



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on February 14, 2018 at the Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Martha Harris; Vice Chair Jana Lapoint; Amy Arata; Wendy Ault; John Bird; Nichi Farnham; Wilson Hess; Liberty Ladd; Elise McKendry; Jane Sexton; and Ande Smith.

Others Present: Scott Brown, Director of School Construction Programs; Jaci Holmes, Federal State Legislative Liaison; Angel Loredó, Director of Higher Education and Student Support Services; Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator; and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair, Martha Harris called the meeting to order at 1:15 PM.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by student member, Elise McKendry: The Vision of the State Board is to ensure Maine public school students graduate with the skills, knowledge, and principles to be responsible American citizens; self-directed and dedicated to making contributions to society by pursuing further education and employment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by Ande Smith, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the January 10, 2018 minutes as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Construction Committee (Ande Smith):

The Construction Committee met on February 2, 2018, as scheduled.

- Martha Harris was absent and Amy Arata called in to the meeting, so the Committee did lack a physical quorum. Advise from Sarah Forster is that the Board should not take votes without a quorum. The Committee made good use of time at the meeting without taking votes.

- The Committee received a presentation on the Caribou – RSU 39 PreK-8 construction project and without taking a vote, it was the sense of those in attendance to bring the Design and Funding Approval Consideration forward to the full Board on February 14 for approval.
- Scott Brown spoke about the Integrated, Consolidated 9 – 16 Educational Facility 2017-2018 Rating Cycle. Scott talked about the review and scoring process that was followed and where they were at the time of the committee meeting on February 2nd. Staff work is still going on and there will be a scoring rubric. It will result in a score assigned to each project for the best score and the worst score. The sense of the Committee was to bring forward to the next step which would be for the SBE, today, to accept the list. There is no action required of the Board in regards to the list except to accept it. There is an appeal process that Scott Brown will speak about. The Committee has not reviewed the list but those on the Committee know the decision going forward is to go back through the process and meet with the reviewers. To immerse ourselves in the decisions at the time of approval that may be as early as April or maybe later. The Committee will be able to speak with authority about how they feel the process was conducted in accordance with the rule and the content of the rule.

The next Construction Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 2, 2018. The meeting will be held in room 500 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Certification and Higher Education (Jane Sexton):

The Certification and Higher Education Committee met on January 31, 2018, as scheduled.

Certification:

- The Committee received a report from Stephanie Fyfe, Certification Coordinator at the DOE about the progress on the new on-line Certification process. There are two pilot projects that Stephanie will report back on in February. Some of the process was held up due to security. They will see how the security works on the pilot projects.

Higher Education:

- The Committee reviewed the Unity Team Report that will be received by the full Board today and following review decided to give themselves homework. Each Committee member (4) took a standard and they will be looking at previous team reports that the committee has received. Each review team has a chair person and each report from various schools seem to be somewhat different. The Committee is looking at and will discuss further at the February Committee meeting.
- At the next meeting, Jim Artesani from Orono will present a tentative rubric to the Committee.

The next Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2018. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the

Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Career and Technical Education (Wilson Hess):

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee met on January 25, 2018, as scheduled.

- The Committee reviewed the quarterly financial report relative to the Perkins Program and received a recommendation from the Commissioner. The Committee voted to endorse the Commissioner's recommendation to approve the quarterly report on February 14.
- The Committee reviewed the Briggs Endowment Financials which is ongoing work around a competitive grant award. The Committee examined some financial trends for income into that fund and out flows from that fund over approximately a five-year period. The Committee came away with a preliminary report to the Board that in the initial cycles, over a three-year period, the Board will target \$50,000 a year to maintain a solid balance in the fund going forward and determine the impact of competitive grant awards over time. No need for full SBE approval but members can weigh in with guidance.
- Reported a conversation with the President of the Community College System regarding discussions to leverage on secondary and post-secondary credit articulation. The President indicated that he is open to discussion and Wilson received a blessing from the Committee to reach out with a letter.

