Gardiner - Randolph - Pittston - West Gardiner

Maine School Administrative District No. 11

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Director of Curriculum & Instruction

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MERLE E. PEACOCK, JR. BOARD ROOM
Thursday, November 5, 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, Brandon Martin, Vice Chair, Linda Caputo, Meaghan Carlson, Daniel Coutts, Tyler Eldridge, Jeff Hanley, Zachary Hanley, Janelle McKinnon, Allyce Pepin, and Kady Gould, Superintendent of Schools

Student Representatives – Isaac Boyce and Ella Kruk

Excused Absent – Barry Manning and Michelle Tucker

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

I. Call to order 0:02:37 – 0:02:45

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

II. Executive Session 0:02:46 – 0:43:23

A. Consultation between school unit and its attorney regarding the MOU for the School Based Health Center, 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E)

Upon a motion by Brandon Martin and a second by Tyler Eldridge, the Board voted to enter executive session to consult with its attorney regarding the MOU for the School Based Health Center, 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E).

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

Exited executive session.

No action taken.

III. Introduction 0:43:24 – 1:01:32

A. Board Members
B. Administrative Staff
C. The Pledge of Allegiance
D. Administrator/Student Presentations
   - GRMS 8th Grade STEM Challenge
E. Public Comment
   - 4 Residents Spoke

IV. Election of Vice Chair 1:01:33 – 1:03:16

A. Nomination of Vice Chair

Nomination by Jeff Hanley and a second by Janelle McKinnon to nominate Brandon Martin to serve School Board Vice Chair until April 2027.

Vote: 11,585 - 0

Motion carried.

V. Review and Approval of Agenda/Minutes 1:03:17 – 1:05:37

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

Upon a motion by Brandon Martin and a second by Jeff Hanley the board voted to add under New Business to authorize the Superintendent to enter communication with legal counsel to amend the MOU for the School Based Health Center for risk and indemnity.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

B. Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Janelle McKinnon and a second by Tyler Eldridge, the Board voted to approve the agenda as amended.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
   - Regular School Board Meeting – October 1, 2026

Upon a motion by Jeff Hanley and a second by Brandon Martin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on October 1, 2026.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

VI. Recognition and Celebrations 1:05:38 – 1:07:42

A. Thank you to Anthony Veit for his years of service on the MSAD 11 School Board
B. Welcome Zachary Hanley, new Board Member from Gardiner
C. Resignation received from Barry Manning, School Board Member – effective January 8, 2027
D. Rick McArthur Spirit of America Award for years of service at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School and Town of Pittston
E. Laura E. Richards School was awarded a grant through the Literacy Fund at the Maine Community Foundation
F. Sound System Donation for Hoch Field
G. Parent Volunteer Group donations for fall projects
   - Sandbox at Helen Thompson School
   - Grill at Gardiner Regional Middle School
   - Outlet at River View Community School
H. NEDCC - MSAD 11 team including Students and School Staff attended NEDCC the School Redesign in Action Conference.
I. Congratulations to the GAHS Girls Volleyball Team for winning the Class C State Championship!

VII. Correspondence 1:07:43 – 1:07:46

A. Resignation received from Alex Hinckley, Custodian, Gardiner Area High School
B. Resignation received from Jessica Merrill, 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, Gardiner Regional Middle School

VIII. Committee Reports 1:07:47 – 1:29:30

A. Capital Area Technical Center Advisory Committee – October 23, 2026
   - New Director at CATC
   - Cost Sharing
B. Curriculum Committee – October 20, 2026
C. Dropout Prevention Committee – October 20, 2026
D. Finance Committee –
   - September 8, 2026
   - October 13, 2026
E. Policy Committee – October 1, 2026

First Reading

- KLGC Relations with Law Enforcement Personnel
- CBI Evaluation and Supervision of Superintendent
- ECAD Security Camera System
- GBB Staff Involvement in Decision Making
- GBEA Staff Ethics / Conflict of Interest
- GBEBB Staff Conduct with Students / Staff-Student Relations

Upon a motion by Becky Fles and a second by Meaghan Carlson the Board voted to approve the above policies for a second read.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

Second 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 Brandon Martin and a second by Allyce Pepin, to Board voted to approve the above policy and Handbooks.

