

AOS 96  
Superintendent's Office  
291 Court Street  
Machias, ME 04654  
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**Minutes**  
**Machias School Committee**  
**Wednesday, January 10, 2018**  
**Superintendent's Office**  
**4:30 PM**

**Attendance:** Terry Sanborn, Richard Shaw, Joleen Nicely, Amanda Little.

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

**I.** Call to order at 4:25 p.m. by Terry Sanborn.

**II.** Approval of the minutes of December 6, 2017.

Motion by Joleen Nicely to approve the minutes of December 6, 2017.  
Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 4-0.

**III.** Agenda Adjustments:

**IV.** Principals' Reports:

RMG: Enclosed.

MMHS: Enclosed.

**V.** New Business:

**1. 2018/2019 Budget Development Timeline:**

The Superintendent distributed a copy of the 2018/2019 budget development timeline. He indicated that state subsidy print-outs could be available as early as February 1, 2018, but the print-outs may not be completely accurate due to bills the Legislation will consider that may change the current funding formula.

**2. 2017/2018 Tuition Rates:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the new tuition rates have been set by the state. The rates are as follows:

Washington Academy:	\$11,539.70
Machias Memorial High School	\$10,092.1
Rose M. Gaffney School	\$6,034.00

### **3. Proficiency Based Education Implementation Update:**

AOS 96 Curriculum Coordinator, Mitchell Look, informed the School Committee that the Shared Leadership Team continues to work on identifying essential standards for students. He also informed the Committee that teachers and administrators from RSU 4 (Litchfield, Sabattus area) conducted a workshop for AOS 96 teachers and administrators on December 11, 2017. The group from RSU 4 has been working on Proficiency Based Education for over 8 years.

### **4. MSSA Education Spending Targets Position Paper:**

The Superintendent distributed a copy of the MSSA Spending Targets position paper to the School Committee. The position paper detailed the costs that are considered allowable "direct instruction" costs. The Superintendents Association believes other cost centers are also necessary to educate students and should be counted by the DOE.

### **5. MSSA Regional Service Center Position Paper:**

The MSSA Regional Service Center position paper was distributed to the School Committee and discussed. The Superintendent pointed out the concerns his Association has with Regional Service Centers, which includes higher costs for services than we currently are paying. He also informed the Committee that a bill (LD 1689) will be taken up by the Education Committee which would eliminate the penalties for not joining a Service Center.

### **6. Child Development Services Study Group Report:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that a study group made recommendations regarding Child Development Services. The group had several concerns about public schools educating 3 year old students, which included the cost to provide services and the appropriate space, as well as, the staff needed to appropriately provide services.

### **7. Legislative Update:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the MSSA Legislative Committee is going to support LD 1689 (Repeal of penalties for not joining a School Management and Leadership Center). The public hearing on LD 1689 has been scheduled for January 24, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in Augusta.

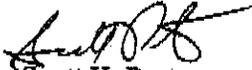
**8. Superintendents Association Winter Convocation:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that he would be attending the Superintendent's Association Winter Convocation in South Portland on January 18 and 19, 2018.

**VI. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn at 5:07 p.m. by Richard Shaw.  
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



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

**Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School  
Principal's Report  
January 10, 2018  
Happy New Year!**

**The Principal's Desk**

\*The PBE Leadership Team met this week to continue our work toward the implementation of proficiency based education. Representatives from RMG include: Mrs. Whitney, Mrs. Roy, Mrs. Shaw and Ms. O'Neal.  
\*We have used all of the days that we set aside for snow, plus 1. We will be working on a plan to begin making up days.

**What's Going On Around RMG?**

**Holidays**

\* We welcomed the community for many events this Holiday Season. The Drama Club performed a holiday play. We held concerts for PreK-2, Grades 3 and 4, and 5-12 Band/5-8 Chorus.  
\*We went out into the community and performed at Down East Community Hospital Light a Life, and Helens. We also caroled around town.  
\*We partied a little bit. Classrooms held holiday parties, younger students wore pajamas to a viewing of The Polar Express, and the staff enjoyed a gathering after school on the last day before break.

