

MINUTES OF M.S.A.D. #46 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, April 4, 2007 – 7:00 PM
Dexter Regional High School – ATM Room

I. Opening

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman John Parola called the meeting to order and declared a quorum with eleven (11) members present: Michael Bennett, Richard Bilodeau, Jr., Steven Crane, Steven Foster, Shawn Lancaster, Sherree Mitchell, John Parola, Gary Perkins, Andrea Rollins, Gerrard Rudmin, and Barbara Wakefield.

Excused: Richard McInnis

Also in attendance: Superintendent, Kevin Jordan; Stephen Bell; Donna Gillette; Michael Keyte; Timothy McCluskey; Juliana Richard; and Nicholas Vafiades.

Excused: David Gudroe

II. Approval of Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting – March 7, 2007, and March 28, 2007

The Chairman declared the Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting - March 7, 2007, and March 28, 2007, approved as printed.

III. Correspondence

Bangor Symphony Letter

Recognition: Frederick Wintle-Service to the Board

IV. Public Participation

Beth Brooks-concerned parent of Dexter Middle School student

Steven Foster thanked Mr. Nokes for inviting the School Board to the regionalization presentation by the MEA on April 4, 2007.

V. Reports by Administrators/Directors

Stephen Bell:

- The State of the High School Address was held on Thursday, March 29, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. in the ATM room. We had approximately seven parents, one teacher, one school board member and one student in attendance. The entire administrative team from DRHS was in attendance. This is the first year of what we hope will become an annual event. The TCTC culinary arts program provided refreshments; door prizes were given at the end following a community brainstorming session. The actual presentation included an academic presentation by Mr. Bell, a co-curricular presentation by Mr. Moreau and a guidance presentation by Mrs. Hartel.
- On April 9, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria, we will be hosting a freshmen parent's night. The evening includes an overview of life at the high school, a discussion about class offerings and a tour provided by the high school's Key Club.
- April 11, 2007, is a big advisory day at the high school. Seniors will be presenting their senior exhibitions throughout the day. Juniors will be observing and evaluating the senior presentations and then participating in a Financial Fitness Fair hosted by the Credit Union. The sophomores will be visiting several college campuses in the Bangor area (including UMO). The freshmen will participate in community service in the morning around the district and work on some team building in the afternoon at the challenge course.
- The Key Club sent four members and advisor Mr. Whitney to Springfield, Massachusetts, this past weekend for a New England regional conference. They received several awards and recognition for their outstanding work this past year.
- Mrs. Herrick, our chemistry teacher has received a \$10,000. grant from Toshiba which will be announced publicly very soon. The money will be used to purchase lab materials in support of our science program.
- The Student Council is hosting a blood drive on Friday, April 6, 2007. The council had a lock-in over the weekend and used the early evening hours to contact potential donors.
- On May 8, 2007, the Science department will host an open house. This is the second year of an event initiated by Mrs. Saunders. The sophomore biology classes will be taking a field trip in early May which includes a boat/canoe ride up and down the Penobscot River to study the river's habitat.
- The 2007 Prom will be held on May 19, 2007, at the high school. Margaret Veazie has agreed to be the prom advisor once again this year. The theme is, "Winter Wonderland."
- The Academic Awards banquet, which includes the induction of new National Honor Society members, will take place on May 10, 2007, in the high school cafeteria. The evening includes a meal at the TCTC. Mr. Bailey has been asked to be the special speaker.

Timothy McCluskey:

- The MEA's have been completed. Students and staff worked very hard. Students gave their best effort. A special thanks to our Title staff who worked with classroom teachers and students to help with small groups for a better testing atmosphere.
- Our Literacy staff continues to be visited by outside districts. Augusta staff visited DPS last Wednesday with an interest in looking at how we manage difficult students. Auburn staff visited grade 2 last week in Garland to look at our literacy block.
- Math training continues at the K-4 level. Third grade staff was trained in a unit last week by Cynthia Hillman from MMSA. We also are doing some cost-sharing with some other districts in this training.
- K-2 Family Math/Science Night was very successful. We had approximately 90 people in attendance. The DPS 3-4 night is coming up on Tuesday, April 10, 2007. GES will have their night Tuesday, April 24, 2007, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Faculty attended a Lexile conference this week. Mr. McCluskey explained what Lexile is and how it benefits our library and literacy program from NWEA data.
- K-4 progress reports will be going home Friday April 27, 2007, in the district.
- GES and DPS raised over \$1,100. for the Pennies for Patients program!
- Children's author/illustrator, Rebekah Raye will be at DPS on April 9 and 10 visiting with our students in their classrooms. She was part of a successful and wonderful author's night last month in Garland and Exeter.
- North Star Planetarium is coming to DPS on April 27, 2007, for third graders. They will bring a portable planetarium and put it up in the gymnasium for students to have an experience with the stars.
- Skowhegan Savings Bank will be coming Friday, April 6, 2007, to talk with third and fourth graders about college aspirations. Their program is called "Promise for the Future." They will be inviting students to partake in an essay contest about aspiring to attend college. Each school that participates is guaranteed at least one \$100. essay winner.
- Mr. McCluskey and Ms. Richard have been working together with their social workers, Deb McPhail and Melissa Peakes-Stevens, to schedule a day in June for fourth grade students to have a transition day with the fifth grade. The purpose is to lessen students' tensions about middle school. The day will include fun, games, cooperative learning, and a cookout.

