Gardiner - Randolph - Pittston - West Gardiner

Maine School Administrative District No. 11

150 Highland Avenue
Gardiner, ME 04345

Kady Gould
Superintendent of Schools

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Angela Hardy
Director of Curriculum & Instruction

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MERLE E. PEACOCK, JR. BOARD ROOM
Thursday, June 4, 2026
6:30 p.m.

DRAFT Minutes

Present: Becky Fles, Chair, Anthony Veit, Vice Chair, Meaghan Carlson, Daniel Coutts, Jeff Hanley, Barry Manning (left at 7:57 pm), Janelle McKinnon, Kate Merrill, Molly Rogers, Michelle Tucker, and Kady Gould, Superintendent of Schools

Student Representatives: Keira Blodgett and Ella Kruk

Excused Absent: Linda Caputo and Joanne O'Brien

The meeting will also be live streamed and available for viewing at www.msad11.org.

I. Call to order 0:00:12 – 0:00:25

The meeting was called to order at 6:39 pm.

II. Introduction 0:00:26 – 0:01:37

A. Board Members
B. Administrative Staff
C. The Pledge of Allegiance
D. Public Comment

III. Review and Approval of Agenda/Minutes 0:01:38 – 0:02:22

A. Prioritization of items and alteration of the established agenda format sequence as needed.
B. Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Molly Rogers, the Board voted to approve the agenda as amended.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
- Regular School Board Meeting – May 7, 2026
- Meeting with Municipal Officials – May 18, 2026

- Special Board Meeting (Budget Hearing) – May 26, 2026

Upon a motion by Jeff Hanley and a second by Michelle Tucker the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on May 7, 2026, the Meeting with Municipal Officials held on May 18, 2026, and the Special Board Meeting (Budget Hearing) held on May 26, 2026.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 – 0**

Motion Carried.

IV. Recognition and Celebrations 0:02:23 – 0:05:31

A. Keira Blodgett, for years of service as Student Representative on the School Board
B. Molly Rogers, for years of service on the School Board
C. Kate Merrill, for months of service on the School Board
D. Sam Robison, JMG Specialist at Gardiner Regional Middle School has been selected as one of the Unum Starting 9 JMG Specialists. This is a well-deserved recognition and will be celebrated at an upcoming Sea Dogs Game.
E. GRMS Girls Track and Field Team won the Capital Area League Championship
F. GRMS Baseball Team advanced to the Capital Area League Championship game.

V. Correspondence 0:05:32 – 0:05:40

A. Letter of resignation received from Katherine Frazer, Cross Country Volunteer, Gardiner Regional Middle School effective at the end of the 25-26 season
B. Letter of resignation received from Carol Rizzo, Math Teacher, Gardiner Area High School effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract
C. Letter of resignation received from Karol Carlsen, Grade 4 Teacher, Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School at the end of the 2025-2026 contract
D. Letter of resignation received from Jake Casey, Custodian – 2nd Shift, Helen Thompson School
E. Letter of resignation received from Daniel Paradee, Ed Tech III – REACH Program, Gardiner Regional Middle School effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract
F. Letter of resignation received from Daniel Paradee, Girls' Tennis Coach, Gardiner Area High School at the end of the 2025-2026 season.
G. Letter of resignation received from Daniel Paradee, Boys' Basketball Coach, Gardiner Regional Middle School at the end of the 2025-2026 season.
H. Letter of resignation received from David Cramer, Ed Tech II – Special Ed, Gardiner Area High School
I. Letter of resignation received from Joshua Farr, Adult Education Director effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract
J. Letter of retirement received from Emery Smith, Bus Driver effective at the end of the 2025-2026 contract

VI. Committee Reports 0:05:41 – 1:10:41

A. Administrator/Student Presentations
   - Trout Project - River View Community School
   - Day of Caring – Gardiner Area High School

B. Capital Area Technical Center Advisory Committee – No meeting
C. Curriculum Committee – May 5, 2026
D. Dropout Prevention Committee – No meeting
E. Finance Committee – May 12, 2026
F. Policy Committee – May 7, 2026

First Reading – Board Approval to Waive Second Reading
EBBD Temperature Standards for Schools
JIJC Bell to Bell Cell Phone Ban

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Jeff Hanley to waive the second reading for the EBBD – Temperature Standards for Schools and JIJC Bell To Bell Cell Phone Ban and to approve so they can be in place for August 1st.

