

Minutes
Machias School Committee
Wednesday, February 6, 2019
Superintendent's Office
4:30 PM

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

Others Present: Dr. James Whalen, Bob Berta, Joyce Fragale, Brian Leavitt,
Mitchell Look, Scott Porter.

I. Call to order at 4:30 p.m. by Teresa Saddler.

II. Approval of the minutes of January 2, 2019.

Motion by Richard Shaw to approve the minutes of January 2, 2019.
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 5-0.

III. Agenda Adjustments: None.

IV. Principal's Report:

RMG: Enclosed.

MMHS: Enclosed.

V. New Business:

1. CTE Grant:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that Maine Department of Education Officials will be meeting with some of the CTE Collaborative members on February 15, 2019 to explain the grant award.

2. 2019 Tuition Rates:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the new state approved tuition rate for Machias Memorial High School is \$11,093.46, while the new rate for the Rose M. Gaffney School is \$6,330.08.

3. 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.

4. May 2019 Meeting:

The Superintendent asked the School Committee if the May meeting could be scheduled for May 8th instead of May 1st due to an out of state graduation he wanted to attend. The School Committee agreed to schedule the May meeting later in the month.

5. Staff Resignation:

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that Mike Henry resigned from his position at Machias Memorial High School effective at the end of the school year.

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

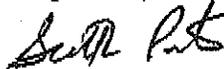
Motion to enter into Executive Session at 4:59 p.m. by Teresa Saddler.
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: 5-0.

Declared out of Executive Session at 5:20 p.m. by Teresa Saddler.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 5:21 p.m. by Joleen Nicely.
Second: Richard Shaw; Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



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

RMG Principal's Report
February 6, 2019
Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School

The Principal's Desk

Standards Based Education

We are continuing our work toward Standards Based Education. One of the great things about this system is that parents will know in detail the information that their child(ren) have mastered, as well as what they will need to work on. Students will have more ownership of their learning, and further customization will take place as students are allowed to move on from standards that they have mastered, as well as spend more time with standards that they may be struggling with. We are currently receiving trainings on a program (Unified Classroom) that will support us in tracking, as well as reporting, individual student's progress toward standards. The RMG SBE Lead Team members are: Ms. Di O'Neal, Mrs. Caitlyn Roy, Mrs. Janis Whitney, Mrs. Tanya Shaw, Mr. Chad Fitzsimmons, and myself.

School Safety Team

The School Safety Team has developed a new procedure for the end of the day school dismissal. This will greatly increase the safety of our students. Students are now dismissed to parents near the lobby, instead of parents entering the hallways to pick students up. RMG Safety Team members are: Mr. Bill Sternberg, Mrs. Becky Lee, Mrs. Ada Raye and myself.

Tooth Fairies

The Tooth Fairies were here to check on the teeth of our PreK-5 students.

Special Events

Our PAWS parent group put on an amazing luncheon for our staff. We appreciate the hard work and dedication of our parents.

On January 10th we were excited to finally be able to host our PreK-4th grade concerts. We are fortunate to have many musically talented students here at RMG. Our students did an outstanding job, and we are very proud of them!

Mr. Luke Shaw organized our Geography Bee. Thank you to our moderator, Mrs. Bridges, and our judges, Mrs. Mary Rhodes, Ms. Di O'Neal, and Ms. Toshia Day. Congratulations to our Winners!!!!

1st Place Nora Vicaire

2nd Place Ben Falvey

3rd Place Evan Soucy

JMG students successfully sponsored a Winter Dance on January 25th. In support of the American Heart Association, JMG is sponsoring Jump Rope for Hearts fundraiser for the month of February. Students will be jumping rope on Friday, February 15th.

Teams

Sports Teams

Our regular Junior High Basketball Season has ended. Our first play-off game is Friday night at 5:00.

Mr. Fitzsimmons has been hosting basketball clinics for some of our younger students. The next clinic will include one hour of drills and instructions followed by one hour of games for students in grades 1-6.

We have one more week of Saturday Morning Basketball is scheduled for tomorrow for our Kindergarten, first and second graders.

Destination Imagination Teams

We have Six DI Teams this year. Coaches are Mrs. Ree Anna Bridges, Mrs. Lynda Dolley, Ms. Betsy Brown, Mrs. Janis Whitney, Mrs. Ellie Burgess, and Mrs. Kelly Kilton. 34 RMG students participate. The local exhibition will take place on Friday, March 22nd, with the state competition following the next day.

