

Minutes
OMS Library
Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link
February 7, 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. January 24, 2023

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2023 meeting as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.*

Vote: *Jacob Eckert- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Noah Charney- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

3. Approval of Warrants
 - a. Warrant - 16
 - b. Payroll - 16
 - c. ME PERS - January 2023

Motion: *Brian McGill moved to approve the slate of warrants as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.*

Vote: *Jacob Eckert- aye*

Mark Brewer- aye

Noah Charney- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

4. Public Comment
 - a. Stacey Newman, RSU 26 parent, updated the Board on the evolving mission of OSCAR.
5. Acknowledgments
 - a. Brian McGill acknowledged all of the candidates running for office in Orono.

6. Reports

- a. Principal Reports

- i. Kerri Wyman, Asa Adams

1. After a COVID hiatus, the Asa Adams show choir has returned and looks forward to presenting their show at the PAC in March.
2. The Sunshine Club has been working to bring the staff of Asa together through “Coffee and Conversation,” paint and snack opportunities, and even learning to play shuffleboard.
3. The PTO launched the “Read Your Heart Out” read-a-thon to raise money for memory books. If they get halfway to their goal, Mr. Butler will take a pie to the face.

- ii. Richard Glencross, OMS

1. The Riot Cookery group continues to flourish and made Valentine inspired cupcakes at its most recent meeting.
2. The “B” Boys Basketball team won the Sportsmanship award.
3. The OMS Chess team is moving on to States.
4. The OMS 8th graders are getting ready to transition to Orono High School and

have met with OHS guidance counselors to prepare. They will be attending Step-Up Day on February 13.

5. A group of OMS students has gotten their writing work published on “The Telling Room” website.

iii. Meredith Diamond, OHS

1. The National Honor Society hosted its 2023 induction ceremony on January 17. Thanks to Shana Goodall, NHS advisor, for all of the hard work she put into the ceremony.
2. Congratulations to OHS student-athletes Maya Boyington, who qualified for Nationals with the Maine Racewalking team, and Ruth White on being the girls' cross country Gatorade Runner of the Year.
3. OHS staff is working hard on Step-Up day and course registration for the 23-24 school year.
4. Faculty has been making the most of their professional development time. They have been reviewing the graduation progress, learned about “LGBTQ 101,” and the English faculty evaluated the first round of English 9 portfolios submitted for acceleration.

b. Superintendent Report- Meredith Higgins, RSU 26 Superintendent

- i. Meredith Higgins shared a commercial for OHS to the group.
- ii. Maria Johnson, OHS English teacher, resigned from her position.
- iii. Superintendent Higgins asked for a volunteer from the Board to serve on the PAC manager hiring committee. Brian McGill and Noah Charney both volunteered.
- iv. Enrollment Update & Projections
 1. Superintendent Higgins provided the enrollment projections for the 23-24 school year and commented on how student enrollment will affect teacher needs.
 - a. Asa Adams
 - i. Asa is planning on moving the current group of 2nd graders, who are currently in 4 classrooms, to 3 classrooms for 23-24.
 - ii. The group of students entering kindergarten has a high rate of pre-identified special education students.
 - iii. The current 4th grade group is still too large to comfortably move from 4 to 3 classrooms.
 - b. Orono Middle School
 - i. Sixth grade is a smaller group and might be best served with 3 classes.
 - ii. OMS is watching for tuition students and superintendent agreements to be sure of enrollment numbers.
 - c. Orono High School
 - i. Ninth grade enrollment, as well as numbers of students with special education needs, are hard to predict because of the variability of tuition students. The projected enrollment numbers reflect a conservative number of tuition students.
- v. Capital Improvement Plan
 1. The capital improvement plan needed to be updated after the large construction projects were completed.
 2. The updated plan presented by Superintendent Higgins includes classroom refreshes, lighting and HVAC needs, bathroom updates, and exterior improvements to areas not included in the renovation.
 3. Budgeting for capital improvements needs to be considered as the FY 24 budget is considered.

7. Discussion Items

a. FY 24 Budget

- i. Preliminary Budget Allocation (ED 279)
 - 1. Brian McGill gave an overview of the State's budget allocation to the district.
- ii. Overview of significant impacts
 - 1. The current proposed budget for FY 24 is significantly more than the budget for the current fiscal year.
 - a. ESSER money is going away.
 - i. Moving 3 positions that have been funded through ESSER to the budget, as well as some funding for summer programming opportunities.
 - b. Energy costs have continued to increase.
 - c. Projected and contractual salary benefit increases.
 - d. Inflation in general has caused budgetary increases.
 - e. New and/or expanded personnel expenditures are included in the budget.

b. Board 360 Survey

- i. The Board surveys the RSU 26 community yearly for feedback on their (the Board's) performance.
- ii. Members of the Board discussed which of the 22-23 goals would be most appropriate for the survey.

8. Action Items

a. Staff Nominations

- i. Hiring Recommendations
 - 1. Co-Curricular Nominations

Motion: Brian McGill moved to the slate of cocurricular nominations as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Jacob Eckert- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Noah Charney- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

b. Policies

- i. JKF-R - Disciplinary Removal of Students with Disabilities Procedure

Motion: Brian McGill moved to adopt the revisions to policy JKF-R - Disciplinary Removal of Students with Disabilities Procedure as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Jacob Eckert- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Noah Charney- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

- ii. JKAA - Physical Restraint and Seclusion

Motion: Brian McGill moved to adopt the revisions to policy JKAA - Physical Restraint and Seclusion as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Jacob Eckert- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Noah Charney- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

iii. JKAA-R - Physical Restraint and Seclusion Procedure

Motion: Brian McGill moved to adopt the revisions to policy JKAA-R - Physical Restraint and Seclusion Procedure as presented. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Jacob Eckert- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Noah Charney- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Policy Subcommittee

i. Working through the review rotation “J” policies, and the policy on gate receipts.

b. United Technology Center

c. SPRPCE

d. Curriculum Subcommittee

i. Next meeting February 9.

e. Facilities/Building Committee

f. Wellness Committee

g. DEI Leadership Team

i. Subcommittees have been meeting and committee representatives have reported to the Leadership Team.

10. Other Business

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Public Comment

13. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

a. February 28, 2023 - 6:00 PM Board meeting

14. Request for Information and Follow-up

a. Noah Charney asked about the status of the piano purchase for the PAC, and Meredith Higgins updated Mr. Charney on the topic.

15. Adjournment

Motion: Brian McGill moved to adjourn the meeting. Mark Brewer seconded.

Vote: Jacob Eckert- aye

Mark Brewer- aye

Noah Charney- aye

Brian McGill- aye

Kevin Roberge- aye

Vote 5-0

Approved February 28, 2023