The next CTE Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 2018. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

NEW BUSINESS:

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; DESIGN AND FUNDING APPROVAL CONSIDERATION, EASTERN AROOSTOOK RSU 39-CARIBOU NEW GRADES PREK-8 ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

STATEMENT OF FACT: Eastern Aroostook RSU 39 Superintendent of Schools, Timothy L. Doak requests that the State Board of Education grant Design & Funding Approval for a new PreK-8, 750 student Elementary/Middle school to be located in Caribou. This project will replace the following three school buildings in Caribou: Teague Park Elementary School, grades 3-5, which was constructed in 1948; Hilltop Elementary School, grades PreK-2, which was constructed in 1960; and Caribou Middle School, grades 6-8, which was constructed in 1926. These three schools are overcrowded and have significant program needs, building and code violations, and health and safety issues.

The project received State Board of Education Site Approval on October 12, 2016 and Concept Approval on December 14, 2016. The project was approved by local referendum vote on February 7, 2017.

After Concept Approval and local referendum, the Department of Education was able to move the bonding date of the project from Spring 2019 to Fall of 2018. This change supports the current project schedule and will ultimately reduce Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) interest expense.

The Department of Education's construction staff is currently working with the architect in finalizing the construction documents for bidding. There have only been minor modifications to the building and site design through the review processes since Concept Approval. The new building will be designed to meet the Department of Education school construction standards and is in the final stages of receiving all required approvals.

Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to Title 20-A M.R.S. §15905(1) and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

Project Information

Project: New PreK-8 Caribou Elementary/Middle School

Superintendent: Timothy L. Doak

Architect: Alan Kuniholm and Chelsea Lipham, PDT Architects

School(s) to be closed: Teague Park Elementary, Hilltop Elementary and Caribou Middle

Project Budget Information

Total Project Cost: \$48,142,535

Local Only (no State participation): \$2,502,423

Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$45,640,112

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner of the Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design & Funding Approval to Eastern Aroostook RSU 39 for a new PreK-8 Elementary/Middle School in Caribou.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: The Construction Committee reviewed the Exhibit for RSU 39 Design and Funding Approval at its February 2, 2018 meeting and recommended that it be placed on the February 14, 2018 State Board of Education meeting agenda.

MOTION by Ande Smith, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Design & Funding Approval to Eastern Aroostook RSU 39 for a new PreK-8 Elementary/Middle School in Caribou.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM – INTEGRATED,
CONSOLIDATED 9-16 EDUCATIONAL FACILITY PROPOSED PRIORITY LIST –
RATING CYCLE 2017-2018

STATEMENT OF FACT: The Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility Proposed Priority List presented to the State Board of Education today is the result of the recently completed 2017-2018 Rating Cycle. Project applications have been evaluated through a two part (Part 1 and Part 2) scoring process based on criteria approved by the State Board of Education and contained in Section 15 of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects. The projects are listed in descending order with the highest-ranked projects placed first.

The application submission and the review process for this program were separated into two parts. The Part 1 deadline was May 1, 2017 and seven applications were received by the Department. A three-person scoring team, selected by the Commissioner, reviewed and scored the proposals. In June of 2017 the Commissioner informed the top three scoring applicants that they were eligible to move forward to the Part 2 application process. Three Part 2 applications were received by the December 29, 2017 deadline. The same three person scoring team reviewed and scored those applications. Part 1 and Part 2 scores were combined to determine the applicants' total score.

The State Board of Education's receipt of this Proposed Priority List will initiate the delivery of individualized evaluation reports to the applicants and an administrative review process. Upon completion of the administrative review process a Proposed Priority List will be recommended by the Commissioner and submitted to the State Board of Education for approval.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education receive the Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility Proposed Priority List for the 2017-2018 Rating Cycle.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: The Construction Committee reviewed the Exhibit for the Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility Proposed Priority List for the 2017-2018 Rating Cycle at its February 2, 2018 meeting and recommended that it be placed on the February 14, 2018 State Board of Education meeting agenda.

