

**Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Governor Baxter School for the Deaf  
School Board Meeting  
Falmouth, Maine  
October 6, 2016**

**Board Present:** Diane St. Lawrence (Chair), Joan Toy (Vice Chair), Laurel Kelly, Frances Frost, Jason White, John Shattuck, Debbie Camire, David Gaul, Michelle Ames, Roxanne Baker

**Board Excused:** Fran Jacques, Don Miller, Samantha Hebert, Taylor Gagnon

**Administration:** David Sherry, John Jones, Angie Bruno, Traci Drake, Karen Hopkins

**Guests:** Jim McCallum, Stacy Lawrence

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:40PM.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Stacy Lawrence from Rochester, NY was introduced. She is interested in filming schools for the deaf in the New England area. Wayne Betts, who filmed "The Caretaker" on Mackworth Island years ago is also involved in this project.
- There will be a DRM (Disability Rights Maine) Peer Support group meeting on October 18. A discussion will be held about the right to vote.

**III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** none

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 8, 2016**

Joan Toy motioned to approve the minutes of September 8, 2016. Roxanne Baker seconded.

**Vote:            8 in favor   0 opposed        2 abstentions (F. Frost, J. Shattuck)**

**VI. REVIEW ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT:** A review of the annual financial audit was given. Joan Toy motioned that the Board accept the audit, financial statement, and government reports as presented. Roxanne Baker seconded.

**Vote:                            10 in favor                            0 opposed**

**VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATES:**

- George Burns will be the attorney doing the pro bono fundraising work
- Karen Anderson, who has a PhD in audiology, will be presenting to staff

- We have 32 students in preschool
- There will be an increase in staff due to the needs of one student at EECS (East End Community School) and the need to another preschool ed tech
- A meeting about Lead K will take place in the next few weeks
- A Deaf Community Forum is being scheduled
- David, Karen, Angie and John will be presenting at the next MADSEC conference to give a clearer understanding of our programs
- Scott Brown from BGS was here and said that DOE and BGS have no fiscal responsibility for us and have developed an MOU stating this. David will follow up with DOE to confirm.
- Preschool has been pursuing NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accreditation. The work is almost complete and will be submitted. Changes needed to be made as a result of the growing number of children attending the preschool.
- Our School Nurse, Joanie Grondin, has resigned to take a position at Morrison Development Center. David is working with Portland Public Schools to see if they are able to help us with nursing services and supports for the preschool.

Other key points of the Executive Director’s Updates were covered. A copy is enclosed in the Executive Director’s office.

**VIII. REVIEW OF LANGUAGE PHILOSOPHY:** The Board reviewed the most recent version (with changes made by the Deaf Council) of the Language Philosophy. A few edits had also been made by the Strategic Planning Committee. It has unanimous support from the Board.

**DINNER/BREAK**

**IX. FREEDOM OF ACCESS SUMMARY POINTS:** Joan Toy motioned to table the Freedom of Access Summary Points. Debbie Camire seconded.

**Vote:                      10 in favor                      0 opposed**

**X. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- The Policy Committee made changes to the existing bullying policy and it will be ready for first reading at the November board meeting.
- The Strategic Planning Committee reviewed the Mission Vision Statement and the Language Philosophy (and the feedback given by the Deaf Council).
- There will be a facilities committee meeting on November 3 from 3:30PM to 5:00PM.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:** Joan Toy motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:16PM.

David Gaul seconded.

**Vote:                    10 in favor                    0 opposed**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16PM.

**Board Approved: November 3, 2016**