

**MILLINOCKET SCHOOL REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING  
STEARNS JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM  
PUBLIC IN-PERSON OR BY ZOOM  
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024  
4:30 PM**

|                                     |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Kevin Gregory                       | Present |
| Julie Hewke                         | Present |
| Kevin Libby                         | Present |
| Donald Raymond                      | Present |
| Warren Steward                      | Present |
| Dr. Shelley Lane, Superintendent    | Present |
| Hailey Aldridge, Junior Student Rep | Present |
| Gracyn Sanders, Senior Student Rep  | Present |

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Warren Steward, School Board Chair.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Adjustments to the Agenda**

Removed EBCCA Procedure if Bomb Threat is Reported under Revised Policies – it was tabled by the Policy Committee and included in error.

Add XIIa. To see if the Board will approve moving the July 2, 2024 School Board meeting to July 16, 2024.

**IV. Public Comment**

Jennifer Gurewicz read an email she sent to the Board regarding cutting the cheering program. She hopes the Board will reconsider cutting cheering and look elsewhere.

Warren Steward thanked Gracyn Sanders for serving as a Student Representative for the past two years and wished her well as she graduates. Gracyn said she is going to college in Rhode Island with hopes of being a lawyer.

**V. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the School Board Meeting April 9, April 23 and April 29, 2024, barring any errors or omissions.

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory

**Seconded by:** Donald Raymond

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

## **VI. Payroll Warrant**

**Motion:** It was moved to direct the Superintendent of Schools to authorize payment by the Town Treasurer to each party listed herein, the sum set against each name contained in School Payroll Warrant PR24-22 in the amount of \$123,055.19 and PR24-22D in the amount of \$69,587.44 on April 25, 2024, and PR24-23 in the amount of \$161,089.82, PR24-23D in the amount of \$77,235.27, MainePERS 24-28 in the amount of \$9,123.16 and MainePERS 24-29 in the amount of \$33,152.95 on May 9, 2024.

**Motioned by:** Julie Hewke

**Seconded by:** Kevin Libby

### **Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

## **VII. Payable Warrant**

**Motion:** It was moved to direct the Superintendent of Schools to authorize payment by the Town Treasurer to each party listed herein, the sum set against each name contained in School Payable Warrant AP 24-33 in the amount of \$29,264.50, AP 24-34 in the amount of \$80,492.48, SA24-26 (student accounts) in the amount of \$130.00 on April 25, 2024, and AP24-35 in the amount of \$183,247.98 and SA24-27 (student accounts) in the amount of \$11,683.45 on May 9, 2024.

**Motioned by:** Donald Raymond

**Seconded by:** Julie Hewke

### **Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

## **VIII. First Reading of New Policies**

**Motion:** To approve the first reading of the following new policies:

DKC-R Expense Reimbursement Procedure

EBCF Automated External Defibrillators (AED'S)

ECB-E Notice of Planned Pesticide Application (this was part of the old policy ECB, not broken out)

**Motioned by:** Kevin Libby

**Seconded by:** Julie Hewke

### **Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**IX. First Reading of Revised Policies**

**Motion:** To approve the first reading of the following revised policies:

- EBCC Bomb Threats
- EBCE School Closings and Cancellations
- ECB Pest Management in School Facilities and on School Grounds
- KF Community Use of School Facilities
- KF-E Building Use Request and Auditorium Use Agreement Form

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory                      **Seconded by:** Donald Raymond

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**X. To see if the Board will increase the district mileage reimbursement rate effective July 1, 2024.**

**Motion:** To approve an increase in the mileage reimbursement rate from \$.47 to \$.55 beginning July 1, 2024.

**Motioned by:** Kevin Libby                      **Seconded by:** Julie Hewke

**Board Discussion:**

The Policy Committee met and compared reimbursement rates from various places. It isn't as high as other places, but it is a stepping stone to get there.

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**XI. To see if the Board will approve the Superintendent's nomination and authorize the Superintendent's hiring of second year probationary teachers**

**Motion:** To approve the Superintendent's nomination of the following second year probationary teachers.

| <u>Employee</u>     | <u>Degree</u> | <u>Step</u> | <u>Years Completed 8-31-24</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Consalvi, Elizabeth | M             | 6           | 1                              |
| Hale, Julie         | BS            | 6           | 1                              |
| McNulty, Tara       | M             | 10          | 1                              |
| Morrison, Susan     | BS            | 6           | 1                              |
| Pangburn, Katy      | BS            | 9           | 1                              |

**Motioned by:** Julie Hewke                      **Seconded by:** Kevin Gregory

**Board Discussion:**

Steps are due to prior experience.