Upon an amendment to the motion by Michelle Tucker to separate the vote for the EBBD – Temperature Standards for Schools and JIJC Bell To Bell Cell Phone Ban policies to allow for discussion on each. Anthony Veit and Jeff Hanley agreed to amend the motion.

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Jeff Hanley the Board voted to waive the second reading to allow the policy to be in place for August 1st and approve the EBBD Temperature Standards for Schools policy.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Michelle Tucker and a second by Janelle McKinnon the Board voted to waive the second reading to allow the policy to be in place for August 1st and approve the JIJC Bell To Bell Cell Phone Ban policy.

Vote: 11,1131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

Second Reading
Job Descriptions
- School Based Mental Health Professional
- Inclusion Specialist

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Barry Manning the Board voted to enact the Job Descriptions for the School Based Mental Health Professional and the Inclusion Specialist.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

Policies
- GE-R Manual for Policy GE – Non-Unionized Personnel

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Janelle McKinnon the Board voted to approve policy GE-R Manual for Policy GE – Non-Unionized Personnel.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

Handbook

- Pre-K Student Handbook 2025-2026

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Molly Rogers the Board voted to approve the Pre-K Student Handbook for 2025-2026.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

G. Wellness Committee – No meeting
H. SBHC Advisory Committee – No meeting
I. Student Representatives Report

VII. General Information 1:10:42 – 1:10:47

A. Katherine Frazer, Track and Field Volunteer, Gardiner Regional Middle School
B. Stephanie Kozma, transfer from Ed Tech II – Special Ed to an Ed Tech III – Special Ed effective March 9, 2026 for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.
C. Staff Transfers 2026-2027
   - Michael Frier transfer from Assistant Principal at Gardiner Area High School to Assistant Principal at Gardiner Regional Middle School
   - Jessica Merrill transfer from Special Ed Teacher – Life Skills to Math Teacher at Gardiner Area High School
   - Sandra Brann transfer from Grade 3 Teacher to Grade 5 Teacher at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School
   - Taylor Abbott transfer from Grade 3 Teacher to Grade 4 Teacher at River View Community School
   - Elizabeth Nelson transfer from Kindergarten Teacher to Literacy Interventionist – Title I Teacher at Laura E. Richards School
   - Jennifer Moore returning from leave of absence assigned to teach Kindergarten at Laura E. Richards School
   - Patricia Peckham transfer from Administrative Assistant position shared by Laura E. Richards School, Helen Thompson School, and Transportation Office to Administrative Assistant position at Gardiner Regional Middle School
   - Paige Dennison transfer from Ed Tech III – PreK Program to an Ed Tech II – PreK Program at Laura E. Richards School
   - Terry Brock transfer from Ed Tech III – PreK Program to an Ed Tech II – PreK Program at Laura E. Richards School
   - Marie Woodcock transfer from Ed Tech III – Special Ed to Ed Tech III – Title I Literacy at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School

VIII. Nominations 1:10:48 – 1:12:41

A. 2nd Year Probationary Contracts
- Holly Doe, Elementary Instructional Coach
- Katherine Frazer, Math Teacher, Middle School
- Elizabeth Hanley, Elementary School Nurse
- Elizabeth Harwood, Elementary School Nurse
- Kaylee Ray, General Elementary Teacher

B. Continuing Contracts
- Jarrod Dumas, ELA Teacher, High School

C. New Hires 2026-2027
- Rebecca Duquette, Targeted Reading Support Teacher - $51,786 (25-26)
- Angela Cyr, Special Educator – STEPS – Helen Thompson School - $67,738 (25-26)
- Rebecca Duca, Math Teacher, Gardiner Area High School - $56,087 (25-26)
- Kelsey Frost, Literacy Interventionist – Title I Teacher, River View Community School - $79,242 (25-26)

