
Region 10 Technical High School
Cooperative Board Meeting
March 25, 2019 – 6:00 PM
Region 10 Tech
(Please call if you cannot attend)

COOPERATIVE BOARD AGENDA

1. Meeting called to order at _____ by _____
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Agenda Adjustments
4. Consideration of minutes of the March 4, 2019 meeting.

Motion _____ Second _____ Vote _____
5. Public Comment

Old Business:

6. Proposed FY20 Budget
Tentative approval of the amended FY20 Operating Budget
7. Program Reduction
Board action to reduce the General Trades program to half-time status
8. RFQ Contract Update

New Business:

9. Region 10 Showcase
Auto Collision Repair
10. Committee Reports
Finance Committee – Budget to Actual February 28, 2019
Facilities Committee
11. Task Force
Discuss the development of a task force to support the Region 10 Technical High School vision to become a four-year comprehensive technical high school
12. Superintendent/Director's Report
13. Executive Session

Enter into executive session at _____ to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to M.R.S.A. §405(6)(a).

Return from executive session at _____

14. Executive Session

Enter into executive session at _____ to discuss negotiations pursuant to M.R.S.A. §405(6)(d)

Return from executive session at _____

15. Communication

16. Adjourn

STAFF MEETING
April 1, 2019
Notes

Student of the Year Nominations:

Donald Bromiley, Daniel Pratt and Marcy Tucker were nominated. Daniel Pratt was voted 2018-19 Student of the Year. Noted that there are other internal awards for seniors at the Senior Recognition Banquet.

MELMAC Grant Report Out:

John attended a three day conference for MELMAC last week. Noted schools are encouraged to be very creative with MELAC Money. Staff encouraged to think outside the box.

Spring Fling at Brunswick High School:

Spring Fling will be Wednesday, April 10th at 6:00 PM at Brunswick High School. Please consider using this opportunity to meet potential students and recruit for your program.

RFQ Update:

Career Technical schools are excluded from RFQs. Nancy continues to address the air quality in the school. Legislation is being brought forth to amend this oversight. There will be testimony in Augusta and Nancy would like 1 to 2 students from each program as part of a team to go to Augusta. Two other bills will have testimony coming up – one giving CTEs the ability to assign credits for courses and the other on developing a task force to investigate a 4-year comprehensive technical high school. Nancy will keep staff apprised.

Professional Development:

Nancy and John are looking for ideas. Some proposals: smart board workshop, suicide training, Google/Infinite Campus training, First Aid renewal. Please bring your ideas to Nancy.

Report Cards:

John commented finding a mismatch regarding student behavior and student grade/grade comments. The school, conversations are at a disadvantage when a student looks good on paper but administration is having issues with behavior.

Website:

Jean distributed handouts of how programs look on the website. Please make corrections and return so Jean can fix. Ask trusted students to write positive reviews on Google to boost the school's rating. Send pictures to Jean for positing. The more pictures the better!

New Smart Board:

Region 10 and Merrymeeting Regional Adult Education jointly purchased a smart board. Merrymeeting will use the board for their computer classes. Brian and Greg will complete trainings on the equipment and will record the trainings so R10 staff members can utilize the board. David, John and Meg also have smart boards or projectors in their areas if you have questions on how to integrate into your teaching.

Program Pre-requisites:

Bill showed the United Technologies program of studies which states pre-requisites including the ability to read, write and comprehend at a high school level. Bill expressed those requirements would reduce his students. He asked what the goal of the school is with regard to pre-requisites. The conversation will be continued in professional development.

UPDATES:

Budget – Nancy will have a follow-up conversation with Jason on April 2nd. Jason will be given program budgets highlighted as to lines that can be changed. The budget is public information, if you would like a complete copy, please see Nancy.

Ford Fundraiser – Casco Bay Ford will be here Saturday, May 18th at the annual yard sale to do their “Test Drive a Ford” fundraiser. For every person that test drives one of 10 new Ford vehicles and fills out a form, Region 10 will receive \$30. This is a great opportunity for programs that cannot make their own money to build their student activities. Dave requested at least 15 volunteers.