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**XII. To see if the Board will approve the Superintendent’s nomination and authorize the Superintendent’s hiring of continuing contract teachers**

**Motion:** To approve the Superintendent’s nomination of the following continuing contract teachers.

| <u>Employee</u>    | <u>Degree</u> | <u>Step</u> | <u>Years Completed 8-31-24</u> |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Guy, Angela        | BS            | 2           | 2                              |
| Hayes, Miranda     | BS            | 3           | 2                              |
| Lazareva, Alicia   | BS            | 12          | 2                              |
| McEwen, Zachary    | BS            | 3           | 2                              |
| Tapley Jr, Charles | BS            | 2           | 2                              |

**Motioned by:** Donald Raymond

**Seconded by:** Julie Hewke

**Board Discussion:**

None

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**XIIa. To see if the Board will approve moving the July 2, 2024 School Board meeting to July 16, 2024.**

**Motioned by:** Kevin Gregory

**Seconded by:** Kevin Libby

**Board Discussion:**

There will be no Admin Reports in July and August, but they will be back at it in September.

**Voted:** 5 - Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**XIII. Student Representative Reports**

**Senior Class Student Representative Gracyn Sanders reported:**

The Senior Class is using left over funds raised to purchase caps and gowns for everyone, plus fund a couple of scholarships.

**Junior Class Student Representative Hailey Aldridge reported:**

- Prom is just around the corner. The theme this year is Miami nights. Hosted by the class of 2025 as a gift to the seniors. The after party this year is hosted by the peer counselors from 11:00 to 1:30. Grand march will be held at 6:00pm in the Stearns high school gym.

- This week is spirit week and will end with the annual minutemen cup activities and competitions. This is a fun time as students and staff compete against each other.
- The Boys baseball team stands at 5-0 as of 5-3-24

#### **XIV. Administrative Reports**

##### **Cody Clinton, Director of Technology reported:**

None

##### **Mia Charette, Food Service Administrator reported:**

May 3rd was National School Lunch Hero Day! Our school nutrition staff work tirelessly to provide the children of our community with nutritious meals. The impact of their work is far reaching and often goes unrewarded. This why we celebrate School Lunch Hero Day. The meals they provide greatly reduce food insecurity for children and their families. School meals are proven to decrease tardiness and improve attendance, behavior, academic performance, and academic achievement in students. This annual observance is a chance to showcase what a difference school nutrition professionals make in the lives of every child who comes through the cafeteria. Please take a moment to thank a member of our team for their service to our community when you see them out and about. Donna Seamans, Jessica Freeman, Karen Birmingham, Tyler O'Brien, John Bouchard, Bob Albert, and Mark Lyons. Thank you for being our School Lunch Heroes!!!

“April 24, 2024 – U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced major steps to promote the health of America’s children through school meals. Nutrition standards for school meals will be gradually updated to include less sugar and greater flexibility with menu planning between Fall 2025 and Fall 2027. The Department arrived at these changes after listening closely

to public feedback and considering the latest science-based recommendations from the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The new rule continues the work of the Biden Harris Administration to address both food and nutrition security.”

Orders placed for HMI Grant supplies are starting to come in. Thank you to the Stearns custodial staff for delivering all of the packages to the cafeteria!

I traveled to St. Louis, MO on April 8 to attend the Healthy Meals Incentives Summit. I met with representatives from Action for Healthy Kids, RMC Health, and the Chef Ann Foundation. These grant partners help provide guidance and technical assistance to awardees. I participated in numerous training sessions that directly relate to our grant objectives. Leading Through Change, Sustaining Success: Beyond the Grant, Unlocking Resources for Comprehensive Child Nutrition Training, Cooking Smarter Not Harder: Scratch Cooking, and USDA Updates. A variety of motivational sessions meant to inspire progress in our school nutrition programs were offered and were indeed very inspiring. Attendees participated in regional Communities of Practice activities and were sent on a “Wild” scavenger hunt though the St. Louis Zoo. I connected with other awardees from

Maine and made some plans to partner with a local Food Service Director to provide an in depth, hands-on training for school nutrition professionals in our region. Overall, it was an amazing opportunity to form connections and be supported on this journey!

