

Maine School Administrative District No. 11

150 Highland Avenue
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Kady Gould
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Director of Curriculum & Instruction

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MERLE E. PEACOCK, JR. BOARD ROOM
Thursday, October 1, 2026
6:30 p.m.**

Our Mission: Together we commit to *helping every student know they matter*. Our goal is to empower students to acquire skills, participate in meaningful experiences, and build community connections to navigate a healthy and productive future.

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Becky Fles, Chair, Anthony Veit, Vice Chair, Linda Caputo, Meaghan Carlson, Daniel Coutts, Tyler Eldridge, Jeff Hanley, Barry Manning, Brandon Martin, Janelle McKinnon, Allyce Pepin, Michelle Tucker, and Kady Gould, Superintendent of Schools

Student Representatives: Ella Kruk

Excused Absent: Isaac Boyce

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

Due to technical difficulties, the audio/video in parts 1-3 is poor.

Part 1 0:00:02 – 0:06:49

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm.

Part 2 0:00:01 – 0:11:39

II. Introduction

Part 3 0:00:00 – 0:19:00

- A. Board Members
- B. Administrative Staff
- C. The Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Administrator/Student Presentations
 - Anchor Days – River View Community School

Part 4 0:00:01 – 0:10:38

- E. Public Comment
 - 3 Employees, 14 Residents, and 1 Non-Resident

Upon a motion by Meaghan Carlson and a second by Anthony Veit to extend public comment.

**Vote: 11,402 – 2,210
(Jeff Hanley and Barry Manning Opposed)**

Student Vote:

Motion carried.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda/Minutes

- A. Prioritization of items and alteration of the established agenda format sequence as needed.**

Upon a motion by Jeff Hanley and a second by Michelle Tucker to add a discussion about the Health Center MOU to New Business.

Michelle Tucker declined to amend the motion.

**Vote: 6,535 – 7,077
(Linda Caputo, Meaghan Carlson,
Anthony Veit, Becky Fles, Brandon Martin
and Allyce Pepin Opposed)**

Student Vote:

Motion failed.

Upon a motion by Brandon Martin and a second by Janelle McKinnon to add a Discussion about scheduling a Board Workshop with Legal Counsel regarding Code of Ethics under New Business.

**Vote: 5,657 – 7,955
(Barry Manning, Allyce Pepin,
Becky Fles, Anthony Veit,
Linda Caputo, Meaghan Carlson,
and Michelle Tucker Opposed)**

Student Vote:

Motion failed.

Upon a motion by Michelle Tucker and a second by Barry Manning to revoke the MOU for the School Based Health Center.

**Vote: 4,237 – 9,375
(Janelle McKinnon, Meaghan Carlson
Linda Caputo, Anthony Veit, Becky Fles,
Brandon Martin, Allyce Pepin, and Tyler Eldridge
Opposed.**

Student Vote:

Motion failed.

Upon a motion by Tyler Eldridge and a second by Janelle McKinnon to add Policy BDA Board Organizational Meeting for a First Reading and to send it back to the Policy Committee.

Brandon Martin asked to amend the motion to add Policy BDA Board Organizational Meeting for a First Reading. Tyler Eldridge accepted.

Vote: 7,684 – 5,928

Student Vote:

(Allyce Pepin, Anthony Veit, Linda Caputo, Meaghan Carlson, and Becky Fles Opposed)

Motion carried.

- B. Approval of Agenda
- C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - Regular School Board Meeting – September 3, 2026

Upon a motion by Meaghan Carlson to amend the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on September 3, 2026.

Upon a motion by Jeff Hanley and a second by Anthony Veit to approve the Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on September 3, 2026.

Vote: 7,684 – 4,779 – 1,149

Student Vote:

(Becky Fles, Anthony Veit, Meaghan Carlson, And Linda Caputo Opposed. Allyce Pepin Abstained.)

Motion Carried.