Blood Drive – Thursday, May 9th. C.N.A. students will be going around to sign students and staff up.



Region 10 Technical High School

68 Church Road
Brunswick, Maine 04011-9765

Phone (207) 729-6622

Fax (207) 721-0907

MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2019 BOARD MEETING (rescheduled from 2.25.19)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Morang, Teresa Gillis, Jim Grant, Rick Bray, Mike Ludwig, Jeff Wolken, Celina Harrison, Kate Brown

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Allison Hawkes

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Nancy Weed, Superintendent/Director; Jason Darling, Pre-Apprenticeship/English Instructor; David Giroux, Automotive Technology Instructor; Bill Ross, Outdoor Powersports Instructor; Wade Boudreau, General Trades Instructor; Joanne McMahon, Certified Nursing Assistant Instructor; Garry Carr, Auto Collision Repair Instructor; Greg Quinlan, IT/Ed Tech; Sandra McLellan, Ed Tech; Sheri Nadell, Ed Tech; David Simmons, Ed Tech

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Tracey Peck-Moad

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by John Morang

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Agenda Adjustments – None

4. **Motion: Jim Grant**

Second: Kate Brown

Vote: Unanimous of members present

To: Accept the Minutes of the March 4, 2019 Cooperative Board meeting as written

5. Public Comment –

Tracey Peck-Moad, Brunswick resident and parent of a former General Trades student voiced her concern in reducing the General Trades program to part time. Ms. Peck-Moad said her son was not an appropriate fit for the Functional Life Skills program at Brunswick High School but was also not an appropriate fit for regular education classes. Her son attended General Trades for two years where he learned basic customer service and life skills to be accepted into the Pre-Apprenticeship program where he apprenticed at the Coastal Humane Society. Ms. Peck-Moad's son, Romil was able to obtain his high school diploma because of the ability to switch sessions of General Trades, allowing him to complete all his required courses at Brunswick High School. Romil will be graduating from STRIVE U in Portland this June with three separate job offers. Ms. Peck-Moad attributes his success to the skills acquired in the General Trades program.

Joanne McMahon, Brunswick resident and parent of a former General Trades student voiced her family's concern in reducing the General Trades program to part time. Mrs. McMahon credited the General Trades program with teacher her son John the basic job skills that allowed him to excel in the Culinary Arts program and with his current success at Southern Maine Community College, Bowdoin College's summer cam and as a mentor for children on the Autism Spectrum at Harriet Beecher Stowe school. Mrs. McMahon feels every student should be provided with every opportunity available to learn job skills for gainful employment. She asked the Board to consider the higher cost to tax payers if students graduate without the ability to be productive members of the community.

Jason Darling, Pre-Apprenticeship and English instructor spoke on behalf of the Region 10 Teachers Association outlining places in the February Budget to Actual that the union thought were places money could be saved noting the understanding of extenuating circumstances. Mr. Darling voiced the concern that staff has not been involved in the budget trimming process. Mr. Darling commended the Board for working to take away obstacles put in place by the sending schools and stated reducing programs is akin to Region 10 putting up a road block of its own. Mr. Darling spoke of the cost savings Region 10 will have next year with not having to pay sending schools for transportation amounted to a discount for sending communities. He spoke of BIW presenting to students last week and HC Crooker recently hiring 5 Region 10 students site unseen based on the school's solid reputation with local industry. Mr. Darling voiced concern that limiting program offerings is limiting opportunities for students, which limits the impact of Region 10.

Old Business:

6. Proposed FY20 Budget

Superintendent/Director Weed stated she and Business Manager, Kelley Wentworth had a meeting in Augusta to discuss the EPS funding formula and were told because sending districts get allocation for transportation, Region 10 should not be paying for that service. The newest budget presented for approval is a reflection of the \$39,000 savings in transportation. All sending districts have been sent the new, lower number due to the time sensitivity of the budgeting process.