MOVED by John Bird seconded by Wilson Hess, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility Proposed Priority List for the 2017-2018 Rating Cycle.

CONSIDERATION OF THE UNITY COLLEGE REPORT OF FINDINGS

BACKGROUND: The State Board accepted the Unity College report of findings at the January 10, 2018 meeting. An onsite visit occurred on December 3-5, 2017 and shortly after a report of findings was written by the team. Barbara

Moody from Husson University was the chair of the review team. On December 18, 2017, Unity College received the report to determine if errors of fact were present. The report was returned on December 21, 2017 to the Maine Department of Education with no changes.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education vote to approve the Unity College educator preparation program for February 14, 2018 to February 14, 2023.

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Amy Arata, and voted eight in favor with one member (Wilson Hess) recusing himself to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest, to approve the Unity College educator preparation program for February 14, 2018 to February 14, 2023.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDED FUNDING LEVEL FY 2019

Pursuant to the provisions of 20-A M.R.S.A., Section 15689-C, the Commissioner, with the approval of the State Board of Education, shall certify to the Governor and the Bureau of the Budget recommended funding levels for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade twelve. The funding levels recommended herein were developed based on proposed amendments to the Essential Programs and Service Funding Act, 20-A M.R.S.A. Chapter 606-B.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education approve the following motion: MOTION: To approve the certified funding level for FY 2019 for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade twelve (including total operating allocation, total debt service allocation, and total adjustments and miscellaneous costs) at \$2,253,279,653, a local contribution amount of \$1,137,901,570 and a state contribution amount of \$1,115,378,083 to be distributed as General Purpose Aid for Local Schools. These amounts shall be distributed according to the parameters of the Essential Programs & Services Funding Act, 20-A M.R.S.A. Chapter 606-B, as amended.

MOVED by Jana Lapoint, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the certified funding level for FY 2019 for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade twelve (including total operating allocation, total debt service allocation, and total adjustments and miscellaneous costs) at \$2,253,279,653, a local contribution amount of \$1,137,901,570 and a state contribution amount of \$1,115,378,083 to be distributed as General Purpose Aid for Local Schools. These amounts shall be distributed according to the parameters of the Essential Programs & Services Funding Act, 20-A M.R.S.A. Chapter 606-B, as amended.

REGULATION CHAPTER 115, "THE CREDENTIALING OF EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL"

The rule has been proposed, a hearing was held on December 27, 2017 and the

comment period ended January 18, 2018. The Department has responded to the 108 sets of comments received by the deadline. There are a few revisions based on the comments: 90 in-service hours as equivalent to six semester hours, a NEO code was added for three types of special education teachers in the credentialing chart, a term was changed in the substitute section to resolve a conflict in language, a sentence has been added to the substitute section to be clear that substitute standards for less than 6 weeks are determined by the SAU, the 020 endorsement has been changed from public preschool-8 to kindergarten -8, and the format of two special education endorsements have been refined to be clearer about the course work credits required.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education’s Certification and Higher Education Committee recommends that the State Board of Education vote to Provisionally adopt Chapter 115.

MOVED by John Bird, seconded by Wilson Hess, and unanimously voted by those present to Provisionally adopt Chapter 115.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE MAINE CARL D. PERKINS GRANT AS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT OF 2006 (P.L. 109-270)

As a condition for the receipt of Federal funds to support vocational and technical education, §122 of the recently reauthorized Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-270) requires a designated “eligible agency” in each State, in Maine’s case, the State Board of Education to submit a State Plan for Career and Technical Education. This plan was approved by the State Board on March 12, 2008. Further requirements are as follows:

“SEC. 121. STATE ADMINISTRATION.