\***Bulldogs Sports** – Our basketball season is in full swing, and our Bulldogs are doing a great job. It's not easy keeping up with sports practices and games while maintaining good academic standing. We are very proud of our student athletes! Please come out and support them. We serve pizza, hot dogs, and beverages, along with other refreshments.

**\*Bulldogs Student Activities**

Rose M. Gaffney has four Destination Imagination Teams this year. Team Leaders (Coaches) are Mrs. Ellie Burgess, Mrs. Kelly Kilton, Ms. Betsey Brown, and Mrs. Lynda Dolley. We have over 30 students participating in Destination Imagination from Grades 2-8.

Books and Bagels have met on a consistent basis since the fall. The group, led by Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Woodward, is excited to be reading and discussing new books.

Mrs. Jones has an ambitious group meeting every Friday for the Gaffney Gazette. This group is composed of students in Grades 4-8. This group is looking to put out a school newspaper in the Spring.

Robotics is once again being led by Mrs. Maker. She has approximately 10 students gearing up for their big expo in the Spring! Several teams and students excelled at the competition last year, learning valuable math, science and teamwork skills along the way.

A new club has been added to our many offerings. Earth Rangers is a club that works to learn about and protect endangered species through gathering information and making people aware. This is a student created and facilitated group. Their parent coordinator is Elizabeth Hines.

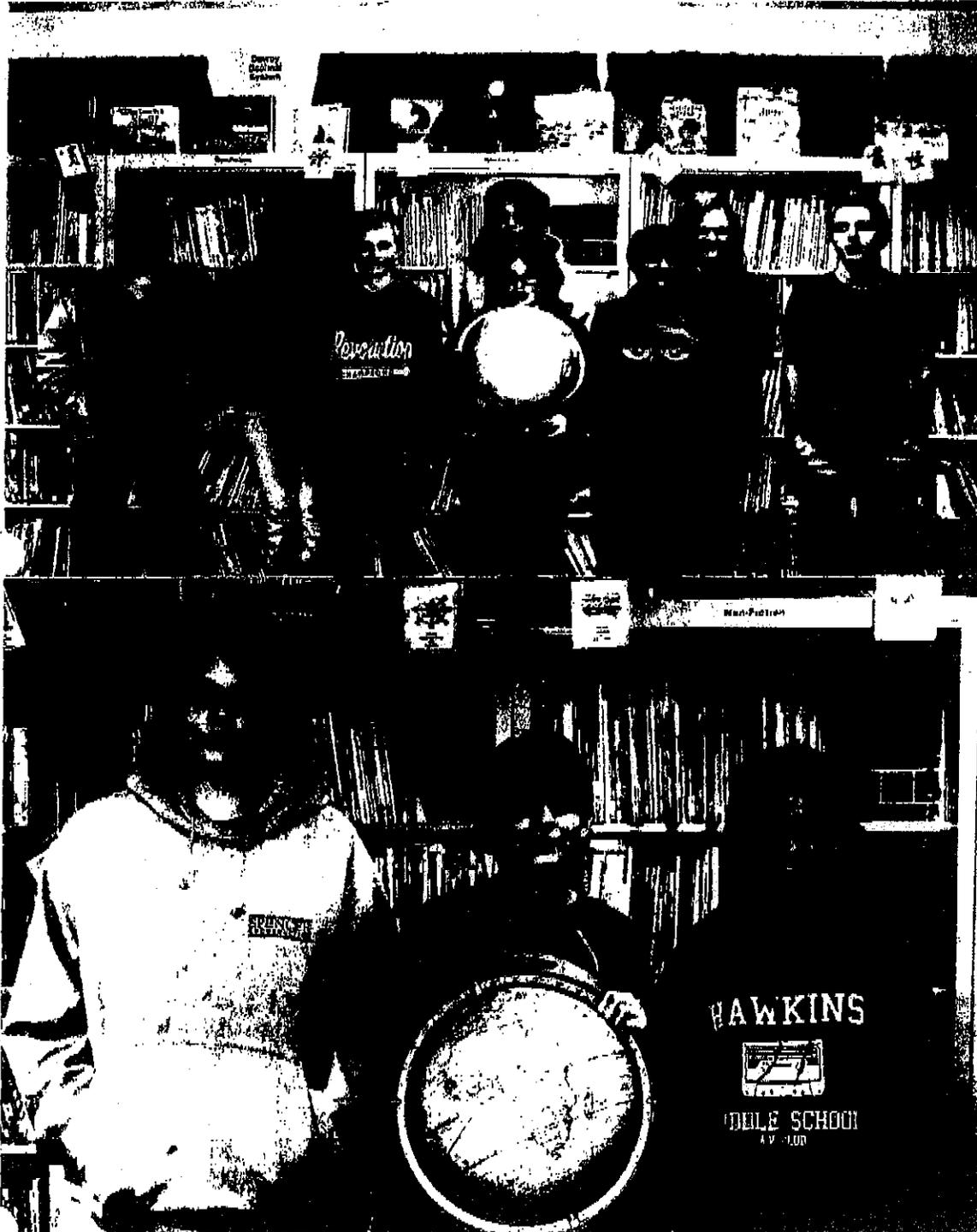
**A Schedule for RMG events can be found on our calendar located at:**