Robotics Team Grades 6-8 Maker

The RMG Robotics Team is coached by Mrs. Colleen Maker. The 4-H Robotics and Engineering Expo is on Saturday, March 23rd at the University of Maine at Machias. The 6-8 after school RMG Robotics and Engineering Club meets two times a week. Students can present a robotics project....OR... can choose to present an engineering project that might include other forms of technology such as a 3-D printer project. Teams will have flexibility to choose a problem and utilize the engineering design process to solve it. Two different scoring rubrics have been designed, depending on which project students plan to present. BOTH projects will use the same presentation/public speaking scoring rubrics. The students are eager for the Expo this year and are currently in the design portion of the process.

Clubs

RMG Drama

Mrs. Pat Moores is coach of the RMG Drama Club. The RMG Drama Club will be performing *Snow White and the 7 Kachus* on May 29 at 6:30. There are 10 students participating in the RMG Drama Club this spring.

Machias Drama

The Machias Drama Club is coached by Mrs. Ree Anna Bridges. Our Machias Drama Club met for the first time on 2/4/19. We currently have 11 members ranging from seventh grade to high school seniors. We are in process of reading and selecting a comedy. The play is scheduled to be performed on May 3 for both Rose M. Gaffney, Machias Memorial High School and in the evening of May 3rd and 4th, for the general public.

Gaffney Gazette

Mrs. Tanya Shaw has taken on the role of Editor in Chief for the Gaffney Gazette Newspaper. There are currently five students on the Gazette staff.

Books N Bagels

Books and Bagels is a student-centered book club hosted by Mrs. Caitlyn Roy and Mrs. Kelly Woodward. This club is designed for students reading well above grade level. There are currently four students enrolled.

Mrs. Bunker submitted that Pre-K enjoyed a trip to the Machias Fire and Rescue station. Mrs. Lee (who is also a volunteer firefighter for our town) organized a wonderful tour. We have been discussing community workers and transportation. This trip allowed us to meet some of our own community workers and explore various rescue vehicles. We looked at and touched five fire trucks, an ambulance, and police cars. We learned that fire trucks have different jobs; some have tall ladders and some hold more water. The ambulance wasn't scary inside at all. We were able to touch the equipment, learn what can help us, and each of us had the opportunity to listen to our own heartbeat. We learned that the community workers have to work together and share. Our school community is learning the same things!



Pre-K Students Visit the Machias Fire and Rescue Station

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>.

Machias Memorial High School

Principal's Report

February 2019

NEASC Update

MMHS teachers and staff are diligently working on the NEASC self-reflection report. The five subcommittees are nearing completion on their individual reports. Once all reports are finalized the staff will meet and approve them. There are three working sessions scheduled to finish the work: February 8, 15, and March 15. The goal is to have the report complete by May 1.

I am planning to take a team to a NEASC workshop in early March. The purpose of the workshop will be to assist our school in writing the "Vision of the Student". Mrs. Case, Ms. Cirillo, and myself will attend the workshop. The workshop will be for two days, March 4 & 5, and held in the Boston area.

Addressing Chronic Attendance

Efforts to address and reduce chronic absenteeism include tracking attendance on a daily basis, education and awareness, and a social media campaign. I recently recognized students at the Quarter 2 Academic Awards Assembly with certificates for perfect and good attendance. In addition, the school is running an attendance incentive for the month of February. I will also be attending the Maine Rural School Attendance Summit at Jeff's Catering on April 11.

Program of Study and Graduation Requirements Review

Department Chairpersons, Ms. Cirillo, and myself will be conducting a review of the school's programs of study and graduation requirements. The school wants to make sure the classes we are offering students meet their needs. One change being considered by this group is the math sequence. Currently students are required to take four credits in math and Geometry. It is my opinion that students aspiring to attend a four year college need Geometry, but not all other students. The four credit math requirement is not a change being considered, but what a student takes for classes is. I will seek Board approval for any graduation requirement change.

MIYHS Survey

MMHS will again participate in the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey. The survey is voluntary and anonymous. The survey asks students to report their health and health behaviors. The data is compiled into a statewide database and reported out to all school participants. The results are important to understand and help our students.

Winter Sports Season

Tonight marks the final basketball games of the regular season. The girls team has consistently improved over the season.



Although they have not won a game, I am very encouraged with their effort and attitude. The boys team will likely qualify for a preliminary playoff game. Coach Getchell has again done an incredible job coaching this team. Hopefully they will win their preliminary game and advance to the Cross Center.

The Cheering Team will compete in the Maine State Cheering Competition this Saturday at the Cross Center. They placed fourth in the regional competition two weeks ago and eager to compete this weekend. Our team is very competitive with only six members.

Machias Savings Bank Donation

MSB recently donated \$1,000 to the baseball program. Coach Sam Whitney is planning to purchase a new pitching machine with the funds. Thank you to Machias Savings Bank for their generosity to our school.