Voted: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

F. Wellness Committee
G. SBHC Advisory Committee
H. Student Representatives Report

IX. General Information 1:29:17 – 1:29:30

A. New Hires:
   - Barbara Skidgel, Bus Driver
B. Staff Transfers:
   - Kim Walker transfer from Ed Tech II – Resource Room at Gardiner Regional Middle School to Ed Tech II – STEPS Program at Helen Thompson School
   - Linda Paré transfer from Ed Tech II – Life Skills Program at Gardiner Area High School to Ed Tech II – Life Skills Program at Gardiner Regional Middle School
   - Kenneth Hughes Davis transfer from Ed Tech III – Special Ed at Gardiner Area High School to Ed Tech III – STEPS Program at Helen Thompson School
   - Brittany Chadbourne transfer from Ed Tech III – STEPS Program at Helen Thompson School to Ed Tech III – Library position at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School
C. Chad Perry, Assistant Athletic Director
D. Winter Sports Coaches – Gardiner Area High School
   - Aaron Toman, Boys Varsity Basketball
   - Charlie Lawrence, Boys JV Basketball
   - Mark St. Vincent, Boys Freshman Basketball
   - Brittany Gero, Girls Varsity Basketball
   - Katie McAllister-Edge, Girls JV Basketball
   - KC Johnson, Boys Varsity Ice Hockey
   - Elliot Emberley ~~Bill Boardman~~, Girls Ice Hockey (Co-op)
   - Matt Hanley, Wrestling
   - Sidney Bartunek, Cheering
   - Gabby Low, Swimming (Co-op with Cony)
   - Jen Boudreau, Indoor Track and Field
   - Jessica Merrill, Unified Basketball (Shared)

- Jen Carver, Unified Basketball (Shared)

E. Winter Sports Volunteers – Gardiner Area High School
- CJ Elliott, Boys Basketball
- Paul Rubashkin, Wrestling
- Mark Carter, Wrestling

F. Winter Sports Coaches – Gardiner Regional Middle School
- Freda Keyser, Girls 8th Grade Basketball
- Lindsay Gove, Girls 7th Grade Basketball
- Matt Hanley, Wrestling
- Sidney Bartunek, Cheering Volunteer
- Samantha Robison, Boys 8th Grade Basketball
- Michael McGee, Boys 7th Grade Basketball

X. Nominations

A. None

XI. New Business 1:29:31 – 2:07:36

A. A vote for the Resolution to Authorize Lease Purchase of a Vehicle and Related Equipment

I, Allyce Pepin, move that the Resolution entitled, "Resolution to Authorize Lease Purchase of New GMC Truck with Plow Attachment in the Principal Amount of $64,330" be adopted in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Resolution be filed with the minutes of this meeting, seconded by Linda Caputo.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

B. A vote for the Resolution to Authorize School Revolving Renovation Fund Loan Forgiveness Grant

I, Brandon Martin, move that the Resolution entitled, "Resolution to Authorize School Revolving Renovation Fund Loan Forgiveness Grant," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that the Secretary file an attested copy of said Resolution with the minutes of this meeting, seconded by Allyce Pepin.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

C. Approval of school emergency plans

Upon a motion by Becky Fles and a second by Meaghan Carlson, the Board voted to approve the school emergency plans for the 2026-2027 school year.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

D. Transportation Update
E. Remote Days

Upon a motion by Allyce Pepin and a second by Meaghan Carlson to authorize the Superintendent to utilize remote days.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

F. RFQ Update
G. GAHS Drama Production "The Laramie Project" – November 5-7, 2026 at 7 pm in the Little Theater
H. Authorize the Superintendent to enter communication with attorney to explore amending the MOU with the School Based Health Center to address liability concerns.

Upon a motion by Brandon Martin and a second by Janelle McKinnon the Board voted to authorize the Superintendent to enter into communication with attorney to explore amending the MOU with the School Based Health Center to address liability, risk, and indemnification concerns.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

XII. Old Business

A. None

XIII. Reports 2:07:37 – 2:25:47

A. Board Chair
- FOAA Requests
- Barry Manning resignation

B. Superintendent
- Technology equipment update (in reference to technical difficulties October 1)
- NEDCC update
- Board Governance Training – November 17, 2026 at 5:00 pm

XIV. Adjournment 2:25:48 – 2:25:55

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Attest a True Record,

Kady Gould
Secretary

November 5, 2026

Motion: I move that the Resolution entitled, "Resolution to Authorize Lease Purchase of A New GMC Truck with Plow Attachment in the Principal Amount of $64,330" be adopted in form presented to this meeting and that a copy of said Resolution be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE LEASE PURCHASE OF A NEW GMC TRUCK WITH PLOW ATTACHMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF $64,330

The School Board of Maine School Administrative District No. 11 (the "District") hereby resolves as follows:

1. That the Superintendent of Schools (the "Superintendent") and the Business Manager, acting singly, are authorized to accept the proposal of MCB Leasing, LLC (the "Lessor"), to provide tax-exempt lease purchase financing for a New GMC Truck with plow attachment and related equipment and accessories (the "Equipment") in the principal amount of $64,330 at an interest rate of 5.50% payable in five (5) annual installments and any prior such action is hereby ratified and confirmed;

2. That under and pursuant to the provisions of Title 20-A M.R.S. Sections 1001 and 1055, and all other applicable law, the Superintendent is authorized to execute and deliver a lease purchase agreement with Lessor, or its nominee, in the name and on behalf of the District to provide funds for the Equipment, with an aggregate lease purchase price not to exceed $64,330, in such form and on such terms not inconsistent herewith as the Superintendent may approve, said approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof (the "Lease");

3. That to the extent not inconsistent with this Resolution, the Superintendent is hereby authorized to select such date(s), maturity(ies), denomination(s), interest rate(s), place(s) of payment, form(s), and other details of the Lease, as the Superintendent may approve, said approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof;

4. That the Lease issued pursuant hereto is designated as a qualified tax-exempt obligation within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code");