<http://localendar.com/public/RMGSchool>

\* Students enrolled in grades 5-8 participated in the National Geographic Geography Bee. Class representatives included: Ryan Gatcomb and Nora Vicaire Gr. 5, Cooper Robicheau and Caden Schwinn Gr. 6, Tia Murphy and Madison Flynn Gr. 7, and Cameron Spencer and Bobby Mahar Gr. 8.

Final results:

Cooper Robicheau RMG Champion 2018  
Cameron Spencer RMG Runner Up  
Nora Vicaire RMG Alternate



## **Machias Memorial High School**

Principal Report

January 2018

### **Bulldog Strong**

Ms. Mack and the JMG students have created a campaign called Bulldog Strong. The purpose of the campaign is to communicate positive messages to the community in the wake of recent tragedies and threats in our school community. The campaign received some attention from WABI TV in Bangor who recently did a story on the campaign. The feedback has been positive and community businesses and organizations are joining us to promote positive messages.



### **CLOSE UP Washington Fundraiser**

Students dipped into the Atlantic Ocean at Roque Bluffs State Park to raise money for their trip to Washington DC. Eight students braved the cold waters and winter wind to raise approximately \$1,000. The annual trip is planned for March 18-23. Mrs. Albee is the advisor for the group.



### **Live Streaming**

The school is experimenting with livestreams as a way to promote the school. The short videos are posted on the school Facebook page. The initial feedback has been positive and people appreciate knowing what is going on at the school. So far the streams have been general, but plans are in place to interview students and staff on specific topics. Wendy Schoppee has been working on this project.

### **Mid Term Exams**

Next week teachers will be administering exams to their students. The exams count as 20% towards a student's semester grade. The format for this assessment may be the traditional written exam, project, papers, or other means to assess and demonstrate learning for the semester. Exams will take place daily beginning at 9:00 am and ending at 1:00 pm.

### **Christmas at MMHS**

The Culinary Arts program again hosted a Christmas lunch for the students at Machias Memorial High School. Students and staff really enjoyed the meal and appreciated the effort put out by the culinary arts students. Students also were treated to some caroling by Rose M.

Gaffney students the day before break. Everyone at the high school looks forward to this event every year.

**RMG PAWS and MMHS Athletic Boosters Collaborate on Sign**

The two groups have decided to work together on purchasing an electronic sign for the schools. We will pool our money and work on a Chinese Auction fundraiser to be held in the spring. We are still looking at what type of sign will best meet the needs of both schools.

**Proficiency Based Education**

The high school staff continues to work on creating a proficiency based diploma for the current freshmen class. Some teachers are now grading using rubrics and standards while others are still transitioning. Currently, there is no plan to transition to a reporting system (rank cards) based on a 1-4 scale. We will run a hybrid grading system that converts scores received on standards into a numerical score. For example, a score of 3.0 on a standard will result in a 85 reported score on the rank card. Progress on standards will be reported as well as their habits of work.

**Machias Memorial High School Winter Sports Teams  
2017-2018**

