salaries, the retirement system, System Administration funding and a bill that will qualify an AOS as a Service Center. The Superintendent is on the Legislative Committee at the Superintendents Association so he will be actively monitoring each bill that impacts education in the State of Maine.

**6. Executive Session: Contract Negotiations: 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D):**

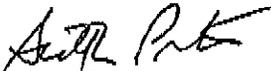
Motion to enter into Executive Session at 5:06 by Joleen Nicely.  
Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 5:16 p.m. by Joleen Nicely.  
Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

**VI. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn at 5:17 p.m. by Joleen Nicely.  
Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Scott K. Porter  
Superintendent of Schools  
AOS 96  
Machias Bay Area School System

**RMG Principal's Report**  
**January 2, 2019**  
**Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School**

**The Principal's Desk**

We would like to recognize Gary Alley who donated wreaths for the front of our building.

Our Safety Team continues to meet weekly. We were unable to finalize a new dismissal protocol prior to the holiday break, but will be working to complete this by the end of the month. The team is also beginning the process of reviewing our emergency plans.

RMG and MMHS administrators participated with Mr. Sternberg in a vulnerability study through "Firestorm", a company that specializes in school emergencies. The information gained from this study will be used to improve our current emergency plans.

**Sports**

Our Junior High student athletes continue to compete. Saturday Morning Basketball will start back up this weekend, after a brief break for the Holidays. Students in Kindergarten, First and Second grades are coached by our own Mr. Fitzsimmons.

Mr. Fitzsimmons also held a basketball clinic over the holiday break. Students in grades 1-4 were given the opportunity to participate. They practiced fundamentals as well as many other advanced skills and participated in a scrimmage at the culmination of the clinic.

Our Athletic Director, Mr. Sinford, in consultation with our website developer, Cindy Rossignol, developed a website to host sports information for the Machias School System. You can visit the site by accessing the RMG website: <https://sites.google.com/site/rmgelementaryschool/> and clicking on "Athletics" and then "Machias Sports". Go Mr. Sinford!!

Check out our digital calendar for games and practices, as well as other events: <http://localendar.com/public/RMGSchool>. Go Bulldogs!!!!

**Special Events**

On December 11th, the Frog Mountain Puppeteers visited RMG to present their version of "The Grinch". We are grateful for opportunities to expose our students to all aspects of the arts. Mrs. Moores in conjunction with the literacy team and our staff work to bring many enrichment opportunities to RMG throughout the year.

On December 12th, the RMG Drama club presented the play "No Santa". The club hosted two performances. A school performance took place at 1:00, followed by a 6:00 performance for the community. Congratulations to our aspiring actors for outstanding performances.

On December 20th, PAWS hosted their annual Christmas Tree Shop. Students were allowed to shop for their families, choosing from donated "nearly new" items. Everything was \$1, and wrapping was provided.

We also hosted our grade 5-12 Winter concert. This was rescheduled from December 5th. The concert included both band and chorus students from RMG and MMHS. Our PreK-4th grade concerts, originally scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup>, were rescheduled due to weather. They will take place on January 9th. PreK-2nd grade students will be performing at 5:30, and our 3rd and 4th graders will be performing at 6:00, on that date.

Holiday classroom parties took place on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday prior to Christmas break. Friday morning before dismissal we turned the gym into a movie theatre and classrooms were invited to view Christmas Classics.

### **We've Been Out and About**

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, between 5 and 7 p.m., select chorus students sang for diners at Helen's restaurant.

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, chorus students, accompanied by Mrs. Baker, sang at the Down East Community Light a Life Celebration. Flutists Luna Lord, and her mom Sarah, also treated the crowd with selections. Our musicians did an outstanding job with their performances, and also represented our school well.

On December 14th, our Kindergarten through 5th grade students caroled around town. It was nice to see many of our community members. I am so proud to be out and about in our community with our students. They are always well behaved, polite, and respectful.

On December 18th, our chorus traveled to Wesley to help our Wesley chorus members spread the cheer at their school.

### **Giving Back to Our Community**

The National Junior Honor Society hosted a Penny Drive to benefit the Machias Food Pantry. The three classrooms who raised the most money were: Grade 4 Mr. Manship, Grade 8 Mrs. Shaw, and Grade 4 Mrs. Singh. Over \$780 dollars was raised. Each of the top classrooms will receive their choice of a pizza party or an ice cream party.

The RMG Literacy Team supported by our staff, RMG's JMG Program, and Machias Memorial High School, were all represented at the Wesley Foundation Tree Festival this year.

Check us out and see what we're up to!!!

RMG Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/rmgelementaryschool/>.

RMG Digital Calendar: <http://localendar.com/public/RMGSchool>.

### **RMG and MMHS Chorus Members Spread Holiday Cheer at Helen's Restaurant**

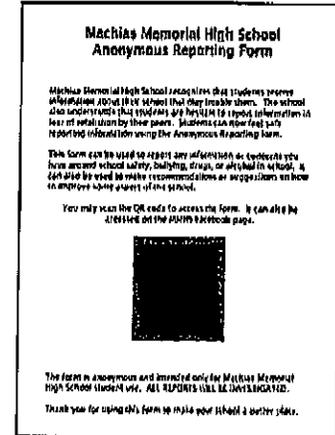


**Machias Memorial High School**  
Principal's Report  
January 2019

**Anonymous Reporting Form**

I created an anonymous reporting form for students. This allows them to report anything they feel is important or troubling them. Students can use their phone to scan a QR code or type in the address using a browser.

They can also use the form to make suggestions. I use Google Form to collect the data and receive an email alert whenever someone enters information on the form. The site is 100% anonymous. Students may identify themselves if they wish.



**Chronic Absenteeism**

I have collected and analyzed attendance data for the current school year. Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 18 or more days during the school year for any reason. Currently Machias Memorial High School has a chronic absenteeism rate of 26.1%. We also have 7 students who have already missed 18 or more school days. I am currently researching ways to address chronic absenteeism and emphasizing good attendance to students and parents.

**Vaping and E-Cigarette Use**

The school continues to educate students, parents, and the community about the dangers of vaping and e-cigarettes. Students feel that vaping is safer than smoking. Our campaign stresses the health dangers of vaping (nicotine addiction) and how it affects learning and the brain.

**Christmas Concert**

Mrs. Baker and the music students put on another exceptional performance on December 21. The students always entertain and inspire me with their talent and dedication.

**Basketball Season**

The winter season is off to a great start. The girls varsity program, that includes five 8th grade girls, shows improvement each game. Coach Johnson has them working in the right direction. The boys varsity team has a record of 5-1 and has played some exciting games. Coach Getchell and his staff have worked the boys hard and they have responded well. Both teams demonstrated excellent sportsmanship.



The themed game nights have been a big hit! Thanks to Mary Rhodes for injecting some enthusiasm into our school.