“(a) ELIGIBLE AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES. The responsibilities of an eligible agency under this title shall include:

“(3) convening and meeting as an eligible agency (consistent with State law and procedure for the conduct of such meetings) at such time as the eligible agency determines necessary to carry out the eligible agency’s responsibilities under this title, but not less than 4 times annually;

The State Board Chair requested, in accordance with Title 20-A, Section 405, 7, that the Board receives a quarterly financial report from the Career and Technical Education (CTE) team and the Department of Financial and Administrative Services (DAFS). We would like to submit this report as the second report for FY2018.

RECOMMENDATION: The State Board approve the Quarterly report for the period of October 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, of the State of Maine Five-Year Plan for Career and Technical Education under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L.109-270).

MOVED by Wilson Hess, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Quarterly report for the period of October 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, of the State of Maine Five-Year Plan for Career and Technical Education under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L.109-270).

STRATEGIC PLAN:

MOTION by Ande Smith, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Strategic Plan as written excluding Summer Learning.

CHARTER COMMISSION REPORT (Jana Lapoint):

- 1) The Commission approved the following:
 - a. ACADIA Academy request to Increase Enrollment and Grade Span 4 and 5, in accordance with its contract, beginning in its 2018-2019 Academic year. For this school year, there are 200 students and 236 for the following year.
 - b. Fiddlehead School of Arts & Sciences request to Amend School Schedule for three additional snow days which will be used as “Anytime, Anyway Learning Experiences.”
 - c. Snow Pond amended enrollment – 190 for 2018-2019, 220 for 2019-2020 and 240 for the fifth year.
 - d. Commission approved both Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) and Panorama Education Surveys for all schools. Both costs will be paid for by the Commission:
 - i. NWEA contract participation \$40,000 has also built in a great deal of teacher training.
 - ii. Panorama at \$13,000 is a two-year contract. Schools will be able to submit some of their own questions.
- A. The Commission for their expenses is keeping 2.25%. Four years ago, it was 3% that the schools had to take from their State allotment but now this is provided by the State. The EPS formula will allow the school to receive all 100%.
- B. All schools in Maine have seen their Special Education Fund increase from 1.5 to 1.7%.
- C. General purpose funds have increased 75 million dollars which is the first increase since 2008.
- D. All schools, by law, will have open lotteries that must be completed by April 1st. Originally, this was done so that the Charter Schools could notify the other public schools of how many students might be coming from their schools to Charter Schools.
- E. Maine Virtual Academy (MeVA) a virtual Charter School has been approved by the Maine Department of Education for a Gifted and Talented Program.

- F. MeVA is also in the process of being evaluated by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) for Division 1 approval for athletes' acceptance.
- G. Work session to reevaluate National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) and Dr. Silvernail's report and evaluate the way the Commission does its work.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chair, Martha Harris

- She just returned from traveling to Viet Nam and Cambodia. She has newspaper articles to share with Board members from Nam and Cambodia. Viet Nam is a communist country but they have no free medical care or free education. Parents pay for children to attend school. The teachers make a living by tutoring after their regular school sessions. Cambodia is not a communist country but does have free education. The kids go to school four hours a day, six days a week with double sessions in the morning and afternoon. Teachers make extra money by tutoring kids. When kids are not in school, they are selling stuff to tourists. She was unable to visit any of the schools as you need to get special permission per Martha's tour guide.

Vice Chair, Jana Lapoint:

- She covered for Martha Harris while she was out of the country.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Wilson Hess:

- He had his Confirmation Hearing before the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee for re-appointment to the Board for his first full five-year term. Wilson thanked Jana Lapoint for her testimony at the hearing.
- He attended the State Review for Hancock County Career and Technical Center in Ellsworth on January 22-25. There are 10 contributing schools in a building from the 1960's. The faculty and staff were extraordinarily accommodating. They were able to sit in on classes as well as conduct interviews. Interesting programs including the Bridge program were Bio Medical Research, Marine Science Program, and Multimedia Design Program. Students participate in Skills USA Championship. The DOE Team of six staff members were extremely well prepared and this is Meg Harvey's element for sure. When the team drafts their reports, they spend more than a day projecting on a screen and sharing each team members report.
- He attended and chaired the CTE Committee meeting on January 25.
- He attended the Certification Committee meeting by phone on January 31.

