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, September 3, 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 (left at 7:18 pm), Daniel Coutts, Tyler Eldridge, Jeff Hanley, Barry Manning (left at 8:18 pm), Brandon Martin, Janelle McKinnon, Allyce Pepin, Michelle Tucker, and Kady Gould, Superintendent of Schools

Student Representatives: Ella Kruk (left meeting 7:25 pm)

Excused Absent: Isaac Boyce

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

I. Call to order - 0:01:54

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

II. Introduction 0:02:26 – 0:28:06

A. Board Members
B. Administrative Staff
C. The Pledge of Allegiance
D. Public Comment
8 Residents, 2 Employees spoke.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda/Minutes 0:08:07 – 1:03:31

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 amend the agenda to add the following items for discussion under New Business:

1. **School Based Health Center – Review Language of MOA**
2. **Policy ACAAA – Transgender and Gender Expansive Students**

3. **Solar Systems**

Tyler Eldridge asked to amend the motion to include discussion regarding Title IX. Jeff agreed to amend the motion.

4. **Title IX**

Meaghan Carlson left the meeting.

Meeting recessed. 0:41:46 – 0:47:05

Ella Kruk left the meeting.

Vote: 6,535 – 5,928 (Linda Caputo, Becky Fles, Brandon Martin, Allyce Pepin, and Anthony Veit opposed)

Motion Carried

Upon a motion by Michelle Tucker and a second by Tyler Eldridge to have the Board Censure Meaghan Carlson at the next School Board meeting for her behavior and actions at tonight's Board meeting.

Brandon Martin asked to amend the motion to include a review of Board Policy BCA – Board Member Code of Ethics. Jeff suggested reading the policy to the full Board at the next meeting and to have a discussion with Meaghan Carlson.

Michelle Tucker agreed to amend her motion, second by Jeff Hanley to read Board Policy BCA – Board Member Code of Ethics at the next meeting and for Becky Fles, Anthony Veit, and Jeff Hanley to meet with Meaghan Carlson to discuss her actions at tonight's Board Meeting.

Vote: 11,314 – 1,149 (Allyce Pepin opposed)

Motion carried.

B. Approval of Agenda

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

Vote: 12,463 – 0

Motion carried.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
- Regular School Board Meeting – August 6, 2026

Upon a motion by Michelle Tucker and a second by Brandon Martin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on August 6, 2026.

Vote: 12,463 – 0

Motion carried.

IV. Recognition and Celebrations 1:03:32 – 1:06:34

A. Thank you to CMP President Linda Ball for the donation of the book "Good Morning Maine" to each elementary school in the state.
B. Thank you to Sunrise Bagel for holding a school supplies drive and donating it to Laura E. Richards and River View Community Schools
C. Opening Day Workshop at Johnson Hall

V. Correspondence 1:06:35 – 1:06:45

~~A. Resignation received from Karen Collin, Elementary Instructional Coach – Literacy~~
B. Resignation received from Amanda Hayward, Teacher – Learning Lab English Language Arts, Gardiner Regional Middle School
C. Resignation received from Patricia Salvadori, Teacher – Grade 7 English Language Arts, Gardiner Regional Middle School
D. Resignation received from Seth Hasty, Ed Tech II – Special Ed, Gardiner Regional Middle School
E. Resignation received from Deirdra Darcy, Ed Tech II – Life Skills, Gardiner Regional Middle School
F. Resignation received from Stacia Bolitho, Ed Tech III – Library, Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School
G. Resignation received from Jordan Hersom, Health Teacher, Gardiner Area High School
H. Resignation received from Raymond Sergent, Administrative Assistant, Transportation Office
I. Resignation received from Emily Hersom, Title I Literacy Interventionist, River View Community School
J. Resignation received from Jamie Pare', Field Hockey Coach, Gardiner Regional Middle School

VI. Committee Reports 1:06:46 – 1:21:19

A. Administrator/Student Presentations – No Presentation for September
B. Capital Area Technical Center Advisory Committee – No meeting
C. Curriculum Committee – No meeting
D. Dropout Prevention Committee – No meeting
E. Finance Committee – No meeting
F. Policy Committee – August 6, 2026

First Reading
Job Description
- Ed Tech III – MTSS Behavior Interventionist

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Janelle McKinnon, the Board voted to approve the job description for an Ed Tech III – MTSS Behavior Interventionist.