Juliana Richard:

- DMS and ECS finished up MEA's and they were sent back on March 28, 2007. The PAAP is due for pick-up on Friday.

Exeter School:

- Science Exhibition April 12, 2007, open to the public 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Allen Sockabasin author visit on April 24, 2007.
- Plans to attend the Bangor Symphony Youth Orchestra on May 14, 2007.
- Field trip to Kids and Trees, Dover-Foxcroft on May 9, 2007.

Dexter Middle School:

- Grades will go home Friday, three students on athletic/academic probation.
- NWEA testing will help complete a picture of our student progress this year- set for the three weeks following April vacation.
- Lexile progress, conference suggested ways to use this literacy measure.
- Skowhegan Savings Bank will present a program encouraging college to fifth and sixth graders on Thursday. Two savings bonds will be given to one student in each grade.
- The in-service with Mike Mueir was successful - great information/two books with more information. Also very positive reactions from staff including several computer projects.
- Civil Rights team plans a tolerance week April 30-May 4, several days dedicated to interaction i.e., mix it up by eating lunch with someone different, wear a name tag with the name of someone who influenced you, twin day. The week ends with a percussionist Shamu, a specialist who challenges students to be tolerant and fair in spite of pressures to fit in-spoke at State Civil Rights convention. We will include Exeter grade 5 and they will have an opportunity to meet grade 6 teachers on that day.
- Grade 4-5 Transition-work to smooth adjustment to grade 5 (Exeter grade 6).
 - Partners grade 4 and 5.
 - Activity based day; ropes course, cooperative games and Drain your Brain contests.
 - Address common concerns; changing classes, homework, grades, etc.
 - Plant the seed of college and post secondary education.
 - Cook-out (PTO sponsored).
 - T Shirts "The Best is in the Middle" (local sponsor).

Nicholas Vafiades:

- The State SkillsUSA and HOSA competitions were held in Bangor on March 8 and 9, 2007. In SkillsUSA the Center Students received six gold medals; Crime Scene Investigation (team of three), Criminal Justice, Job

Demonstration B, and Culinary Arts, one silver medal in Criminal Justice, five bronze medals in Quiz Bowl, and one bronze in Nurse Assisting.

- HOSA students were awarded four gold medals in Health Education, two gold medals in Outstanding Chapter, one gold medal in Physical Therapy, one gold medal for Banner and one for Name Tag Design. One silver medal in Job Seeking and bronze medals in Extemporaneous Health Poster, Health Career Display, and Job Interview.
- Fundraisers.
- Yard sale of donated items on April 28, 2007, at the Technical Center.
- Carwash at Wal-Mart on April 28, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Spaghetti supper at TCTC on May 4, 2007, at 5:00 p.m.
- Softball tournament on May 12, 2007, at Elms Field.
- Commercial Truck Driving competitions will be May 11, 2007, at the Dexter Town Garage.
- National Technical Honor Society induction will be held May 3, 2007. The mission is to honor student achievement and leadership, promote educational excellence, and enhance career opportunities for the NTHS membership.
- Local contractors conducted a work shop for individuals installing septic systems at the Technical Center on March 30, 2007. Sixty-one people attended the session presented by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The Culinary Arts department provided lunch.
- Pre-Apprentice and Maine Apprenticeship options are being developed for students in partnership with the Maine Career Center, Training Development Corporation, and TCTC.
- TCTC program Advisory meetings will be April 26, 2007.

