

**MSAD #72 Board of Directors
Wednesday - October 8, 2025
Meeting Minutes
Molly Ockett School
7:00 PM**

Call to Order: Beth Bosworth called the meeting to order at 7:02 and declared a quorum.

Members Present

Bartlett, Tanya	Pine, Chad*
Bosworth, Beth	Quinn, Allyson
DiNucci, Mary	Sessions, Savannah
Egan, Teresa	Stacy, Kristen*
Goodwin, Eli	Struven, Marie
Guarnaccia, Paula	Thompson, Lisa
Khiel, Rebecca	Tripp, Linn
Owens, Sarah	Williams, Jane

Administrators

Kerrigan, Danette
Kirkpatrick, Emily
Lewey, Carolyn
Lokken, Matt
Menzel, Pat
Nehez, Meg
Rajaniemi, Merri
Robinson, Jay

Members Absent

Blasi, Jessica* -
Karwowski, Alisa* - Excused
McElroy, Candice* - Excused
Shorey, Kathiann - Excused
*Denotes Alternate

Agenda:

1. Public Discussion (15-Minute):

General Statement for Public Comment: Board meetings are conducted for the purpose of carrying on the official business of the school system. The first fifteen minutes of each Board meeting is designated for public participation. During this time, members of the public may express opinions and concerns related to matters regarding education or MSAD 72 schools. No complaints or allegations will be allowed at Board meetings concerning any person employed by the school system or against particular students, as these matters must be addressed using established policies and procedures. Since time is limited, the Board requests that groups or organizations be represented by individual spokespersons.

Emily Strahler, Fryeburg - Expressed concerns regarding the amount of screen time students are spending on computers while at school.

2. Approval of Minutes from the August 20, 2025 Board Meeting

*Reminder: If you were absent from these meetings you should abstain from Voting on the approval of the minutes.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 20, 2025 meeting.

Motion: Tanya Bartlett

Second: Linn Tripp

Passed

13 in favor/1 abstained

3. Communications:

- **Fryeburg Academy Annual Report - Joseph Manning, Head of School**
[Presentation](#)

4. Committee Reports:

- **Finance:** Eli Goodwin reported that the committee met on September 12th. Tanya introductory meeting.
[Finance Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
[FY26 Monthly Budget Report - September](#)
[Finance Committee EPS Presentation](#)
- **Curriculum:** Sarah Owens reported that the committee met in September and yesterday. Discussed Social Studies Curriculum and yesterday Kim Bahre, MS Art Teacher gave a presentation to the committee.
[Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
- **Facilities/Transportation:** No Report
- **Policy:** Linn Tripp reported that the committee met September 18th and elected chair/secretary [Policy Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
- **Special Education:** No Report
- **Personnel:** No report

5. Administrative Reports

- **Two Roses and a Thorn**

In place of sharing monthly updates Administrators were asked to share two positive things (roses) and a difficulty (thorn) that they have experienced in the month.

Merri Rajaniemi, Brownfield Denmark School - Rose : Our overall attendance for the year is 96%, which is less than our goal of 97%, we have had a variety of reasons for students to be out of school. We have had a total of 70 days of perfect attendance. Our Kindergarten class has had perfect attendance 20 out of 27 days and our first grade class has had perfect attendance 19 days. Also, we have seen a reduction in the number of students who were chronically absent last year compared to this year. The second rose is our Staff is working hard to build relationships, get to know their students, make connections and build a sense of community. This is noticeable throughout the day, but especially at arrival and dismissal. Students are excited to see their peers, they wait and walk in together, they smile and hug. In the afternoons, they say goodbye to their friends as they're picked up. It's really heartwarming to observe. Our Thorn has to do with the reduction in staff and the lack of substitutes. We have lost a special ed teacher, who was only half time at our school, a regular ed tech, and we only have a half-time counselor.

Carolyn Lewey, New Suncook School: Rose: We have been having great attendance with an average of 96%. This is a little below the goal but several classes have had perfect attendance. They are establishing good relationships with families to encourage good attendance. The Great Outdoor Company (formerly Timbernook) is great at bringing outdoor skills back into the classroom. Carolyn thanked Eli Hutchings tree service for all of his work over the summer cleaning up the outdoor area. Thorn: They have seen

perplexing behaviors schoolwide and it is taking a toll on the staff with many people wearing multiple hats. Staff are working together to support each other.

Pat Menzel, Special Services: Rose: Team members have been great in working together especially having to deal with vacant positions. Thorn: Special Services is taking on all Pre-K services and doing this along with having to deal with staffing issues has been very challenging.

Emily Kirkpatrick, Molly Ockett School K-5: Rose: We are really focusing on good attendance and reaching out to families. We had a successful back to school night. We have started an October attendance initiative with some great success. We had a K-4 community meeting at the end of the month with 4th graders presenting their slide show about their Channel 8 spot on the news. School Counselor, Colleen Michaels put together a great slide show with pictures of the students. Thorn: We still have students with chronic absenteeism but we are working hard to get to the root cause. Teachers and nurses are working with families

Matt Lokken, Molly Ockett School 6-8: Rose: We started the school year for the first time in three years fully staffed. Teachers are working hard. Our athletic teams are fully staffed and we have an amazing new assistant athletic director, Alyssa Randall. There are 93 students participating in athletics which is over a third of 6-8 students. Thorn: The substitute pool is very shallow - very challenging when it comes to staffing but we do have some new sub applicants.

6. Superintendent Report

- [Raider Spotlight](#)

Jay shared what the Raider Spotlight is and that this month's recipient is David Briggs, head custodian at Molly Ockett.

7. New Business

- **Policies for First Read**

JKAA: Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion

A motion was made to approve Policy JKAA for First Read.

Motion: Linn Tripp

Second: Savannah Session

Passed

All in favor

A motion was made to **move** the Executive Session to the end of the meeting.

Motion: Savannah Sessions

Second: Linn Tripp

Passed

All in favor

- **Executive Session to Discuss Information in Confidential Records under 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(F)**

Moved to the end of the meeting.

8. Unfinished Business

- **Policies for Second Read**

None

- **Fryeburg Academy Liaison Committee members - select**

The committee will consist of Fryeburg Academy Head of School, Superintendent of Schools, chairman of the MSAD72 School Board and Chairman of the FA Board of Trustees and one administrator. Beth suggested Matt Lokken and/or Danette Kerrigan be on the committee.

- **Ad Hoc Committee to Advise on Public Communication - select**

Beth selected volunteers to serve on the committee. Sarah Owens, Linn Tripp, Mary Di Nucci and Beth Bosworth will be on the committee. Beth will set up first meeting

9. Personnel

- **None**

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session to Discuss Information in Confidential Records under 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(F)

Motion: Sarah Owens

Second: Tanya Bartlett

Passed

All in favor

Executive session started at 8:02

A motion was made to end Executive Session to Discuss Information in Confidential Records under 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(F)

Motion: Savannah Sessions

Second: Linn Tripp

Passed

All in favor

The Executive session ended at 8:59.

10. Agenda Planning/Adjournment:

Next Meeting: November 12, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting @ 7:00PM

December 10, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting @ 7:00PM

January 14, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting @ 7:00PM

February 11, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting @ 7:00PM

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Jane Williams

Second: Linn Tripp

Passed

All in favor

The meeting adjourned at 9:01

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Sheehan
Recording Secretary