

MINUTES
AUGUST MONHEGAN SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

Monday, **August 26**, 2024. Scheduled to begin at 4:30 pm,

Present: Chairman Jes Stevens, Treasurer Felicia Dunson, Secretary Daphne Pulsifer, Lead Teacher Terry Wood.

Present via Zoom: Supt. Tonya Arnold, Business Manager Belinda Waterhouse, Plantation First Assessor Jim Buccheri.

Called to Order at 4:45 pm.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: none

MINUTES: Motion by Jes Stevens to approve the minutes of 07/26/24 as read. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS (including comments and questions) none
SUPERINTENDENT'S written REPORT was received. Tonya reached Fred Brewer today after multiple attempts to schedule his presentation of the 2022-2023 Audit. The audit is still not ready. Superintendent Arnold has filed with the state for an extension through September 30th.

Tonya Arnold will be coming to the island Thursday, August 29. She will be substitute teaching Friday and will meet one on one with parents after school hours.

TEACHER'S written REPORT was received. Thom Buescher was not able to visit in person on August 26. The Teacher and he had a zoom meeting instead. He will visit the island in person in September. Guidance Counselor Scott Harris will make a day trip visit to the island on October 9th.

Business Manager will provide the Teacher with the new payroll schedule.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

School rentals for the summer went well. A report of total income from rentals is expected next month. One individual rented for a whole week and hopes to rent the same week next year.

Internet problems are ongoing. CCI has not repaired their trunk line so the current service at the school is unpredictable. Jim Buccheri has been trying to communicate with them but they have not been responsive. Efforts are ongoing to switch from CCI to the new AXIOM broadband service. Jes Stevens has been contacting NetworkMaine in hopes of getting the contract with Axiom settled. NetworkMaine has been reaching out to Axiom, but Axiom has not been responsive. The school is currently using a Fire Dept tablet hotspot as an internet backup like last year. This also is not reliable, possibly due to FCC changes made in January. Jes may contact State Representative Lydia Crafts to see if there may be help available for the school and fire department with our connectivity issues.

FINANCIAL

1. The Business Manager's written report was received.
2. Treasurer has communicated with the store asking for a new account to be established for the fiscal year 24-25, and for a balance due for charges between September 2023 and June 30, 2024. She has not received a response yet.
3. All Financial reports were reviewed. REAP Year 22 Award of \$27,293.00 was awarded.

4. VOTE ON WARRANTS:

Motion by Jes Stevens to approve Warrant EDU 02 - PR in the amount of \$8,239.49. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Jes Stevens to approve Warrant EDU 02 - AP in the amount of \$14,763.74, with \$128.55 paid from REAP and \$1,141.17 from the Teacher House Account. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously.

POLICY none

OLD BUSINESS none

NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion by Jes Stevens to approve the TLC Memorandum of Understanding 2024-2025 as reviewed by Superintendent and staff. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously. The school's contribution to the TLC for the 24-25 school year will be the same as last year, \$4,000. It is anticipated this will be paid with REAP funds.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETINGS & STAFF VISIT(S)

1. Next Regular Meeting: Mon., September 23, 2024, 4:30 pm, Zoom & Schoolhouse.
2. Logistics: Tonya Arnold will attend the September 23rd meeting in person and spend one night on island.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

MMA Risk Assessment representatives toured the School property and the Teacher House property. Jes, Felicia and Daphne were present at the school. Jes and Felicia were with them at the Teacher House property. A few issues were discussed. A report from the assessment has not been received yet.

1. Schoolhouse:

- a. Teacher Wood has noted that the window sills in the Ell and the bathroom need maintenance, possibly sanding and painting.
 - b. Jes is making plans for Brian Barrows to come to the island (tentatively August 30th) to help install the new Smartboard.
 - c. Felicia will make arrangements to have the piano tuned this week while the Piano Tuner is on island.
 - d. Teacher Wood discovered that the Island Inn now has a swing set like the one she was considering proposing for the school yard. Michael Brassard has given her permission to use the swing set with the school children. Students will be supervised by staff when using it.
 - e. A swing rope was put on the apple tree in the school yard during the summer. The rope needs to be removed for safety reasons. The tree is on Nelson property. Felicia will reach out to Nan Nelson to be sure the rope was not something the family wanted.
2. Teacher House Property
 - a. Special thanks to Tonya Arnold for weeding and cleanup at the Teacher House property in July!
 - b. Tenant in LTH has asked for water test results. Samples that were sent to the lab were damaged in shipping so not all tests could be run. The limited report will be shared. New samples will be collected and sent.

- c. Roof & Mud Room Project is nearing completion. Fenris Inc. will be sending an email with an update on the repairs and work done.
- d. The Risk Assessors noted that the hot water heater in the Teacher House is not vented. The caretaker provided a preliminary rough estimate of \$3,000 to replace the existing heater with a tankless water heater (estimated cost \$1,600) The work estimate also includes reorganizing the plumbing and propane lines to improve the complicated arrangement that currently exists in the basement. The committee agreed this work should be done. The goal is to have the work completed in September.
- e. Chimneys were cleaned. No issues were found. Both TH and LTH are ready for the heating season.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS none

Motion by Jes Stevens to adjourn. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 7:01 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Daphne Pulsifer

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81247831308?pwd=SFROb3E5ZHFOdUxadDRkanpFNUQzQT09>

Meeting ID: 812 4783 1308, Passcode: 252588

One tap mobile

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Back Up Zoom Link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8698799458?pwd=OE9PSXRST3IyYzY5RnZoVE9wUkUxZz09>

Meeting ID: 869 879 9458 Passcode: 7GKS98