Vote: 12,463 – 0

Motion carried.

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
- DJ Bidding and Purchasing

Upon a motion by Linda Caputo and a second by Jeff Hanley voted to approve the above policies for a second read and to send policy DJ – Bidding and Purchasing back to committee for review.

Vote: 12,463 - 0

Motion carried.

G. Wellness Committee – No meeting
H. SBHC Advisory Committee – Tiger Health Center Opening Date - September 15, 2026
I. Student Representatives – Lauren Arnold, Principal read the report.

VII. General Information 1:20:20 – 1:21:32

A. Staff Transfers
   - Brian Henderson transfer from Ed Tech I – Special Ed Resource Room at Gardiner Regional Middle School to Ed Tech I – Special Ed Behavior Program at Gardiner Area High School
   - Jeanne Moody transfer from Ed Tech I - District to Ed Tech I – Special Ed at Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School
   - Maxwell Gaba, Ed Tech III – STEPS Program to Ed Tech III – STARS Program at Helen Thompson School
   - Rayna Sage transfer from Ed Tech I – Special Ed at Laura E. Richards School to Ed Tech III – Special Ed, Laura E. Richards School
   - Abrielle Tripp from Ed Tech I – Special Ed to Ed Tech II – Special Ed at Laura E. Richards School

B. New Hires
   - Michaela Newton, Ed Tech III – STEPS Program, Helen Thompson School
   - Brittany Chadbourne, Ed Tech III – STEPS Program, Helen Thompson School
   - Stacy Williams, Ed Tech I – STEPS Program, Helen Thompson School
   - Imane Jouamaa, Ed Tech I – STEPS Program, Helen Thompson School
   - Alexandra Colyer, Ed Tech I – Resource Room, Helen Thompson School
   - Lynn Young, Parttime SLPA/Parttime Ed Tech II – Special Ed, PreK Program, Laura E. Richards School
   - Chad Perry, Ed Tech I – Special Ed, Gardiner Area High School
   - Misty Rideout, Nutrition Worker (Floater Position)

C. Team Leaders – Gardiner Regional Middle School
   - Jolaine Gallibois-Barss – Grade 6
   - To Be Determined – Grade 7
   - Angela Smith – Grade 8

- Sonya Koss – Special Ed.
- To Be Determined – MTSS/SEL

D. Co-Curricular – Gardiner Regional Middle School
   - Nick Denny – Night in the Jungle
   - ~~Kim Quirion – SSO~~
   - Angie Moreland – Lego Robotics
   - Willan Barron – Civil Rights Team (shared position)
   - Jodie Bennett – Civil Rights Team (shared position)
   - Rick Beaule' – District III Music
   - Stacy Anderson – Yearbook
   - Drama – Willa Barron (shared position)
   - Marianna DeSoto (shared position)

E. Brittany Chadbourne, Field Hockey Coach, Gardiner Regional Middle School

F. Athletic Volunteers – Gardiner Regional Middle School
   - Meghan Russo – Field Hockey

G. Athletic Volunteers – Gardiner Area High School
   - Adam Fairservice – Boys Soccer
   - Izabella Comstock – Cheering
   - Kadeem Edge – Football

H. Team Leaders – Gardiner Area High School
   - RayeAnne DeSoto – Science
   - Mike Gray – Math
   - David Lessard – English
   - Katie Bischof – Social Studies
   - Katherine Collins – World Languages
   - Christie Jernigan – Special Ed
   - Britney Salley-Gero – SEL (Guidance, Alternative Education, Career Prep, JMG, Learning Lab)