VI. Committee Reports

1. Budget and Finance Committee – Steven Crane
2. Curriculum Committee – Gerrard Rudmin
3. Policy Committee – Barbara Wakefield

VII. Educational Report

1. Richard Whitney-DRHS Key Club – postponed due to weather forecast.

VIII. Items Requiring Board Action

A. Superintendent's Add-ons None

B. Acceptance of Monetary Gift

Gerrard Rudmin moved that the Board of Directors accept a monetary gift from the Plummer Memorial Foundation of Dexter, Maine, in the amount of \$100,000. to be used for the construction of a fitness center as part of the pre-k – 8 new school construction project. Seconded by Richard Bilodeau, Jr. The motion was unanimously approved. (11/0/0)

C. Acceptance of Monetary Gift

Sherree Mitchell moved that the Board of Directors accept a monetary gift from the William and Joan Alford Foundation of Boston, Massachusetts, in the the amount of \$289,000. to increase the size of the gymnasium as part of the pre-k – 8 new school construction project. Seconded by Steven Foster. The motion was unanimously approved. (11/0/0)

D. Approval of 2007-2008 Student/Teacher Handbooks

Steven Foster moved that the Board of Directors approve the 2007-2008 student and teacher handbooks for the following schools:

Student Handbooks

Dexter Primary School
Dexter Middle School
Dexter Regional High School
Garland Elementary School

Teacher Handbooks

Dexter Primary School
Garland Elementary School

Seconded by Gary Perkins. The motion was unanimously approved. (11/0/0)

E. Approval of Contract Extension for Administrators – 2007-2008

Sherree Mitchell moved that the Board of Directors grant extensions to the following administrator contracts as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Susan Abel, Administrative Librarian - Extend through June 30, 2009
Leilani Cyr, Director of Student Support Services, TCTC - Extend through August 15, 2008
Deanna Eaton-Hartel, Guidance Counselor, DRHS - Extend through August 31, 2009
David Fournier, MSAD #46 Technology Coordinator - Extend through June 30, 2009
Donna Gillette, Director of Adult Education - Extend through July 31, 2008
Karen Gudroe, Social Worker - Extend through June 30, 2008
Anne Jordan, Reading Recovery Teacher Leader - Extend through June 30, 2008
Christopher Moreau, Asst. Principal/Athletic Director, DRHS - Extend through June 30, 2009
Melissa Peakes-Stevens, Behavior Specialist/Positive Action Coordinator - Extend through June 20, 2008
Nicholas Raymond, Asst. Principal/Athletic Director, DMS - Extend through June 30, 2009
Paul Shaw, Technology Coordinator, DRHS - Extend through June 30, 2008
Nicholas Vafiades, Director of Tri-County Technical Center - Extend through June 30, 2009

Seconded by Richard Bilodeau, Jr. The motion was unanimously approved. (11/0/0)

F. Request by Dexter Sunrise Kiwanis Organization for Two Buses for Shriner's Circus

Gerrard Rudmin moved that the Board of Directors allow the Dexter Sunrise Kiwanis organization the use of 2 buses to transport grade 5 students to the Anah Temple Shriner's Circus on April 28, 2007.

Seconded by Shawn Lancaster. The motion was unanimously approved. (11/0/0)

G. Approval of School Calendar – 2007-2008

Steven Foster moved that the Board of Directors approve the 2007-2008 school calendar as recommended by the Curriculum and Instruction Committee. Seconded by Steven Crane. The motion was unanimously approved. (11/0/0)

IX. Superintendent's Report(s)

1. Resignations

None

2. Meetings

Budget and Finance Committee: Thursday, April 5, 2007

7:00 p.m. Superintendent's Office

Facilities/Transportation/Construction Committee: Monday, April 9, 2007

7:00 p.m. Superintendent's Office

School Board Budget Workshop: Tuesday, April 10, 2007

7:00 p.m. Dexter Regional High School – ATM Room

School Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 11, 2007

(to adopt the school budget for fiscal year 2007-2008)

7:00 p.m. Dexter Regional High School – ATM Room

School Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 25, 2007

(to approve and sign Budget Warrants and Notice of Public Hearing)

7:00 p.m. Dexter Regional High School – ATM Room

School Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 2, 2007

7:00 p.m. Dexter Regional High School – ATM Room

X. Chairman's Report(s)

The Chairman thanked all the groups who participated in the new school project and asked the Board to think about recognition for the Plummer Memorial and Alford Foundation gifts.

XI. Adjournment

At 8:09 p.m., the Chairman declared the Board meeting adjourned.

Attested a true record:

Kevin T. Jordan
Secretary