Teresa Gillis asked if the newest budget reflects the reduction in the General Trades program. Supt./Director Weed stated the budget is reflective of all reductions.

Rick Bray asked if the budget is tentatively approved is the Board automatically reducing the General Trades program to part time. Supt./Director Weed stated the Board could approve the budget and choose to keep General Trades as a full time program but would have to find an additional \$34,000 to pay for programming. Mr. Bray stated his desire to discuss agenda item #7.

Motion: Jim Grant

Second: Kate Brown

To: Combine Agenda Items #6 and #7 and tentatively approve the FY20 budget as presented and reduce the General Trades program to part time

Mr. Bray stated good points were made by the public and program reduction is not an easy decision and the Board needs to consider both the program's low enrollment as well as community impact.

Celina Harrison asked if enrollment numbers fluctuated historically. Supt./Director Weed said the average was between 11 and 14 over the last few years including some students outside the catchment area. Ms. Weed said there was trouble getting students in the program. Ms. Harrison asked what the maximum number is for the program. Supt./Director Weed answered Region 10's regular education programs have a maximum of 16 students per session but General Trades requires looking at the specific needs of the program so that number could be between 12 and 14 students per program but often the needs of the students are unknown until the start of school.

Teresa Gillis asked if appropriate students are being targeted for enrollment. Supt./Director Weed answered Region 10 has been talking to sending schools and schools out of district as well. She noted there have been many changes at sending schools over the years and schools are creating bigger, broader programs for special populations students but there is hard no data. Ms. Gillis voiced her desire to depend on the instructors, as professionals, to know the financial needs of their programs. Ms. Gillis asked if an advisory board had been discussed as a way to get appropriate students placed in the program or the expansion of the program to encompass a broader range of students.

Supt./Director Weed stated Region 10 specifically and CTEs in Maine as a whole were not prepared for the lack of state funding and the speed at which CTEs are being forced to accommodate the loss. She voiced program reduction does not have to be viewed as the first step in making a program go away, but as an opportunity for growing the program. Supt./Director Weed said this conversation is important and while Region 10 has suffered a loss of funding this year, next year may be even worse and the school is greatly assisted by supportive communities.

Jim Grant spoke to Region 10's revenue saying he has repeatedly asked area businesses to sponsor Region 10 students financially, and while they hire students, the checks aren't being delivered.

**Jim Gant withdrew his motion to combine Agenda Items #6 and #7
Kate Brown would not withdraw her second**

Teresa Gillis voiced appreciation for Mr. Grant's outreach to area businesses. She asked if Region 10 or the cooperative Board could be even more proactive and go to companies and show them the reality Region 10 is facing and the impact to the community. Mr. Grant stated Supt./Director Weed continues to approach local entities and has meetings with the state to discuss the financial need of CTE. He asked the Board to remember that the first round of the budget was a 50% increase and a budget cannot be built on potential revenue. Ms. Gillis stated Region 10 is tasked with showing a need to the community and putting out the ask for assistance.

Supt./Director Weed said the shift to the EPS funding formula is huge and while legislators want to help, they don't understand the intricacies of CTE. The funding formula included no money for equipment and the state is now putting out a bond, the funding went from \$4 million to \$2 million, there is no differentiation between a CTE region and a CTE center and averages were based on all CTEs from Kittery to Caribou. The state listened to CTE directors earlier this month and said they will revisit the change.

Kate Brown stated she was in favor of taking the \$39,000 saved in transportation costs and using that savings to keep the General Trades program full time in effect buying time to research how to grow the program and revisit enrollment in a year. Supt./Director Weed stated the sending districts had already received the lower number (less the \$39,000) due to budgeting time restraints and had adjusted their budgets to reflect the change. To reintroduce the \$39,000 at this point would mean all business managers would have to re-look at numbers to determine how the adjustment would affect district budgets. Ms. Weed stated at this time it would be easier to keep the budget as is and find the additional \$37,000 through other budget cuts and that the RTTA had sent a letter to Chair Morang outlining ideas for places to cut.