Our teams served 4,117 breakfasts, and 4640 lunches in the month of April. 478 more meals than were served in April of 2023.

**Louis DiFrederico, Facilities Director reported:**

- Completion of Elevator and Lift Inspections, Completion of annual fire alarm systems inspections at Stearns & Granite. All passing.
- Installation of new intercom system control panel in Granite Office
- April Vacation weather cooperated, and we were able to get outside and Do spring cleanup and grounds work at Stearns & Granite
- Expansion of security camera system to include athletic complex.

**Jo-Anna Merry, Granite Street School Principal reported:**

1. We received an email and official letter from the MDOE on Thursday confirming that we will exit Tier III (CSI) status as of September 30, 2024. Special thanks to Karla Rutherford and our SIPs coach Susan Lamoreau for the work they did last year to get Granite back on track and set things in motion for this year. We will need to complete an exit plan by June 12th and spend all remaining funds by 9/30/24 for professional development. I've already put plans in place for IXL training between now and the end of September which should deplete these funds.
2. We had 51 students and their families attend the title one family night on May 2, 2024. The families were engaged with math, reading, and craft activities. When they completed a station, they were given a sticker for a passport. We had door prize raffles - 4 families won \$30 Hannaford gift cards and 4 students won "gift certificates" for the book fair.
3. This is teacher appreciation week. Each day the staff members will be given a gift of some kind such as scones made by our cafeteria staff, subway sandwiches and cookies, and gifts from the central office as well as from Shawna and me.
4. On Friday, we will have a 90-minute online training on how to use IXL which is the program we will be using next year for assessments in reading and math and have started to use a bit more this year. It also provides lessons in math, reading, and science (for 5th grade only) that teachers can use to supplement their program. We will also have a full day in person training in June after school has ended.

5. We have been approved for a summer school funding grant in the amount of \$16,283.86 through a title I summer reallocation grant that Danielle McNally and I completed. This will pay for 1 director, 4 teachers, 5 education technicians, and the cost of a bus and driver for 2 field trips. We've had many staff members who have expressed interest in working during summer school and should be fully staffed to meet student needs.
6. Earlier this year, we applied for and were awarded a literacy grant for a little over \$50,000 to buy reading material that targeted phonics, comprehension and fluency which the staff identified as areas of need. Last week, we received a set of Scholastic short reads to target fluency and comprehension. These include 6 copies each of 10 laminated nonfiction short stories at 26 different reading levels appropriate for K-5 grade levels with teaching guides for classroom teachers to share and utilize. A second set has been ordered for multiple staff to use including classroom teachers, title I staff, and special education staff). We've also received multiple sets of nonfiction decodable books for phonics instruction with teaching guides for K-3 classroom teachers and title 1 staff. Other phonics related nonfiction books have been ordered for all grade levels.
7. This year, the ESSA/ESEA grant which provides title 1 funding, has required monitoring in the fall, winter, and spring. This means we have had to provide documented proof of compliance of various things such as: staff conduct policies, travel policies, staff professional development, technology policies and inventories of items bought with this funding, proof of curriculum alignment to state Learning Results Standards, family compacts, family engagement activities, testing notifications, updated Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA), and **much** more. Due to this being my first time as the grant coordinator, and it being the first time this type of monitoring has been required, I have learned a lot about federal funding and gaps we have in our system. One of my main goals this summer is to analyze this information, develop a system for locating and organizing the requirement documents in one place for easy access, and create a plan for getting Granite and our district up to par with these requirements. This will require some help from others as well. I do want to thank Rhonda Casey, Kamma, Michaud and Beth Peavey for providing much needed assistance throughout this school year.
8. As part of federal Title I funding, a yearly application must be completed by a team. This also requires a committee or team to update a Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA). Both the CNA team and Title I application team require a board member. The Title 1 application is typically due by June 30th and the CNA has to be completed first as this information is the basis of the Title 1 grant application. I will be setting up a meeting with team members soon. Please let me know who would like to represent the board on this team.
9. At the bottom of this report, I've included a chart with projected Title 1 funding for each section of the grant compared to last year and explanations of these sections provided by MDOE and a list of upcoming events at Granite Street School.

