RSU 74 / School Board

The July school board meeting was held on July 10 at Carrabec Community School.

New Board Member: Ellen McQuiston of Anson joined the board.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair: Bob Demchak was re-elected as board chair, and Troy Dunphy was re-elected as vice-chair. Neither election was contested.

Minutes: The minutes of the June board meeting were approved.

SESA Grant: Jean Butler spoke about the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

School Handbook Updates: The discussion of these updates was moved to the August meeting.

Facilities Update: Lorie Agren spoke about the work that her department has been doing this summer. The flat roof at CHS has been repaired, and a metal roof has been placed on the shed behind CHS. The entrances to CHS and CCS have been power washed. Tiles have been placed on the shed behind CHS. The entrances to CHS and CCS have been power washed.

New Board Member: Ellen McQuiston of Anson joined the board.

Superintendent Report: 1.) There will be a school board workshop at 5:00 pm on August 7. 2.) Mr. Tracy thinks it is important that schools promote the great things that are going on, and thinks that social media can be an effective tool to use for that purpose. He mentioned the possibility of having a district Facebook page in the near future. 3.) He will be meeting with the commissioner of education soon to discuss funding for rural communities.

On the topic of funding, he said that in Maine state and local funds give schools 9% less funding than the national average.

Appointments: Candy Lebeau - CCS Yearbook Advisor, Tammy Long - CHS Yearbook Advisor, Tom Desjardins - 504 Coordinator, Chudala Holden - IEP Coordinator, Janet
Boothby - Dual Enrollment Coordinator, Mary Keenan - special ed summer school instructor, Laurie Nile - special ed summer school instructor, Elaine Jillson - special ed summer school instructor, Jessie Cates - special ed summer school instructor, Aaron Welch - special ed summer school instructor.

Also, Tanya McFayden - one year secretary, Solon; Candy Lebeau - bus emergency operator; Bonnie White - bus emergency operator; Terry Corson - lead teacher, Solon; Dorrie Dunham-Robinson - lead teacher, GS; Noah Carroll - ed tech 2, CCS; Taylor Savage - ed tech 3, CCS; Noah Carroll - varsity boys' soccer, CHS; Jack Kaplan - Will Power and Cobra Power; Joy West - STEAM Lead Teacher; Mary Collins - STEAM lead teacher; Jasmyn Wagg - STEAM lead teacher; Richard Reichenbach - STEAM lead teacher; Melody Rich - 3rd Grade, Solon; Eddie Ellis - 7th grade, CCS; Lauren Heulitt - 3/5 phys ed, k-8.

Resignations: Allen Asselin - bus driver/CHS custodian; Hannah Hanson - special ed teacher, GS; Coady Richardson - science/math CHS; Julieanne Pearson-Belanger - 5th grade, GS; Dave McManus - 7th Grade, CCS; Jessi Campbell - board member, New Portland.

Executive Session, Consideration of Appointment: The board entered executive session.

Nomination, Director of Operations: Following the executive session, the board voted unanimously to hire Lorie Agren as Director of Operations.

Citizens: No citizens spoke.

Board Committee Assignments: The board reviewed and approved their committee assignments for 2019-2020.

Board Meeting Schedule: The board approved a meeting schedule for 2019-2020.

Operations Support Person: The board voted to approve Larry Dunphy as Operations Support Person for one year.

Computation and Declaration of votes for the 2019-2020 budget: The board approved the computation and declaration of the June budget vote.

To see if the Board will approve the Superintendent working with NESDEC for an independent enrollment report and to direct the Superintendent to provide requested financials. The board voted to approve.

This item does not necessarily indicate that a school will be closed or that a closure will be attempted. However, the intent of this item seemed to be to make sure that in the event that such an option is considered, the board has all of the relevant information and that the relevant information is accurate.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 7:40 pm.
Church News

Western Mountains Baptist Church:

During this hot weather, please join us at Western Mountains Baptist Church. On Sunday mornings you can expect a time of teaching and learning from the Bible, meeting and greeting friends, tasty snacks and hot coffee. We are “prayer-conditioned” and everyone is welcome.

