

**Minutes**  
**OMS Library**  
**Remote access for public participation through Zoom Link**  
**May 30, 2023, 6:00 pm**

× Brian McGill  
× Jake Eckert  
× Mark Brewer  
× Noah Charney

× Kevin Roberge  
× Marissa McLaughlin  
× Dorsa Tajvidi

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Agenda Adjustments
  - i. Add 8.a.i.2 - Hiring Recommendation - OMS Special Education Teacher

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve the agenda adjustments as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. 5-0*

2. Consideration of the Minutes

- a. May 9, 2023

**Motion:** *Brian McGill moved to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2023 meeting as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. 5-0*

3. Approval of Warrants

- a. Warrant - 24
- b. Payroll - 24
- c. Fuel - 3

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

4. Public Comment

5. Acknowledgments

- a. Noah Charney thanked everyone who helped make the outdoor classroom a reality.
- b. Marissa McLaughlin congratulated all seniors who are finishing their final classes this week.
- c. Meredith Higgins thanked Noah Charney and his team for all of their efforts in building an outdoor classroom. RSU 26 staff is excited to start using the space. Ms. Higgins also acknowledged the Creativity Carnival held in the OMS gym. Art from across the district was showcased.

6. Reports

a. Student Board Representatives Report

- i. Marissa McLaughlin and Dorsa Tajvidi
  1. Congratulations to all performers in the OMS-OHS joint Scenes and Songs production.
  2. The Spikeball tournament was a success, raising funds for the class of 2025.
  3. The Yellow Tulip project has bloomed and celebrated Mental Health Awareness Month throughout May.
  4. OMS and Asa Adams are beginning their end-of-year festivities.

b. Director Reports

- i. Lisa Smith, Director of Special Services
  1. Special Services have been busy with transition meetings for students moving from Asa to OMS and from OMS to OHS.
  2. Planning for summer programming is well underway.
  3. Ms. Smith has been working with the teachers at Asa to restructure the program for the upcoming school year with one less instructor.

- ii. Susan Smith, Director of Learning
  - 1. State testing was completed on May 26. Staff is already discussing how to make the testing process better and more meaningful for students in the future.
  - 2. Progress has been made in each grade level in Health and Math content areas. Ms. Smith shared a link in her written board report detailing where each grade stands. Curriculum work will be ready for feedback in August.
  - 3. Stakeholder feedback is being collected in regard to the Instructional Technology in RSU 26 documents. The Technology Committee will meet on June 5th to review the feedback and make plans for full implementation starting in the fall of 2023.
  - 4. Thanks to all the staff who took the time to respond to the DEI Staff Survey. Highlights from the survey will be shared with staff before the end of the school year. The findings of the survey will be considered to help create thoughtful change.
- c. Superintendent Report
  - i. Meredith Higgins, Superintendent
    - 1. Nick Butler (Asa Adams PE teacher), Ashley Satre (Asa Special Education teacher), Molly Priest (choral and music teacher), and Aaron Putnam (custodian) have resigned.
      - a. Board Representatives are needed for the hiring teams
        - i. Asa Special Ed- Kevin Roberge
        - ii. Asa Physical Ed- Noah Charney
        - iii. Behavior Coach- Brian McGill
        - iv. OMS/OHS Chorus- Jacob Eckert
    - 2. June Data Workshop
      - a. NWEA tests were administered in a new way this year, and traditional testing data for certain grades won't be back until the fall.
      - b. Asa and OMS will assemble a data presentation to provide a more in-depth look at each school, much like OHS did in April.
      - c. The data workshop will take place on Tuesday, June 20, at 4:30.
    - 3. Field Remediation
      - a. Work on the football field has begun to remove large rocks that remained after work on the field was completed.
    - 4. Representatives from RSU 26 spoke to the Orono Town Council on the School Resource Officer program, and how it benefits the district.

7. Discussion Items

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to move the Board Goal discussion to after 8.a.i. Mark Brewer seconded. 5-0***

- a. RSU 26 Board Goals for the 2023-2024 school year
  - i. Moved to after items 8.a.i.1 and 8.a.i.2.

8. Action Items

- a. Staff Nominations
  - i. Hiring Recommendations

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to go into executive session under 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Appointment of officials/appointees/employees. Mark Brewer seconded. 5-0***

- 1. OHS Special Education Teacher

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the superintendent to enter into a contract with Daniel Straine as***

**OHS Special Education teacher. Mark Brewer seconded. 5-0**

2. OMS Special Education Teacher

**Motion: Brian McGill moved to authorize the superintendent to enter into a contract with Thana King as OMS Special Education teacher. Mark Brewer seconded. 5-0**

9. Discussion Items

- a. RSU 26 Board Goals for the 2023-2024 school year
  - i. The Board and members of the community discussed strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities in the district to help to develop the goals for the 2023-24 school year.
  - ii. Goals to be considered for the 2023-2024 school year
    - 1. Evaluate if grades and assessments are serving our goals and values
    - 2. DEI work
    - 3. Active learning
    - 4. Community cohesiveness/inclusion
    - 5. Mental health/behavior/socioeconomic “new student”
      - a. Classroom and teaching as a source of healing
      - b. Measuring and building longitudinal data like NWEAs
    - 6. Strategic planning
    - 7. Staff support
      - a. Cooperative teaching and teacher mentoring and behavioral management plan
      - b. Continue to assess resources/staffing
      - c. Burnout/morale
    - 8. Missing curriculum (citizenship, practical skills)
    - 9. Growth mindset/learning with students/self-advocacy
  - iii. Moving off or into different places?
    - 1. Reword ongoing relative curriculum
    - 2. Move “work to stretch and challenge all students” to ongoing responsibilities
    - 3. Ongoing conversation on awards

10. Action Items

- a. Policies
  - i. Revision
    - 1. KF - Community Use of School Facilities

**Motion: Brian McGill moved to adopt the revision to policy KF as presented. Mark Brewer seconded. Vote 5-0**

11. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Policy Subcommittee
  - i. The final meeting of the school year will be held on June 1, 2023.
  - ii. Policies JLF and BH will be considered
- b. United Technology Center
  - i. The next meeting will be on June 1, 2023.
- c. SPRPCE
  - i. The next meeting will be on June 8, 2023.
- d. Curriculum Subcommittee
  - i. The next meeting will be on June 8, 2023.
- e. Facilities/Building Committee
  - i. The Asa construction project is out for bids, and Central Office is next in line for the bid process.

- f. Wellness Committee
  - i. Work is being completed on the outdoor classroom.
- g. DEI Leadership Team
  - i. Ambassador positions have been filled.
  - ii. Student success plans are happening throughout all schools.

12. Other Business

13. Future Agenda Items

14. Public Comment

- a. Susan Smith reminded everyone that OMS is holding a cultural fair on Wednesday, May 31, in the STEAM room.
- b. Brian McGill reminded everyone to vote in the June 13th election.
- c. Marissa McLaughlin announced the Modern Band “jam” happening on May 31.

15. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

- a. June 6, 2023

16. Request for Information and Follow-up

17. Executive Session 1 MRSA 405 6(A) - Discussion of appointment of personnel - Superintendent

18. Executive Session 1 MRSA 405 6(A) - Discussion of confidential personnel matters

19. Executive Session 1 MRSA 405 6(D) Discussion of labor negotiations

***Motion: Brian McGill moved to go into executive session under 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) and 1 MRSA 405 6(D). Mark Brewer seconded. 5-0***

20. Adjournment

*Meeting adjourned.*

*Approved June 6, 2023*