

Minutes
OMS Library
Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link
April 11, 2023, 6:00 pm

× Brian McGill
× Jake Eckert
× Mark Brewer

× Noah Charney
× Kevin Roberge

1. Opening
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance
 - c. Agenda Adjustments

2. Consideration of the Minutes
 - a. March 28, 2023

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2023 meeting as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

3. Approval of Warrants
 - a. Warrant - 20
 - b. Payroll - 20
 - c. BAN - 36
 - d. Fuel - 1

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the slate of warrants as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

4. Public Comment

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Meredith Higgins acknowledged a grant from the Whitten Family for the band program. Friends of Acadia also granted Orono Middle School and Jessica Archer \$5000 for the school garden program. Superintendent Higgins also congratulated Jake Eckert and Kevin Roberge for being reelected. She thanked the entire Board for their service.

6. Reports

- a. Principal Reports

- i. Kerri Wyman, Asa Adams

1. The annual Asa Adams sledding party was a huge success! New SRO Dan Patterson even took a turn sliding down the hill.
2. Asa students participated in district-wide orchestra and show choir performances. The choir and drama students will be performing later in the week.
3. Staff meetings have featured ways to boost staff, as well as focussing on professional development for teachers.
4. Congratulations to Asa Assistant Principal Maddy West who received the 2023 Krissy Miner Memorial Award for Outstanding M.Ed./Ed.S. Student in Educational Leadership!

- ii. Richard Glencross, OMS

1. OMS students have been taking advantage of learning opportunities at the University of Maine. Students have recently visited the planetarium, for Archaeology Day, and for a music event at the Collins Center.
2. NWEA will be held in early May.
3. Kudos to the OMS show choir for winning a Silver Award at the State competition.

- iii. Sam Runco and Meredith Diamond, OHS
 - 1. Congratulations to all performers– band, jazz band, show choir, and one-act actors– who have been busy participating in events through the month of March!
 - 2. Congrats also go out to the winter sports teams wrapping up their seasons.
 - a. The OHS Boys Basketball team are Class B State Champions!!!
 - b. Both the OHS boys and girls ski teams captured the 2023 Mountain Valley Conference Nordic Ski Championship title!
 - c. Congratulations to the boys' indoor track team on winning the 2023 EMITL Small School Championship! Dez Seeley won the gold medal in shot put and is the Class B State Champion in that event. Owen Conner-Self (long jump) and Noah Parker (shot put) competed at Adidas Nationals in Virginia Beach and qualified for the High School National Elite Championships.
 - 3. Finally, congratulations to the Math team, Chess team, and science fair participants for their accomplishments over the winter season.
 - 4. The Award Committee has completed a review of sports awards given by the school and is moving forward with reviewing performance awards.
 - 5. OHS counselors held a 10th and 11th Grade College Information Night for students and their families. At the meeting, they reviewed financial aid materials and had Maine college representatives for presentations and to answer questions.
 - 6. School Counselors also held a 9th Grade in-person registration. This provided incoming 9th-grade students and their families assistance in completing enrollment paperwork, a tour of the school, an opportunity to meet administrators and staff, as well as an opportunity to ask questions.
 - 7. Staff has been working diligently on curriculum development, and preparing for the 23-24 school year.

b. Superintendent Report

- i. OHS Swim co-op update
 - 1. Area districts are working to develop a sustainable swim co-op to allow OHS students to participate in a competitive swimming program.
 - 2. The co-op model could be developed for other sports/competition teams where OHS students need to participate with other schools to be able to play.
- ii. Jo Cressey has announced her retirement effective at the end of the school year.
- iii. Ed Tech and football coach Robenson Saintard has resigned from the district.
- iv. Scout Hough has accepted the role of Auditorium Manager.
- v. Six OHS students have applied for the opportunity to be a student representative to the school board.
- vi. Kevin Roberge volunteered to serve on the hiring committee for 2 special education teachers.
- vii. The Strategic Leadership Team held its inaugural meeting on April 11. Thanks to everyone who volunteered for the group!

7. Discussion Items

- a. High School attendance agreement with Veazie School Department
 - i. It is not required for Veazie to have a secondary attendance agreement.
 - ii. The Veazie superintendent and school board wish to keep the connection with Orono and want to assure Veazie families that Orono will be an option in the future for their students.
 - iii. Veazie would like the agreement to be at least 4 years in length, making sure to allow students who have started at Orono to finish there.
 - iv. Board members voiced their support to continue the agreement with Veazie.

- b. FY 24 Budget
 - i. Superintendent Higgins presented the Board with the most recent budget documents, outlining changes.
 - 1. Final insurance numbers came in at 2.8%, lower than the earlier estimate.
 - ii. RSU 26 Administration developed a list of potential budget reductions and ranked them in order of priority.
 - iii. Superintendent Higgins presented the FY 23 end of year projections, then shared her recommendations and reasoning for the FY24 budget.
 - iv. The Board discussed the budget and end of fiscal year expenditures.
 - v. Brian McGill summerized the group's consensus on each budget issue
 - 1. Accept the budget reductions as recommended by the administration.
 - 2. Add \$50,000 to the budget for the fuel stabalization fund.
 - 3. Add \$200,000 to the budget for capital improvements.
 - 4. Add \$200,000 from unassigned for capital improvements.
 - 5. Purchase desks for OHS at \$50,000.

8. Action Items

- a. Staff Nominations
 - i. Hiring Recommendations
 - ~~1. Co-Curricular Nominations~~
- b. Policies
 - i. Revisions
 - 1. JLCB - Immunizations

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the revision to policy JLCB as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. **Vote 4-1**

- c. Approve Grant - Friend of Acadia grant for OMS school garden project - \$5,000

Motion: Brian McGill moved to approve the \$5000 grant from Friends of Acadia. Mark Brewer seconded. **Vote 5-0**

9. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Policy Subcommittee
 - i. Almost completed the full policy review.
- b. United Technology Center
 - i. UTC did well at the state SkillsUSA competition, with several students moving on to Nationals.
- c. SPRPCE
- d. Curriculum Subcommittee
 - i. Next meeting will be April 13.
 - ii. At the last meeting, discussed on the process for collecting feedback around Wabanaki studies and technology.
- e. Facilities/Building Committee
 - i. Work with Hailey Ward is ongoing for the Asa old cafeteria project as well as the Central Office move.
- f. Wellness Committee
 - i. Work is continuing on the outdoor classroom.
- g. DEI Leadership Team
 - i. Work is continuing in subcommittees.

10. Other Business

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Public Comment

- a. Dan Demeritt, Orono Town Council, introduced himself to the Board, and thanked them for their impressive work on the budget.

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. April 25, 2023 - 6:00 PM Board meeting

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

15. Executive Session - 1 MRSA 405 6(d) Discussion of labor negotiations

Motion: Brian McGill moved to go into executive session under 1 MRSA 405 6(d) Discussion of labor negotiations. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

16. Adjournment

Motion: Brian McGill moved adjourn the meeting. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Minutes Approved 4/25/2023