Rick Bray said he felt confident that resources would be found to fund a full General Trades program if the Board moves forward to accept the FY20 Budget as presented.

Motion on the floor: Combine Agenda Items #6 to tentatively approve the FY20 Budget and reduce the General Trades program to part time

Vote: 0-8

Motion Failed

Motion: Jim Grant

Second: Rick Bray

Vote: 6-2

To: Tentatively approve the amended FY20 operating budget

Jim Grant proposed no need for Agenda #7 to reduce the General Trades program and for the Supt./Director to look at other ways to fund the General Trades program in the existing budget and come back with a reason why if additional cuts cannot be found.

Celina Harrison asked how instructors could be included in that process as they requested. Supt./Director Weed answered the RTTA would be invited to have a conversation regarding suggestions they sent in a letter to Chair Morang.

8. RFQ Contract Update

In conversation with a contractual lawyer, Supt. Director Weed requested advice on how best to work with and RFQ. Ms. Weed was told CTEs cannot enter into an RFQ and are, in fact, specifically excluded. The superintendent/director presented five options developed by she and the business manager:

1. Do nothing
2. Put the money in the budget (\$1 million)
3. Put a request out for bond
4. Request an emergency bill to change legislation
5. Continue the project piecemeal

The Supt./Director recommends requesting an emergency bill and is currently working on a draft proposal and has reached out to two local legislators for assistance.

Jim Grant stated the exclusion is likely because spending authority rests with sending schools and past improvements have been small enough to add to the budget.

Jeff Wolken voiced frustration in the state saying there is support of CTE but not coming through with the support.

New Business

9. Region 10 Showcase

Auto Collision Repair Instructor, Garry Carr introduced top student Daniel Pratt and Lucas Wolken to the Board. Mr. Carr provided handouts on his internationally recognized I-CAR curriculum and ASE certification. Celina Harrison asked how the program got cars; Mr. Carr answered the community donates vehicles to the school every year and students, staff and community members bring vehicles in for repair. Teresa Gillis asked the students if they enjoyed being at Region 10. Dan Pratt answered he has been at Region 10 for three and a half years, beginning with Tech Ten Basic, moving on to Metal Fabrication/Welding and then to both Auto

Collision Repair and Pre-Apprenticeship. Mr. Carr mentioned that Dan is a two time SkillsUSA silver medalist and both he and Lucas have been recognized as Student of the Quarter.

Rick Bray left at 7:37 PM

The Board was invited to the Auto Collison Repair shop where they saw Dan and Lucas work.

10. Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Supt./Director Weed stated the Budget to Actual looks fine and anticipates a more detailed picture of expenditures at the April meeting.

Facilities Committee – The Facilities Committee meeting was postponed to April

11. Task Force

Supt./Director Weed requested Board support in the development of a task force to continue the momentum for toward a Comprehensive Technical High School. Ms. Weed stated Region 10 needs local stakeholder in business and government with experience, connection and voices. The Board agreed a Task Force would be a good idea.

12. Superintendent/Director’s Report

Supt./Director Weed referred to the handout all Boar members received. She added Monday, 3/25 she and Assistant Director Stivers spent four hours touring BIW with John Mason discussing was to create a better partnership with Region 10 and ways to help BIW bridge into the traditional education setting. Jeff Wolken mentioned his career technical alma matter in Florida had a partnership with the aerospace industry which proved a very successful model.

????????????????????????????????

13. **Motion: Teresa Gillis**

Second: Mike Ludwig

Vote: Unanimous

To: Enter into Executive Session at 7:52 PM to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to M.R.S.A. §405(6)(a)

Return from Executive Session at 8:00 PM

14. Executive Session for negotiations unused with no objection

15. Communication

None

16. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 to no objection