



THE MAINE EDUCATIONAL CENTER FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

THE GOVERNOR BAXTER SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

One Mackworth Island, Falmouth, ME 04105

Board of Directors Meeting February 2, 2023 Minutes

- 5:41pm I. **Call to Order and Roll Call of Board Members – Lisette Belanger, *Chair***
Roxanne Baker, Lisette Belanger, *Chair*, Jason Bubier, Jennifer Gaulin, Paula Matlins, Tommy Minch, *Vice Chair*, Terry Morrell, Amber Oakes, Anna Perna, Mike Pulsifer, Liz Seal, Sandra Wood
Student representative: Keyana Kassa, Excused
- 5:46pm II. **Adjustments to the agenda**
“I move to approve the February 2, 2023 agenda without changes.”
Sandra Wood **motioned.** Paula Matlins **seconded.**
12 In favor. 0 Opposed. 0 Abstained.
- 5:48pm III. **Motion to approve January 5, 2023 board minutes**
“I move to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2023 board meeting without changes.”
Roxanne Baker **motioned.** Sandra Wood **seconded.**
12 In favor. 0 Opposed. 0 Abstained.
- 5:49pm IV. **Public Comments** Kevin Bohlin announced the Maine Association of the Deaf Biannual Conference on April 28th & 29th.
- 5:50pm V. **Executive Director’s Report** Karen Hopkins, *Executive Director*
- Shared the success of a family dinner after MECDHH/GBSD basketball game in Freeport – great turnout
 - Shared a similar experience with an ASL class/lunch held at Portland High School
 - **Update from Djenne Morris, *DEIA Consultant***
 - Has had many great meetings with staff
 - Working with LEND student, Gabby Fuentes
 - Family events have had great turnouts and opportunities for families to connect with each other
 - Held office hours for staff to meet with her
 - Will continue office hours and events as well as recording some videos to share info for staff/microlearning times
- 6:03pm VI. **Department Report** Melanie Bowlus, *Coordinator*; North/South Elementary
- 6:34pm VII. **Budget Update** Dean Flanagan, *Director of Operations*

New Business

- 7:14pm VIII. **Policy, 1st Reading**
- **ACAA Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students**



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Minutes

“I move to approve the first reading of policy **ACAA Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students** as presented.”

“I second the motion.”

Mike Pulsifer **motioned**. Terry Morrell **seconded**.

Discussed ensued

“I move that we table this policy, the ACAA, until we can finish meeting with the DEIA advisor. Tommy and the Policy Committee can gather to talk through this.”

Roxanne Baker **motioned**. Mike Pulsifer **seconded**.

11 In favor. 0 Opposed. 0 Abstained. (Amber Oakes left meeting early)

7:35pm IX.

Committee Reports

- **Policy** Mike Pulsifer reporting, notes from last meeting included in packet, nothing to add
- **Strategic Planning** Roxanne Baker reporting, met recently, will be sending out a report for the next Board meeting
- **Human Resources** Terry Morrell reporting, nothing to report
- **Finance** Jennifer Gaulin reporting, met recently, Dean highlighted all of our discussion points
- **Facilities** Liz Seal reporting, nothing to report
- **Board Development** Anna Perna reporting, met yesterday, will send out a survey about the possibility for out-of-town Board meetings
- **Member Recruitment & Retention** Anna Perna reporting, three very good potential candidates, reaching out to those individuals and will let you know what they say
- **Legislative Action** Roxanne Baker reporting, nothing to report
- **Bylaws** Tommy Minch reporting, nothing to report

7:40pm X.

Staff Nomination, Jillian Thuringer *Early Intervention and Family Services Consultant*

“I move to accept the recommendation of Jillian Thuringer for the position of *Early Intervention and Family Services Consultant* effective July 1, 2023 without changes.

“I second the motion.”

Liz Seal **motioned**. Tommy Minch **seconded**.

11 In favor. 0 Opposed. 0 Abstained. (Amber Oakes left meeting early)

7:41pm XI.

Staff Resignation

“I move to accept the resignation of Jennifer Opperman Dresner, Teacher of the Deaf, effective April 10, 2023 without changes.”

“I second the motion.”

Tommy Minch **motioned**. Roxanne Baker **seconded**.

11 In favor. 0 Opposed. 0 Abstained. (Amber Oakes left meeting early)



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7:43pm XII. **Announcements**

- Terry Morrell announced his resignation from the Board. The March 2 meeting will be his last.
- Lisette left items from Corda's memorial service on the table for Board members to take. She will mail to anyone who is remote. Jason and Anna would like some of the items.
- Sandra announced that USM's ASL Club is hosting ASL POW! on February 9 from 6-7pm in Baily Hall, Gorham campus. Please join, it's always a fun night.
- Sandra also announced the Maine Deaf Film Festival will be held April 21-22. There will be a Friday evening event at MECDHH/GBSD and a Saturday event at the Wishcamper building at USM.

7:46pm XIII. **Executive Session**

"I move to enter executive session to discuss the Executive Director's evaluation, pursuant to *M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(B)* at **7:46pm.**"

"I second the motion."

Tommy Minch **motioned.** Roxanne Baker **seconded.**

11 In favor. 0 Opposed. 0 Abstained. (Amber Oakes left meeting early)

8:02pm XIV. **Adjournment**

"I move to adjourn to **Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 5:30.**"

Mike Pulsifer **motioned.** Terry **seconded.**

11 In favor. 0 Opposed. 0 Abstained. (Amber Oakes left meeting early)