IV. Recognition and Celebrations 0:47:13 – 0:47:59

- A. Homecoming parade and celebrations
- B. GAHS Interact Club is the recipient of the Spirit of America Award for Kennebec County
- C. MSAD 11 is featured on the Maine Department of Education Math Pathways website

V. Correspondence 0:48:00 – 0:48:05

- A. Resignation received from Morgan Kirk, Grade 3 Teacher, Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School effective September 25, 2026
- B. Resignation received from Gerald Quintal, Bus Driver effective December 31, 2026

VI. Committee Reports 0:48:06 – 1:12:33

- ~~A. Administrator/Student Presentations~~
 - ~~• Anchor Days – River View Community School~~
- B. Capital Area Technical Center Advisory Committee – No meeting
- C. Curriculum Committee – September 8, 2026
 - The next Curriculum Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 3:30 pm
- D. Dropout Prevention Committee – No meeting
- E. Finance Committee – September 8, 2026 – Not Available at Posting Time
- F. Policy Committee – September 3, 2026

First Reading

Policy

- BIC-E Certification of Completion of Freedom of Access Training Handbooks
- MSAD 11 Elementary Schools 2026-2027 Student Handbook
- MSAD 11 PreK 2026-2027 Student Handbook
- Gardiner Area High School 2026-2027 Student Handbook
- Gardiner Regional Middle School 2026-2027 Student Handbook
- MSAD 11 Athletic Handbook

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Allyce Pepin, the Board voted to approve the BIC-E Certification of Completion of Freedom of Access Training policy and the MSAD 11 Elementary Schools 2026 – 2027 Student Handbook, MSAD 11 PreK 2026-2027 Student Handbook, Gardiner Area High School 2026-2027 Student Handbook, Gardiner Regional Middle School 2026-2027 Student Handbook and MSAD 11 Athletic Handbook.

Vote: 13,612 – 0

Student Vote: 1 – 0

Motion carried.

- BDA Board Organizational Meeting

Return Policy BDA – Board Organizational Meeting to Policy Committee prior to Second Reading

Job Description

- Ed Tech III – MTSS Behavior Interventionist

Policies

- BEDH Public Comment and School Board Meetings
- JKAA Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion
- IHBAC Child Find
- BHC Board Communications with Staff
- BIA New Board Member Orientation
- BIB Board Member Development Opportunities
- BIC Board Member Freedom of Access
- BID Board Member Compensation and Expenses
- CB School Superintendent

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Tyler Eldridge the Board approved the above policies.

Vote: 13,612 - 0

Student Vote: 1 - 0

Motion carried.

- G. Wellness Committee – No meeting
- H. SBHC Advisory Committee – Site Visit October 8, 2026 at 5 pm
- I. Student Representatives Report
- J. Directors' Report (attached)

- A. Lindsey Bickford, Math Team Advisor - Gardiner Regional Middle School
- B. Jessica Merrill, Unified Sports Coach (Shared Position) – Gardiner Area High School
- C. Jennifer Carver, Unified Sports Coach (Shared Position) – Gardiner Area High School
- D. Heather Kinee, Ed Tech I – STARS Program, Helen Thompson School
- E. Jenna Dolley transfer from Ed Tech I – STARS Program at Helen Thompson School to Ed Tech I – Special Ed at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School

VIII. Nominations

1:13:27 – 1:14:20

- A. Grace Dube, Grade 3 Teacher, Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School - \$62,777
- B. Gail Coughlan, Special Educator 4-Year-Old Program, Laura E. Richards School - \$77,364 (prorated based on .80 fte)

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Allyce Pepin to approve the above nominations as recommended by the Superintendent.

Vote: 13,612 – 0

Student Vote: 1 – 0

Motion carried.

IX. New Business

1:14:21 – 1:23:16

- A. Field Trip – April 2029 Trip to Italy, Katie Collins – Gardiner Area High School

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Linda Caputo the Board voted to approve the April 2029 Field Trip to Italy.

Vote: 13,612 – 0

Student Vote: 1 – 0

Motion carried.

- B. Review Board Policy BCA Board Member Code of Ethics

Upon a motion by Tyler Eldridge and a second by Michelle Tucker to cease discussion.

Vote:

Motion

X. Old Business

- A. None

XI. Reports

1:23:17 – 1:29:52

- A. Board Chair
 - MSMA's 53rd Annual Fall Conference – October 28-29, 2026
Please contact Martha Allen by October 2nd to register
 - Eastern Region Conference

B. Superintendent

- Student Representatives to attend MSMA Student Board Member Conference on October 28, 2026 2:00 – 4:30 pm
- Reach My Teach Update
- Student Enrollment
- MSMA Board Training – November 17, 2026 at 5 pm
- NEDCC Regional Conference – October 14-15, 2026

XII. Executive Session
A. None

XIII. Adjournment

1:29:53 – 1:30:18

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 pm.

Attest a True Record,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kady Gould', written in a cursive style.

Kady Gould
Secretary