

**Sebago School Department  
School Committee Meeting  
February 9, 2021**

There was a Special Meeting of the Sebago School Committee on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 live on Zoom at 6:00 p.m.

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

This meeting was held with members joining by video link. Pursuant to subsection 403-A of 1 MRSA (Maine Revised Statutes Annotated), Chair Tina Vanasse confirmed that each member of the Committee could both hear and be heard. She did this by calling the roll and members present were asked to confirm by saying “Yay”. She asked that all members listen and report any audio difficulties when the roll call is complete.

The following School Committee members were present by video link - Tina Vanasse, Joseph McMahon, Wendy Newcomb, Audrey Schoolcraft, and Donelle Allen. All responded in the affirmative that they could both hear and be heard. Also present by video link were Superintendent Marc Gendron, Principal Kirsten Goff, Secretary Allen Crabtree, Chris Balchunas, Jerry Holt, Jennifer Null, June Berry, and Grover Newcomb.

Pursuant to subsection 403-A of 1 MRSA, Item D. – “All votes taken during the public proceeding are taken by roll call vote”. To questions before the School Committee, Chair Vanasse will call the roll, those in favor of passage are asked to say “Yay”, those opposed “Nay”, and members wishing to abstain may do so by stating “Abstain.”

The meeting was called to order by Tina Vanasse, Chair, at 6:00 p.m.

**Call to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Executive Session**

A motion was made by Audrey Schoolcraft, seconded by Joe McMahon, to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Contracts (M.R.S.A. 405(6)(D)) at 6:32 p.m.. There was a roll call vote. Voting Yes: Audrey Schoolcraft, Donelle Allen, Joseph McMahon, Wendy Newcomb, and Tina Vanasse. Voting No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

The School Committee came out of Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.. No actions were taken during the Executive Session.

**Discussion**

Superintendent Gendron said that he would like to cut back on his hours next year. His contract now calls for 96 days and he would prefer to reduce that to 54 to 60 days. There are options – he can resign at the end of his contract, or he can do a new contract. A decision should be made by the School Committee by March so that any changes to the budget can be planned.

One option would be to name Principal Goff to Assistant Superintendent, allowing fewer days for Superintendent Gendron. Another option would be to name Principal Goff to Superintendent.

Donelle Allen said that the School Committee needs to hear from the public and the staff

Tina Vanesse said that the current Superintendent/Principal team has worked well in improving the education of our kids and upgrades to the building. We want to build on the current success. She also said that Principal Goff has a long investment in SES, and we want to keep it. She favors appointing Principal Goff to the position of Assistant Superintendent/Principal.

Joe McMahon felt that we should keep the current team – it has built a successful school. He favors appointing Principal Goff to the Assistant Superintendent position to give her authority when things need action and the Superintendent is not available.

Chris Balchunas recommended that we look at the job descriptions for the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Principal positions.

Tina Vanesse said that we have a job description for the Assistant Superintendent.

Audrey Schoolcraft said that we should post all the position descriptions and include the public in a workshop.

Grover Newcomb said that a separate Superintendent and Principal are better than having one individual in both positions.

Tina Vanesse said that there will be a School Committee workshop open to the public on February 16. We will discuss the three positions and options for Superintendent Gendron's future.

Audrey Schoolcraft and Donelle Allen said that the descriptions and options should be posted ahead of time in an agenda for the workshop.

Wendy Newcomb would like Superintendent Gendron layout his plans for the future.

Chris Balchunas wanted to know what guidelines the state has on Principal and Superintendent positions.

Tina Vanesse said that she consulted the state guidelines defining the positions.

Donelle Allen would like to see the job descriptions from the Maine DOE.

Superintendent Gendron said that the School Committee should discuss these issues more at the February 16 workshop, and again at the February 23 School Committee meeting.

### **Information and Communication Items**

- Future Meetings
  - 1) School Committee workshop, February 16, 2021, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

- 2) Operations Committee, February 23, 2021, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
- 3) Budget Committee Meeting, February 23, 2021, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- 4) School Committee Meeting, February 23, 2021, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Audrey Schoolcraft, seconded by Donelle Allen, to adjourn. There was a roll call vote. Voting Yes: Audrey Schoolcraft, Donelle Allen, Joseph McMahon, Wendy Newcomb, and Tina Vanesse. Voting No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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Secretary

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