At 9:00 am, there are Sunday School classes for every age group that last until 9:45 am. Refreshments are available throughout the morning at no charge. At 10:00 am, there are announcements about upcoming activities for the next week followed by singing worship songs. We have a variety of worship teams that lead us in a variety of songs from traditional hymns to contemporary Christian music. Afterwards, Pastor Tom delivers a message. Currently, he is preaching from the book of 1 Thessalonians. After the message we sing one more song then leave or stay around to visit for a while. Church services last for about one hour, dress comfortable and come as you are. We are open to all visitors as well as church members.

During the message there is Children’s Church - nursery to fourth grade. There is also a prayer team outback praying for the congregation, Pastor Tom, church leadership, any prayer requests, etc.

August 4, we are holding a fellowship potluck lunch after the service, so this would be a good time to join us for all or any part of the morning. It is a known fact that Baptists are some of the best cooks!

If you have a prayer request, would like to get more information, or would like to talk with Pastor Tom, please email him at pastorwmbc@gmail.com or call/text 557-3802. The church phone number is 265-2557, PT is at the church office off and on during the week. Also, feel free to visit our website at www.westernmountainschurch.org to learn about WMBC ministries, hear a sermon and/or view our church newsletters.

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

New Portland Community Church News August:

August already! Summer has been flying by at a great rate. Church life has been active and fun.

The church suppers have been really great this year. We so appreciate everyone turning out to support the church. And we appreciate those whose hard work have made each meal a true dining experience. This month’s supper will be held on August 15. BBQ pulled pork and chicken straight off the grill are being served. Come for a great summer BBQ meal with all the sides. Dessert is always spectacular. As always, eat in or take out, $8 a plate.

July was a busy month. Work groups were out and about for the MATE Housing Ministry. We appreciate the time and talents they share in our communities. August will be another busy month for the MATE workgroups.

Journey of Faith continues at the Fairbanks Church in Farmington on Tuesdays a 400 pm. Recent discussions are centered around the Morgan Freeman documentary series “The Story of God”. No prep reading required, just come watch and discuss. All are welcome to join the conversation.

Please note that there will be NO SERVICE at the North Village Church on August 18. The congregation will be making the annual visit to the historic Log Church in Oquossic on this Sunday. The service at the Log Church begins at 9:00 am. If you need a ride please contact Floyd Cook at 491-2620, carpool will meet at the West Village Church parking lot between 7:15 and 7:30 am.

There will be a Session meeting on August 4 following the service.

As always, all are welcome Sunday morning at 10:30 am for coffee hour followed by 11:00 am worship services every Sunday. See you there.

Respectfully...

Submitted: Nan Berry

NOTE: The special Bible study starting April 14 - September 1 which was to be held at the North New Portland Presbyterian Church on Church Street and Hancock Pond Road each Sunday at 2:00 pm will no longer take place. Rev. Leonard Rafferty has take a position to minister in Calais.

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is August 20 by 4:00 pm.

Any articles, submissions, information for publication should be received by:

Dallas Landry • PO Box 34, North New Portland, ME 04961 • phone 628-4201 • email: alderswamp2@gmail.com

If there are any questions or needs regarding the receiving of the New Portlander, those inquiries should be directed to the Town Manager.

3
**NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR**

**Established July 1994**

901 River Road
New Portland, Maine 04961

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**SUNDAY**

- LHHS History House
  - Special Exhibits
  - 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

**MONDAY**

- Recreation Committee
  - Community Room
  - 6:30 pm

**TUESDAY**

- Selectmen’s Meeting
  - Community Room
  - 6:30 pm

**WEDNESDAY**

- NVCC Coffee
  - 10:30 am
- Services
  - 11:00 am
- Bible Study
  - 2:00 pm
- WMBC Bible School
  - 9:00 am
- Services
  - 10:00 am

**THURSDAY**

- School Board Meeting
  - CCS
  - 6:30 pm

- Planning Board Meeting
  - 6:30 pm

- New Portland Water District
  - 6:30 pm

**FRIDAY**

- NV Church
  - Public Supper
  - 5:00 pm

**SATURDAY**

- LHHS Community Lunch & Program
  - 11:30 am

- LHHS Community “Bake Sale”
  - Tranten’s Store
  - 8:00 am