5. That the Superintendent is authorized to covenant on behalf of the Lessee that no part of the proceeds of the Lease or the Equipment shall be used, directly or indirectly, in a manner that would cause the Lease to be an "arbitrage bond" or a "private activity bond" within the meaning of Sections 141 and 148 of the Code;

6. That the Superintendent is authorized to execute and deliver such tax certificates, arbitrage and use of proceeds certificates, and other documents and certificates as may, in the Superintendent's opinion, be necessary or convenient to effect the transactions herein authorized, to be in such form not inconsistent with this Resolution as the Superintendent may approve, said approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery thereof;

7. That the Superintendent and other appropriate officials of the District, acting singly, are authorized and empowered in its name and on its behalf to do or cause to do all such other acts

and things as may be necessary or desirable in order to effect the sale and delivery of the Lease in accordance herewith, and any such prior action by them is hereby ratified and confirmed;

8. That if the Superintendent or any other District officer or official is for any reason unavailable to, as applicable, approve, execute, or attest the Lease, or any related financing documents, the person or persons acting in any such capacity, whether as an assistant, a deputy or otherwise, is authorized to act for such official with the same force and effect as if such official had herself/himself performed such act, and any such prior action by them is hereby ratified and confirmed;

9. That the Treasurer of the District, in consultation with Bond Counsel, is authorized to implement written procedures with respect to the Lease for the purpose of (i) ensuring timely "remedial action" for any portion of the Lease that may become "non-qualified bonds," as those terms are defined in the Code and regulations thereunder; and (ii) monitoring the District's compliance following execution of the Lease with the arbitrage, yield restriction, and rebate requirements of the Code and regulations thereunder;

10. That the Superintendent is authorized to covenant on behalf of the District to file any information report and pay any rebate due to the United States in connection with the issuance of the Lease, and to take all other lawful actions necessary to ensure the interest portion of the rental payments under and pursuant to the Lease will be excludable from the gross income of the owners thereof for purposes of federal income taxation and to refrain from taking any action which would cause such interest portion of the rental payments to become includable in the gross income of the owners thereof; and

11. That an attested copy of this Resolution be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

A true copy, attest:

Kady Gould, Secretary
Maine School Administrative District No. 11

November 5, 2026

Motion: I move that the Resolution entitled, "Resolution to Authorize School Revolving Renovation Fund Loan Forgiveness Grant," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that the Secretary file an attested copy of said Resolution with the minutes of this meeting.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SCHOOL REVOLVING RENOVATION FUND LOAN FORGIVENESS GRANT

1. That under and pursuant to a Maine Department of Education School Revolving Renovation Fund Eligibility Certificate dated January 30, 2026, issued to assist Maine School Administrative District No. 11 (the "District") in the financing of Priority 1 Health, Safety, and Compliance repairs related to indoor air quality renovations and improvements at Gardiner Area High School (the "Project"), and all other applicable law, the Chair of the School Board (the "Chair") and the Treasurer be authorized in the name and on behalf of the District to execute and deliver a Loan Agreement between the Maine Municipal Bond Bank (the "Bond Bank") and the District to effect a loan from the Bond Bank to finance the Project in the principal amount of up to $226,404, but of which amount $149,766 of principal is forgiven by the Bond Bank (the "Loan Agreement"); and that the Loan Agreement be on such terms as the Chair and the Treasurer may approve, the execution and delivery thereof to be conclusive evidence of such approval; **provided however**, that the Loan Agreement shall provide that if the District has prepaid all of the borrowed principal which has not been forgiven and which has been evidenced by bonds, the Bond Bank agrees that the bonds are paid and satisfied.

2. That under and pursuant to sections 5953-E and 6006-F of the Maine Municipal Bond Bank Act, sections 1490 and 1501 of Title 20-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, and all other applicable law, the Chair and the Treasurer of the District be authorized to borrow in the name and on behalf of the District the sum of up to $76,638 from the Bond Bank to finance the Project; that in connection therewith, the Chair and the Treasurer be authorized to issue general obligation securities (bonds or notes) of the District in an original principal amount of up to $76,638, payable WITH NO INTEREST in five (5) substantially equal annual installments of principal, and to execute and deliver such general obligation bonds or notes (as so executed and delivered, the "Bond") in registered form under the seal of the District and attested by the Secretary; and that the Bond bear such date and be on such other terms and in such form as the Chair and the Treasurer may approve, the execution and delivery thereof to be conclusive evidence of such approval; **provided however,** that the Treasurer shall have prepaid the Bond on or before delivery thereof, and that such payment and satisfaction shall be indicated on the Bond by words, "Paid and Cancelled."

3. That the Chair and the Treasurer, acting singly, be authorized in the name and on behalf of the District to execute and deliver such other instruments, documents, certificates and agreements, and to take or cause to be taken such further actions for and on behalf of the District, as may be necessary, convenient or appropriate to accomplish the Project and to effect the transactions contemplated by this Resolution and the documents referenced herein, and that the Secretary of the District be authorized to attest to the foregoing and attach the District's seal to any of the foregoing.

A true copy, attest:

Kady Gould, Secretary