

NORTHERN PENOBSCOT TECH REGION III

Curt Ring, Director
Hugh Porter, Student Services Coordinator

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NORTHERN PENOBSCOT TECH REGION III COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING Monday, December 14, 2020

MINUTES

- A. Chairperson Saba called the meeting to order at 6:34p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Wayne Danforth, Rowena Clukey, Dianne Buck, Mary Plourde, Kevin Gregory, Mary Tompkins, Patsy Saba, Warren Steward,
Present via ZOOM: Priscilla Clark, Loree Libby, Hilary Emery, Ryan Whitehouse, Mary Lindahl, Diana Lambert, Jasmine Folster

Members Absent Excused: Michelle Brundrett, Matthew Ayotte

Members Absent Unexcused:

- B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Gregory moved and Mr. Steward seconded approving the minutes of the October 26, 2020 Cooperative Board Meeting.
DISCUSSION: NONE

VOTE: Unanimous

- C. **AUDIENCES & COMMUNICATIONS:** NONE

- D. **AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:** NONE

- E. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

Finance Committee: Mrs. Clukey reported the committee met on December 14, 2020. **The Accounts Payable Warrant** and bills were reviewed and signed for Region III totaling **\$68,558.73**. Larger items (\$2,000.00 or more): Anthem BCBS, Bangor Savings Bank, Computers to Go, Strivven Media LLC, Versant Power. Also reviewed and signed were **Payroll Warrants** for 12/08/2020 in the amount of **\$77,438.33**

A **Student Activity Warrant** in the amount of **\$901.94** was reviewed and signed. A **School Nutrition Warrant** in the amount of **\$1,904.82** was reviewed and signed.

(The November 23, 2020 Finance Committee meeting was omitted from reporting. It will be reported on during the January 27, 2021 meeting.)

- F. **Old Business:** NONE

G. New Business

1. Election of Officers – Chairperson

Mr. Danforth nominated and Mrs. Buck seconded the nomination of Patricia Saba for Chairperson.

Mr. Steward moved and Mr. Gregory seconded ceasing nominations.

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 14-0
(Mrs. Saba abstained)

2. Election of Officers – Vice-Chairperson

Mr. Danforth nominated and Mr. Steward seconded the nomination of Kevin Gregory for Vice-Chairperson.

Mr. Steward moved and Mrs. Clukey seconded ceasing nominations.

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 14-0
(Mr. Gregory abstained)

H. Report of the Director:

1. Our annual equipment grant from the DOE has been approved. The funds will purchase equipment, online licenses, and testing. Some of these items can carry significant costs, so the grant is very helpful in providing us with the things we need to train our students on the latest technology and equipment that industries have to offer.
2. SkillsUSA is going to look very different this year, both at the local and state levels. We are committed to giving our students a meaningful and memorable experience, so Mr. Ammerman and I are discussing how to make the local competition the best it can be for our students and instructors. SkillsUSA week is February 8-12, and we will have something in place by then. The state competition will be virtual this year, so many competitions will be impossible to undertake. Maine has opted to not participate in the national competition this year. Because of these facts, we will do everything we can to make the local SkillsUSA competition a fun experience for as many people as possible.
3. Speaking of SkillsUSA, we have started the process to develop a local chapter. SkillsUSA is more than a competition. It is also a student leadership organization, much like a school's Student Council. We want our students to take an active role in community events, fundraisers, food drives, etc. so they can showcase the leadership skills that we are always working to develop at Region III.
4. There has been a lot of positive feedback from the local communities about our digital sign on West Broadway. We are using it to showcase our students and their accomplishments.

5. I will be meeting with regional superintendents on December 11 to discuss post-Christmas break plans, and any other issues that arise. If something significant comes from that meeting, I will share it with the board on December 14.
6. Thanks to a second shipment of PPE from the state, we have enough sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, masks, gowns and shields to last a long time.
7. Despite many challenges, Region III personnel are working hard to provide the best possible educational experience for all of our students. Most of our schools opted for remote teaching for at least one week after Thanksgiving break, and we are doing the same for the students from those schools. We were well-prepared in advance, so lessons and assignments are ready to go every day. We will also be ready in the event of another remote learning decision. The people from Region III have risen to the challenge, and I am proud of all of their efforts.
8. Now that we have our first snowstorm behind us, we need to have a plan for how we're going to handle future storms. First of all, we will no longer have "snow days" in the traditional sense. When it snows hard enough to make travel difficult, we will teach our students remotely using Microsoft Teams. Teams is the remote learning platform we have been using all year. I can also use Teams to notify all instructors that we will be remote that day. Elaine will continue to notify WABI, and put announcements on our Facebook page for students and parents. Elimination of snow days is one positive side effect of the necessity for remote learning.

H1. Report of Student Services Coordinator

The US Navy recruiter visited Region 3 and presented to students; three students followed up with him. The UMFK Admissions rep gave very good presentations to Media, Law Enforcement, RMA, CNA, Culinary, and IT classes. Virtual presentations are difficult but Davis Cyr did a very good job keeping students' attention.

I had a 12/7/20 CTE Student Services zoom meeting. The main topics were recruiting and attendance. CTEs are a combination of remote and hybrid. Recruiting for many is expected to be virtual. Several CTEs have experienced significantly increased attrition rates due to remote learning. Region 3 is proposing to do virtual presentations to sophomores and juniors and host middle school and sophomores at Region 3. Significantly increased attendance/ truancy issues are prevalent throughout every school in Maine. Like other administrators, I'm trying to keep up with contacting parents, students, and other counselors to keep students attending Region. This is a massive problem that may have severe repercussions, especially for the younger population.

I have set up a 12/15 zoom meeting with Bath Iron Works, Curt, Welding Instructors, and myself to discuss training and testing for our students. BIW needs over 2000 new workers in the coming year. Our Health Sciences and EMT Instructors will have a 12/17 zoom meeting with St. Joseph Hospital staff to discuss recruiting, school to work, and college support programs.

Our MELMAC team will be conference calling with Wendy Ault on 12/15 to present changes to our College Readiness and Innovation grants. These changes are needed because of Covid impacts. We are still prioritizing recruiting for Region 3.

Continuing to work with student college applications and their FAFSAs and setting up zoom and personal appointments for college and industry reps to present to our students.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements were read.

J. ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Steward moved and Mrs. Plourde seconded the motion to adjourn.

VOTE: Unanimous

Adjournment at: 7:12 pm