

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

**Minutes**  
**Machias School Committee**  
**Wednesday, September 16, 2020**  
**Zoom Video Conference**  
**4:30 PM**

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

**Others Present:** Joyce Fragale, Nicole Case, Mary Maker, Scott Porter.

**I. Call to order at 4:32 p.m. by Teresa Saddler.**

**II. Approval of the minutes of August 13, 2020.**

Motion by Carolyn Nadeau to approve the minutes of August 13, 2020.  
Second: Joleen Nicely; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes),  
Joleen Nicely (yes); Carolyn Nadeau (yes); Vote: 4-0.

**III. Agenda Adjustments: None.**

**IV. Public Comment: None.**

**V. Principals' Reports:**

RMG: Enclosed.  
MMHS: Enclosed.

**VI. New Business:**

**1. Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) Update:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Principal and the AOS 96 Business Manager continue to work on final CRF Budget details. These funds must be expended by the end of December 2020 and have to be spent on Coronavirus pandemic related resources.

**2. CARES Act Update:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the CARES Act also provides funding to help with school preparations to protect students and staff from the Coronavirus. These funds do not have to be expended until September 2022.

**3. 20/21 Budget:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Governor has announced that she does not believe there will be a curtailment of subsidy in the current fiscal year.

**4. 20/21 Collective Bargaining Contract Negotiations:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Teachers' contract will need to be negotiated this year.

**5. Sports Update:**

The Superintendent informed the School Committee that the Maine Principals' Association has recommended only playing soccer, cross country and golf this fall. The sports events would need to be organized much differently than prior years due to the 100 person state cap on outside events.

Motion by Teresa Saddler to allow Machias students to participate in the Fall Sports Program.

Second: Carolyn Nadeau; Vote: Teresa Saddler (yes), Richard Shaw (yes), Joleen Nicely (yes); Carolyn Nadeau (yes); Vote: 4-0.

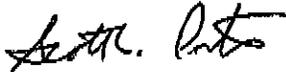
**6. Lunch Program:**

The Superintendent reported that the Federal government has extended their summer lunch program until the end of December 2020. This will allow the Federal government to provide increased subsidies to public schools.

**VII. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn at 5:07 p.m. by Richard Shaw.  
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 September 16, 2020**

### **Summer Activity**

\* We served 14 students in grades 2-8 during our 4-week remote summer school program this year.

\*Our custodians did an amazing job getting the school ready for the new school year. All but three RMG classrooms were moved to accommodate 6' distancing. There have been many changes to the physical plant including the creation of two classrooms in the gym.

\*There will be no EdGE to begin the school year. Edge has generously assigned Suzie James and Matt Cole to RMG as daily classroom assistants. We are lucky to partner with this wonderful organization whose employees truly care about doing what is best for our students and are always willing to go above and beyond to support our school.

\*Teachers participated in Google Classroom Training during the summer. Google Classroom is our new platform for housing lessons as well as homework. It is being used by students who have chosen "in person" learning as well as our "remote learning" option.

### **Back to School**

Unfortunately, we were unable to host our Back to School Family Day this year. However, we invited new students and their families in by appointment to see their new classrooms and meet their teachers.

Many of our policies and procedures changed in order to meet the Center for Disease Control and Department of Education Guidelines based on the Return to Instruction Framework Document. In order to bring the staff up to date we hosted four workshop days prior to the first week of school.

### **First Day**

Students and staff members were very happy to see each other, many for the first time since March. Our current total enrollment is 332 with 78 students joining us remotely.

### **New Additions**

We have some new additions to the RMG family this year, as well as some individuals who took on new roles.

#### **Welcome New Staff**

Emily Eldridge – Long Term Sub for Grade 6 Social Studies and Language Arts

Matt Heger – Grade 7/8 Math

Linda Wales – Grade 7/8 Support

Kaylin Leighton – Grade 6 Support

Donna Blankley – Grade 5 Support

#### **Individuals in New Positions**

Timothy Wilson – Grade 4

Britney White – Long Term Sub for Mr. Shaw, 7/8 Social Studies

Ellie Burgess – Long Term Sub for Mrs. Stauffer, Grade 2

**Thank You's**

We have a lot of people to thank this year. Thank you to:

\*McDonald's Restaurant owners who donated \$1000. We are looking into the cost of "outdoor stations".

\*Dan and Karen Cashman of Dirigo reads for continuing to provide our 1<sup>st</sup> graders with a book every month to add to their personal libraries.

\*Matt Baumen for donating two new picnic tables for our playgrounds.

\*Janet Martin, Mindy Henderson, Lori Hill, and Debbie Whitman for making extra masks for students and staff members.

\*Ron Gandy who, at the last minute, helped us out by creating partitions for classrooms in the gym when our order was delayed.

**School Lunch Program**

I am very pleased to announce that the State of Maine has extended the Food Service Program Waiver through December 31st. This means that meals for all students will be free until that date, regardless of eligibility status.

I am also pleased to announce that it is now possible to fill out the eligibility form online. This process further protects parents' privacy and allows them to submit an application without worrying about paper copies making it to the appropriate and confidential location.

**School Safety**

We have updated our school safety procedures and are in the process of updating our MOU's with the Catholic Church and UMM. We will be practicing our evacuation drills over the next few weeks, as well as a lock down drill after 1:00 when students have gone home.

**Communication**

We will continue to communicate with parents and community members in several ways this year. The Weekly RMG Principal's Message began early in August this year in order to keep parents updated on all of our recent changes. Our digital calendar, and Facebook page are updated regularly. The RMG website which is managed by Cindy Rossignol hosts extensive information about our school. We will continue to use School Messenger to keep parents updated on early releases as well as reminders and other important information. The Powerschool System which hosts information pertaining to grades is available to parents and students in grades 4-8.

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

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

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

Google: [How to Use Google Classroom for Parents!](#)

**Student Readiness**

Students have been doing an amazing job following policies and procedures. We will begin administering the NWEA Assessment next week. The results will give us information as to the extent of the impact that last spring had on our students, and will further our ability to meet our students' academic needs by giving us information needed to provide data driven instruction.