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Meaghan Carlson the Board voted to approve the above listed Secondary Probationary Staff, Continuing Contract Staff and New Hires as recommended by the Superintendent.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

IX. New Business 1:12:42 – 1:18:50

A. Appointment of a Student Representative to the School Board

Upon a motion by Meaghan Carlson and a second by Janelle McKinnon, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Isaac Boyce as Student Representative to the School Board.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

B. Approval for Gardiner Robotics trip to Worcester Polytechnic Institute June 5-7, 2026

Upon a motion by Becky Fles and a second by Barry Manning the Board approved the Gardiner Robotics trip to Worcester Polytechnic Institute on June 5-7, 2026.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

C. Extended School Year (ESY) overview of schedule
D. Grant the Superintendent authority to issue contracts during the summer

Upon a motion by Molly Rogers and a second by Anthony Veit the Board granted the Superintendent authority to issue contracts during the summer.

Vote: 11,131 – 0 **Student Vote: 2 - 0**

Motion carried.

X. Old Business

A. None

XI. Reports 1:18:51 – 1:26:15

A. Board Chair
- MSAD 11 School Budget Referendum – Tuesday, June 9, 2026
- Special School Board Meeting – Computation and Declaration of Votes – Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 5:00 pm

B. Superintendent
- Central Office Summer Hours/Summer Work Schedule – June 22, 2026 – August 14, 2026
  - Monday – Thursday – 7:00 am – 3:00 pm, Friday – Closed to the Public
- Graduation Tickets for Board Members – ***Please let Martha know no later than June 5, 2026 to reserve tickets.***
- Important End of School Year Events

  Gardiner Area High School
  - Class Day – Thursday, June 11, 2026 8:00 am in the Gym
  - Graduation – Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 5:00 pm at the Augusta Civic Center
  - Senior Events – Saturday, June 13, 2026 7:30 Parade and 8:00Block Party at the Waterfront

  Gardiner Regional Middle School
  - Eighth Grade Awards Ceremony – Friday, June 12, 2026 8:00 am in the Gym

  River View Community School
  - Fifth Grade Celebration – Friday, June 12, 2026 at 10:30 am
  - Fifth Grade Clap Out at dismissal – Monday June 15, 2026

  Helen Thompson School
  - Fifth Grade Celebration – Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 1:00 pm

  Pittston Randolph Consolidated School
  - Fifth Grade Celebration – Friday, June 12, 2026 at 1:30 pm
  - Fifth Grade Clap out at dismissal – Monday, June 15, 2026

  Laura E. Richards School
  - Second Grade clap out at dismissal – Monday, June 15, 2026

  Adult Ed Graduation
  - Adult Ed Graduation – Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 4:30 pm

End of the Regular Session.

Barry Manning left the meeting.

XII. Executive Session 1:26:16 – 2:15:36

A. Executive Session to discuss the hiring of a new Principal at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)

Upon a motion by Michelle Tucker and a second by Meaghan Carlson the Board voted to enter executive session to discuss the hiring of a new Principal at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School.

Vote: 10,253 - 0

Motion carried.

Exited Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Meaghan Carlson the Board approved the hiring of Ira Michaud as Principal at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School.

Vote: 10,253 - 0

Motion carried.

B. Executive Session to discuss the hiring of a new Principal at Helen Thompson School – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)

Upon a motion by Michelle Tucker and a second by Janelle McKinnon the Board voted to enter executive session to discuss the hiring of a Principal at Helen Thompson School

Vote: 10,253 - 0

Motion carried.

Exited Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Janelle McKinnon and a second by Meaghan Carlson the Board approved the hiring of Kim Taylor as Principal at Helen Thompson School.

Vote: 10,253 - 0

Motion carried.

C. Executive Session to discuss confidential records – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(F)

Upon a motion by Michelle Tucker and a second by Molly Rogers to enter executive session to discuss confidential records.

Vote: 10,253 - 0

Motion carried.

Exited Executive Session.

No action taken.

D. Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A)

Upon a motion by Michelle Tucker and a second by Anthony Veit the Board voted to enter executive session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract.

Vote: 10,253 - 0

Motion carried.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at the end of the executive session.

Attest a True Record,



Kady Gould
Secretary