### ESEA Funding Chart

| FY 24 Final Allocations  | FY 25 Preliminary Allocations   |
|--|---|
| Title I, Part A      \$276,676   | Title 1 Parts A & D \$274,130.49      down \$2,545.51                               |
| Title II, Part A      \$47,067.49  | Title II, Part A      \$49,528.63      up \$2,461.14                                |
| Title III              \$0   | Title III, Part A      \$0 (this is for students identified as Multilingual)        |
| Title IV, Part A      \$28,375.39  | Title IV, Part A      \$28,269.61      down \$105.78                                |
| Title V, Part B      \$14,083.45   | Title V, Part B      \$8,668.20      down \$5,415.25                                |
| 2023-2024 Equitable Service Percentages      473/ 98.54%, kidspeace 7/ 1.46% | FY Equitable Services Percentage Report (Titles II III, IV) 449/ 100%, kidspeace 0% |
|  | overall decrease of \$5,605.40 from last year.                                      |

#### Title I, Part A

Maine’s Title I, Part A funding received a 2.5% decrease in FY25 for Preliminary Allocation Estimates from the US Department of Education (USDOE). This estimate represents an overall reduction of \$1,497,180 in Title I, Part A funding for the State of Maine in FY25. Maine received \$62,310,372 in Title I, Part A funds in FY24 and that amount is expected to decrease to \$60,813,192 in FY25. Maine's national poverty census data decreased and did not increase as much as other states, resulting in a lower national poverty share which usually generates a decrease in Maine’s overall Title I, Part A allocation. Please also recognize that the private school amounts are from FY24 and do not include the new data that will be used for FY25. **To provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps.**

#### Title II, Part A

Maine’s preliminary FY25 allocation for the Title II, Part A program is \$10,786,692, which represents level funding for the program to the previous fiscal year. Maine has traditionally accounted for student moves between the SAU they reside in and the SAU they attend as part of the Title IIA allocation process. Maine received a finding and subsequent technical assistance from the USDOE in its most recent federal review and may no longer implement this practice and must rely solely on census data when allocating Title IIA funds. This will result in some SAUs receiving more funding than they have in the past, and some receiving less. SAUs impacted by this recent change have received outreach from Title II Coordinator, Ryan Reed. **To increase the academic achievement of all students by helping schools and districts improve teacher and principal quality.**



### **Title III, Part A**

Maine’s preliminary FY25 allocation for the Title III, Part A program is \$1,004,205.00 which represents a slight increase in funding for the program to the previous fiscal year. FY25 Title III, Part A Allocations have been generated for ALL SAUs with at least one multilingual (ML) student for the purpose of allowing SAUs the option to form a consortium to reach the statutory required minimum award amount of \$10,000. SAUs that wish to form a consortium for the purpose of a Title III, Part A allocation only, will need to submit a letter of intent (available April 30) to the Maine DOE by June 30, 2024. When final allocations are received, an SAU that is not part of a consortium or by itself generates less than an award of \$10,000 will be removed and will not receive a Title III, Part A allocation. As a result, the dollar per student ratio will increase as will allocations. An informational webinar regarding Title III consortia will be scheduled for the week of May 13 – registration details to follow. Questions related to the forming of consortiums should be directed to Title III Coordinator, Daniel Weeks. **To provide eligible Local Education Agencies (LEAs) with grant funds to improve and enhance their programs for English language learners.**

### **Title IV, Part A**

Maine’s preliminary FY25 allocation for the Title IV, Part A program is \$6,659,535.00, which represents level funding for the program to the previous fiscal year. **To provide all students with access to a well-rounded education; Improve school conditions for student learning; and Improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students.**

### **Title V, Part B**

There have been no significant changes to the Title V, Part B program for the upcoming fiscal year. **To address the unique needs of rural school districts that frequently lack the personnel and resources needed to compete effectively for Federal competitive grants and receive formula grant allocations in amounts too small to be effective in meeting their intended purposes.**

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- May 6-10, 2024**      Staff Appreciation Week  
                            Book Fair
- May 10, 2024**      5th grade service project - Katahdin Tourism Partnership owns the land next to the Boreal Theater. Millinocket Heritage Plaza will be the site of our community beautification Service Learning Project. Rain Date - **May 31st**  
                            Early Release Day - IXL training
- May 13-14, 2024**    Maine Science testing - 5th grade only
- May 14, 2024**      4th grade putting out flags at cemetery - rain date **May 15, 2024**
- May 16, 2024**      4th grade field trip to Patten Lumbermen's Museum
- May 20-24, 2024**    Maine Through the Year testing grades 3-5
- May 24, 2024**      airplane day grades 3-5
- May 22, 2024**      K-2 Spring Concert at Granite in the cafeteria
- May 23, 2024**      3-5 Spring Concert at Stearns in the auditorium

