

SCHOOL UNION 69
NOTICE OF MEETING

April 11, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Via ZOOM ONLY

<https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/86413038345>

JOINT COMMITTEE MINUTES

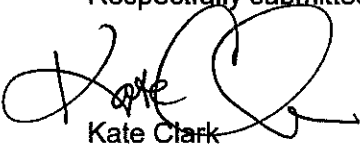
In attendance: Beth Grierson, Chair; Tim Lock; Tracee O'Brien; Steve Wadsworth; Emily Burgess; Melissa Nowell; Crystal Robinson; Emily Garrigan; Emily Berry; Jude Masseur; John Williams

Also in attendance: Kate Clark, Superintendent, Bob Bocko and Bill Fiegenger, Appleton Budget Committee; Lorie Costigan, Charlie Garrigan and Scott Esancy, Appleton Select Board; and Ladleah Dunn, Lincolnville Select Board.

1. Beth Grierson called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
2. Public Comment:
 - a. Bob Bocko, Appleton resident, highlighted difficulties he has observed with the way the finance duties of the Central Office are met and offered suggestions in regards to the purpose and membership of this committee:
 - i. Look into challenging requirements for the treasurer responsibilities of the Superintendent's office.
 - ii. Keep an open mind about the function and cost of any potential solutions, including the possibility of dissolving the School Union and consolidating with MSAD 28.
 - iii. Consider including knowledgeable members of the community and at least one select board member from each town on the subcommittee.
 - iv. Consider interviewing knowledgeable community members as the committee does its work.
 - b. Ladleah Dunn introduced herself as a Select Board member from Lincolnville.
3. Adjustments to the Agenda-none
4. Special Finance Sub Committee purpose and membership
 - a. The committee heard from the Superintendent, who provided historical context into the complexities of the finance duties of the Central Office and solutions that have been attempted over the years. Mrs. Clark then requested that the Joint School Committee consider forming a subcommittee specifically tasked with learning more about the responsibilities and organizational structure of the Central Office finance team for the purpose of examining potential solutions.

- b. The Committee discussed the Superintendent's request as well as Mr. Bocko's suggestions and the details of what such a committee would do and who would be on it.
 - c. Tracee O'Brien made a motion to approve the formation of a Joint School Committee subcommittee, composed of at least one member of each school committee, tasked with fact finding regarding school finances at each town, as well as the Central Office structure and job responsibilities for each person with financial responsibilities. This committee will provide a report of these findings to the Joint School Committee at the June 20, 2023 meeting which could include action items and recommendations. This motion was seconded by Steve Wadsworth. Vote: 11 in favor, 0 opposed, motion carried.
 - d. Tracee O'Brien nominated John Williams to represent Lincolnville on the Finance Subcommittee. Steve Wadsworth nominated Beth Grierson to represent the Appleton School Committee. The Hope School Committee declined to name a nominee at this time, but will reach out to Beth Grierson to name a representative once all members of the school committee have been able to weigh in.
5. Any other business to come before the board, no new business was discussed.
6. Emily Burgess moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jude Masseur. The vote was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Clark