I. Co-Curricular – Gardiner Area High School
   - Mike Gray - Math Team Advisor
   - Katie Collins – Yearbook Advisor (shared position)
   - Emily Collins – Yearbook Advisor (shared position)
   - Christina Benedict – Drama Club Advisor (shared position)
   - Brian Henderson – Drama Club Advisor (shared position)
   - Melissa Gregoire – Project Graduation Advisor
   - Christina Riddle – Prom Committee Advisor
   - Katie Bischof – Student Council Advisor
   - Amber Dostie – National Honor Society Advisor
   - Jarrod Dumas – Civil Rights Team Advisor
   - Andrea Creamer – French Club Advisor
   - Katie Collins – Latin Club Advisor
   - Kasia Dziergas – Spanish Club Advisor
   - RayeAnne DeSoto – Interact Club Advisor
   - Beth Brooker – Gay Straight Diversity Alliance Advisor
   - David Walker – Band/Choral Advisor
   - David Walker – Honors Festival Advisor
   - Drew Riddle – Fitness Facility 1st Semester
   - Lauri-Beth Rankin – Fitness Facility 2nd Semester
   - Angie Moreland – Robotics Team Advisor
   - RayeAnne DeSoto – Tiger Food Pantry
   - David Walker – Musical (shared position

- RayeAnne DeSoto – Musical (shared position)

VIII. Nominations 1:21:33 – 1:23:59

A. New Hires
- Brian Hershey, Teacher – ELA – Grade 7, Gardiner Regional Middle School - $81,620
- Brinley Denny, Inclusion Specialist – Grades 6-8, Gardiner Regional Middle School - $52,575
- James Merrick, Teacher – ELA – Learning Lab, Gardiner Regional Middle School - $49,833
- Stacia Bolitho, Teacher – Grade 5, Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School - $45,605
- Abby Ferland, Elementary School Nurse - $49,833
- Amanda Brewer, Health Teacher, Gardiner Area High School - $81,620

Upon a motion by Brandon Martin and a second by Tyler Eldridge, the Board voted to approve the above listed nominations as recommended by the Superintendent.

Vote: 12,463 – 0

Motion carried.

IX. New Business 1:24:00 – 2:36:04

A. Approval of the PreK Calendar for 2026-2027

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Janelle McKinnon, the Board voted to approve the PreK Calendar for 2026-2027.

Vote: 12,463 – 0

Motion carried.

B. Homecoming Parade and Bonfire

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Tyler Eldridge, the Board voted to approve the Homecoming Parade and Bonfire scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2026.

Vote: 12,463 – 0

Motion carried.

C. NEDCC Update

Barry Manning left the meeting.

D. Discussion - School Based Health Center

Upon a motion by Brandon Martin and a second by Tyler Eldridge the board voted to end the discussion regarding the School Based Health Center

Vote: 11,185 - 0

Motion carried.

E. Discussion regarding Board Policy - ACAAA Transgender and Gender Expansive Students.

Upon a motion by Brandon Martin and a second by Janelle McKinnon, the board voted to end discussion regarding Policy ACAAA Transgender and Gender Expansive Students.

Vote: 11,585 - 0

Motion carried.

F. Discussion regarding writing a letter to the State of Maine Legislature regarding the taxation of Solar Farms. Jeff indicated he would bring more information to a future Board meeting.

G. Title IX

Upon a motion by Tyler Eldridge and a second by Brandon Martin, the board voted to end discussion regarding Title IX.

Vote: 11,585 - 0

Motion carried.

X. Old Business

A. None

XI. Reports 2:36:05 – 2:46:47

A. Board Chair
- Materials for MSBA Delegate Assembly
  - 2026 Proposed New Resolutions
  - Substantive Revisions
  - Non-substantive Revisions
  - MSBA Constitution and Bylaws – proposed changes

B. Superintendent
- Update on Cell Phone Policy
- Staff Vacancies/Resignations
- Student Enrollment
- NEDEC Enrollment
- Transportation – AM Route Pittston

End of Regular Session. 2:47:31 - 2:46:48

XII. Executive Session 2:47:32 – 3:13:26

A. Executive Session to discuss a request for leave of absence – 1 M.R.S.A. 405 § (6)(A)

Upon a motion by Janelle McKinnon and a second by Brandon Martin the Board voted to enter Executive Session to discuss a request for a leave of absence - 1 M.R.S.A. 405 § (6)(A).

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Jeff Hanley, the Board voted to extend the meeting beyond 9:30 pm.

Vote: 11,585 – 0

Motion carried.

Exited Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Anthony Veit and a second by Brandon Martin, the Board voted to approve the requested one-year leave of absence.

Vote: 9,287 -1,149 (Michelle Tucker opposed)

Motion carried.

XIII. Adjournment 3:13:27 – 3:13:30

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 pm.

Attest a True Record,

Kady Gould
Secretary