Liberty Ladd:

- Falmouth recently had a wellness presentation night with the community about social media and the health risk of vaping, along with talk about anxiety, depression and how to manage stress levels. Liberty attended with a fellow SAIL Committee member and spoke with community members about getting more people involved from outside of school to help with that program. SAIL is “Student Adventures in Learning” where there are two days in May when the entire school will be participating in student led sessions on things that are not necessarily taught in the everyday curriculum. Students can do something they are passionate about that they do not get to do on regular school time.
- Course assignments for next year are almost open. Programs of study have added more classes including AP Environmental Science that will be piloting this next year.
- Students will be sailing to Cuba over winter break.
- A freshman, Sophie Mattson, won the Cross-Country Gatorade Player of the Year.
- Many people on the speech and debate team have qualified for the National Tournament and will be participating in DC this year.
- She got to see Vice President Joe Biden speak at Merrill Auditorium.

Elise McKendry:

- It was requested that she be a presenter at the Maine Teacher’s Conference at the University of Maine in Farmington in March. She was asked because this past summer, she presented with a fellow student from Forest Hills at the National Summit for Mass Customized Learning in Portland and they presented on their experience with Proficiency Based Education. She has a couple talking points that they will go through, then it is mostly open discussion with questions and answers.

Amy Arata:

- She has been working on developing her local school budget.

John Bird:

- He has been spending time at Oceanside High School and getting to know the Principal. He is very pleased to see education moving forward. They have an extraordinary high level of students in poverty level and there are a lot of good things happening in Rockland.

Jane Sexton:

- She attended and chaired the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on January 31.
- She attended the MEPRI meeting on February 12. They meet once a year and receive a list of topics. For extended learning in 2016 they created a couple of reports. The Education and Cultural Affairs Committee has the approval of the topic list. The meeting is usually one and a quarter hours long and it really is not enough time with seventeen topics.

- On February 12, she participated in the NASBE Government Affairs Committee conference call meeting. One of the main comments was on the President's 2019 Educational Budget. It did not seem to have any financial restraints and NASBE is concerned.

Wendy Ault:

- On March 19, the MELMAC Education Foundation is hosting a Peer Learning Session for College Access Programs at the Augusta Civic Center. Board members will be invited to the session and Wendy will send an agenda to each member.

Nichi Farnham:

- She attended the Certification Committee meeting on January 31.

Ande Smith:

- His Confirmation Hearing before the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee for reappointment to the Board was held on February 1. Ande thanked Jana Lapoint for her testimony at the hearing.
- He met with Scott Brown to get task organized and have a vision on how they will do things without overloading the Committee with meetings. The Construction Committee will have a two-hour meeting in March.
- He met with OIT regarding a maine.gov email account for Board members. Things have changed over the years but it seems that you can get a maine.gov email on a personal device. This is a conversation for an upcoming meeting agenda.

Note: John Bird left the meeting at 3:06 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The State Board is accepting applications from sophomores who attend school in Maine's Second Congressional District. The deadline for applications is Friday, February 23. Jana Lapoint and Nichi Farnham will be reviewing student applications on February 26 and conducting interviews of six students on March 5. Elise McKendry volunteered to be the third Board member to review applications and conduct student interviews.
- Martha Harris is attending the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Legislative Conference in Washington DC on March 4 – 6.
- Jane Sexton and Ande Smith will be attending the New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC) School Redesign in Action Conference on March 12 -13 in Providence, RI.
- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary Becker at the end of this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Dick Durost, Executive Director, Maine Principals' Association commented on issues and concerns with Proficiency Based Diplomas.

ADJOURNMENT:

The February 14, 2018 State Board of Education meeting adjourned at 3:24 PM.