



## MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

04333

### STATE OF MAINE

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The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on July 13, 2005, at the Mt. View Youth Development Center, Charleston with the following members present: Chair James Carignan, Joyce McPhetres, Wes Bonney, Ken Allen, Jack Norris, Ellie Multer, Janet Tockman, and Jean Gulliver; Excused: Vice Chair Phil Dionne

Also present were: Scott Brown, AIA, School Construction; Judith Malcolm, Team Leader, Support Systems Team; and Rhonda Casey, Clerk.

#### **CALLED TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Exhibit III.E., Receipt of the Review Team Report for the College of the Atlantic, was removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered during the Board's next regular meeting.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

RECEIPT OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION FOR DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORIZATION AS SUBMITTED BY GRACE EVANGELICAL CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND SEMINARY TO AWARD THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN BIBLICAL STUDIES AND THE MASTER OF ARTS IN THE THEOLOGY DEGREES

CONSIDERATION OF THE INTERIM REPORT FROM THE HUSSON COLLEGE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

RECEIPT OF THE INTERIM REPORT FROM THE ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

RECEIPT OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT FORT KENT TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM; SITE APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; SAD 21; PRE K-5 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Wes Bonney, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the consent agenda.

**REGULAR BUSINESS:**

**MAJOR CAPITAL PROGRAM; DESIGN & FUNDING APPROVAL  
CONSIDERATION; SAD 55; NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT**

Statement of Fact: The SAD #55 Middle School construction project received Concept Approval at the October 13, 2004, Maine State Board of Education meeting. The project was approved in local referendum on December 7, 2004. This Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to MRSA Title 20-A.

The new grade 5-8 middle school will house 500 students and will relieve overcrowding in five elementary schools and the high school plus provide an appropriate middle school curriculum for all of the District's 5-8 students. The school will be built on an attractive site between the existing Sacopee Valley High School and the Hiram Elementary School. The new facility will also house the central office that is now in leased space.

SAD #55 has requested Design and Funding Approval for a new middle school construction project, which qualifies under state statute and State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, and it is therefore recommended that the State Board approve the following:

1. That SAD #55 proposed project is eligible for school construction aid under MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 609;
2. That the proposed project and the authorized method of financing are in the best interest of the State of Maine and SAD #55;
3. That the total estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
4. That SAD #55's proposed project is in compliance with MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 301, as it relates to the provisions of special education facilities.

1. Concept Approval Date and Total Project Cost: October 13, 2004; \$15,825,120
2. Approved for Inclusion in State/Local Debt Service: \$15,705,120
3. Local Only: \$ -0-
4. Maine High Performance School Grant: \$120,000

Design & Funding Approval Total Amount (2 through 4 above): \$15,825,120  
Increase (Decrease) From Concept Amount: \$ -0-

Commissioner Recommendation: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design & Funding Approval to SAD #55 for the new SAD #55 Middle School project.

This approval constitutes Design Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 15 of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states:

*“When it is determined by the Commissioner, following the opening of school construction bids, that there are surplus funds contained in a project budget, the State Board directs the Department of Education, with the advice of the Bureau of General Services, to initiate a process to lower the approved budget to the appropriate funding level, thus, providing additional funds for other projects awaiting concept approval.”*

MOVED by Jack Norris, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Design & Funding Approval to SAD #55 for the new SAD #55 Middle School project.

#### FINAL ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, MAINE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RULE CHAPTER 13, QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS FOR TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Background: Chapter 13 includes the qualifying examinations required for teachers seeking initial teacher certification. The rule has been amended to provide the qualifying examinations for school administrators seeking initial school administrator certification.

The Department of Education and the State Board of Education have reviewed the current rule, Chapter 13 and issued recommendations for changes to the Board. The rule is not major and substantive and thus was not subject to time constraints that honor Legislative review and approval. The State Board advanced the rule through Maine’s Administrative Procedure Act process by a vote of the Board at the May 11, 2005, meeting of the Board.

A public hearing was held on June 13, 2005, from 3:00 –4:00 p.m. at the Cross State Office Building ATM Room #103 and at three remote ATM sites: Ashland High School, Calais High School, and Greely High School to receive oral comments regarding the proposed rule changes. The deadline for submission of written comments was June 24, 2005. Five individuals provided comments on the proposed amendments to Chapter 13.

The State Board is being asked to adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 13, and the one change that resulted from public comments received through the APA process.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the proposed rule changes to Chapter 13, Qualifying Examinations for Teachers and Administrators.

MOVED by Janet Tockman, seconded by Wes Bonney, and unanimously voted by those present to adopt the proposed rule changes to Chapter 13, Qualifying Examinations for Teachers and Administrators.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

Chair Carignan reported on the following:

- That he attended the high school summit sponsored by the Mitchell Institute. The summit's discussions focused on a "wish list", i.e., what an individual would want in a student appearing before them in his/her first day of college, and what is lacking?
- That he was the keynote speaker at the Kid's Consortium conference.
- That the Select Panel will be meeting next week to review the rough draft of its report.
- That the Board has been directed by the Education Committee to perform a "self-analysis" and to submit a copy of the report to the committee in the next legislative session. Both Phil and Ellie will be assisting him as he works to draft a report.
- That he has been contemplating the idea of developing a system to create better communications between the State Board, the Education Committee, and the Governor's Office. One way that this could be done would be to develop an annual report about the State Board. If the members of the Board support this idea, than he would begin drafting such a report and bring it to the Board during its August meeting.
- Recently the Board questioned its role in granting approval to colleges and university that seek to establish recruitment offices in Maine. In response to this concern, the Attorney General's Office said that the Board no longer has to perform this duty.
- That during the Board's September retreat he would like to schedule some time to talk with the staff in the Department of Education about its relationship with the Board, and to improve communications and create better networking between the State Board and the Department. The Education Committee could also be invited to participate in this conversation.

## **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

Jack Norris:

- That he is having difficulty with finding willing underwriters to sponsor the Making the Grade Award. He is still contacting companies and/or individuals that may be interested in becoming a sponsor and he is open to suggestions. The Committee will revise the application and mail it out in the fall of 2005.

Jim suggested that a different approach would be for the Making the Grade Award application to focus on schools with strong civic education programs.

Ellie suggested that when the committee selects the recipient(s) of the award that the Making the Grade Award Committee contact a local company within the community of that particular school. The local organization may be willing to make a donation to the school within its community.

Wes Bonney:

- That he attended one of the two days of the Learning Results Summit that was held on June 23 and 24.

Ann Weisleder:

- That she attended a Chapter 114 Stakeholders meeting at Husson College. The goal is to have Chapter 114 revised and ready for adoption in January of 2006.

Janet Tockman:

- Inquired if a generic email address could be created for Board members.
- That over the last nine months she participated as a member of a study group sponsored by the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). This Value Added Study Group is about to wrap up its work, which was to review the progress or lack of progress of students over a period of time and to identify how much of this progress is the responsibility of the school or the teacher in the classroom, as opposed to the other factors. A final report is to be issued in October of 2005.

Joyce McPhetres:

- That she also attended the Learning Results Summit.

Ellie Multer:

- That there was a meeting of the stakeholder group that is promoting the idea of children being “ready for college.” This group is looking at the possibility of a coordinated program of which the major feature would be a website to assist students with questions about college.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

State Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn the Wednesday, July 13, 2005, meeting at 3:15 p.m.