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>May 27, 2024</b>        | Memorial Day  |
| <b>May 27-30, 2024</b>     | Maine Through the Year make ups                                   |
| <b>May 30, 2024</b>        | Step up day for 5th grade to Stearns                              |
| <b>May 31, 2024</b>        | Books for Bikes Assembly  |
| <b>June 3, 2024</b>        | field day with a rain date of <b>June 4, 2024</b>                 |
| <b>June 5, 2024</b>        | PK last day/ celebration<br>1st and 2nd grade beach day           |
| <b>June 6, 2024</b>        | PK screening<br>Kindergarten bubble day                           |
| <b>June 10, 2024</b>       | Last day of school  |
| <b>June 11 or 12, 2024</b> | IXL in person training - 6 hours                                  |
| Summer School              | <b>June 17, 18, 20, 21 and 24-27     July 1, 2, 3, 5 and 8-11</b> |

**Nicholas Cullen, Stearns Asst Principal/Ad reported:**

- Softball and Baseball season are well underway. The weather has finally decided to warm up. All four teams are working hard to improve and hopefully have the opportunity to play in post season play.
- The softball and baseball teams just completed a fundraiser. The softball team was able to purchase and install a new batting cage at their field. I want to thank Aaron Welch for helping in the installation process. The baseball team is still raising money for a new turtle batting cage.
- The Junior class is hard at work for prom, which is this upcoming Friday. They have been working extremely hard over the last few months on this and look forward to a night they will remember.
- Mrs. Anna Loomer is at it again with her outdoor ed class. They have enjoyed the opportunity of most recently going mountain biking and take advantage of the trails behind the school.
- Ms. Beth Peavey and I are hard at work looking into next year and looking at what we can do to better help the success of our students in their pursuit of their career path that they choose.
- Exploring options for the girls to be able to cheer. We hope to have volunteers and we will be creative.

**Beth Peavey, Stearns Principal reported:**

- Maine Mobile BioLab
  - 4 Lessons
  - Classes Tuesday-Friday
  - Pictures and lessons
- GearUP updates
  - Kick-Off Assemblies Friday, May 3rd
  - 7th grade Field Trip

- College and Career Committee
  - Sue Buzzell
  - Kyle Leathers
  - Katie Leavitt
  - Charlie Tapley
  - Heather Girsra
  - Tara McNulty
- Staff Appreciation Week May 5th-9th
- CDS Grant
- Friday, May 10 and Saturday 11 the Boreal Theater is sponsoring a student art exhibit.

## **XV. Superintendent's Report**

- Much “todo” about the FY 25 budget. We made progress and passed the budget, for the third time, on April 29th. I want to express my gratitude to everyone for continued attendance and participation as we went through the process.
- Cody and I have been meeting with the Aptegy Company regarding the development of the Millinocket Schools app. We are in the process of selecting icons, backdrops, dropdowns, etc...
- Millinocket/Kamma has a process for informing new hires and getting essential paperwork completed. In addition to this we will put into practice a “30 Day Check In” to support new employees and make sure we are all on the same page with expectations, needs and responsibilities. The forms will be reviewed within the first 30 days with the supervisor and employee.
- The SPED Director contract and MOU has been sent to both of the participating schools and Jan Neureuther as well. Jan is planning to be in our system on May 10th to become familiar with her surroundings. We have the work space, computer, and other items as requested to help her settle in.
- We signed the lease agreement for 5 years with Kids Peace. There is a 3% increase in rent adjusted to counter the increase in the services we provide as part of the rent. After 3 years we will review costs and set a rate for the following 2 years.
- Staff appreciation is this week. Each school has plans to celebrate and demonstrate our appreciation for everyone who “makes” Millinocket Schools successful. We recognize that it takes everyone doing their part. We could not run without the custodial team, the food service team, the instruction team, the bus system, the office supports, etc... Without any one team the schools cannot operate as intended. Thank you to everyone!
- The Central Office would like to thank you, our dedicated Board members as you show up for meetings, take matters seriously and contribute to the success of our system.

**XVI. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 5:38 PM

**Motion by:** Julie Hewke      **Seconded by:** Donald Raymond

**Voted:** 5 – Yes      0 - No      0 - Abs

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

June 4, 2024

July 16, 2024 – No Admin Reports

August 13, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Shelley Lane  
Superintendent of Schools