



NEW PORTLANDER

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TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone: 628-4441 • Fax: 628-4440

Town Office Contact Information and Hours of Operation:

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10am - 5pm
Thursday 12pm - 6pm

Town Manager/CEO: Stacie Rundlett

Email newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com

Deputy Town Manager: Lori Alyea

Email townofnewportland@gmail.com

Office hours: Same as the Town office hours

Town Clerk: Jacob Pinkham / Deputy Town Clerk: Brittany Rundlett

Email newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com

Office hours: Wednesdays 12pm - 5pm

LPI: Leo Mayo - 566-7341

Assessor's Agent: Audra Swanson

Wednesday 10am - 2pm

Email newportlandassessor@gmail.com

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

Animal Control Officer: Dillon Wellman - 207-405-1134

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month 6:30pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month 6:30pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**
2nd Saturday of the month 9am
- **Planning Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of the month 6:30pm
- **New Portland Water District**
2nd Wednesday of each month 6:30pm
- **School Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of each month 6pm
- **New Portland Community Library**
Tuesday 8am - 12pm
Thursday 3pm - 6pm
Saturday 8am - 12pm
- **Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station**
Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday 7:30am - 4:30pm
- **New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours**
Monday – Friday 7am - 9am, 2pm - 4pm
Saturday 7am - 10:30am

Superintendent of Schools RSU74

December 18, 2023

TO: Residents of New Portland

FR: Mark Campbell, RSU 74 Superintendent of Schools

RE: Projects being worked on by your RSU 74 School Board

The Board has multiple sub-committees working on projects to send to the full Board for their consideration as needed. The three most active committees are Buildings, Transportation and Grounds; Policy; and Superintendent Evaluation.

The Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Sub-Committee has started to build long-term plans to ensure the building maintenance and transportation portions of the school budget remain stable. We are beginning to review all buildings to assess our greatest needs and attempt to predict needs. The committee has already assessed the bus fleet to determine a replacement plan that keeps the funding level. Our goal is to have 12 buses ready to roll as needed to meet regular bus runs, as well as the needs for co-curricular activities. While for the most part, we are able to do this but at a huge cost. Lack of good preventive maintenance in prior years combined with the age of our fleet, major repair costs are putting heavy demands on our budget again this year. The committee has developed a plan which is aggressive on the front end but has a more budget friendly approach in the remaining years to ensure buses that need replacing get replaced. Our plan includes a request for two new buses for the 2024-2025 school year which will replace two of the more costly buses to maintain to ensure each meets the semi-annual inspections expectations. At our last meeting we began to look at our four school buildings to prepare a ten year plan to properly maintain each and replace aging equipment over the ten years. Our goal here is to keep our maintenance costs stable from budget to budget.

The Policy Committee has continued the practice of reviewing Board Policies which have not been reviewed in the past five-six years. Our most recent work was to review all the policies associated with school safety. The policies receiving initial Board approval at our last monthly meeting reflect recent changes in the safety drills that must

be conducted yearly in each building and on our buses, including fire drills, lockdown drills and bus safety drills. Our next big project includes a review of our Wellness Policy which is expected to be reviewed every three years. If you would like to assist with this review, our policy requires the committee that takes on this task have at least one community member. If interested, please call my office to provide Linda Durland with your name and contact information.

The Superintendent Evaluation Committee has elected to implement a new evaluation tool to assess the job performance of the RSU #74 Superintendent of Schools. As well as recommending a new instrument, they have recommended a policy to the Policy Committee which highlights the process to be followed. The new instrument permits each member of the Board, the administrative team, and the office staff to rate the Superintendent in the many facets of the position. This will be an annual evaluation.

In closing, I hope, this information is helpful in providing understanding of the work done by your school board. Please feel free to contact me at mcampbell@carabec.org or by calling the office at 635-2727 for clarification needed on their work.

Hoping you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Submitted: Mark Campbell, Superintendent

Kingfield Seniors Group

Happy New Year! We ended 2023 with fellowship, songs, games and, of course, food! We had to reschedule our monthly meeting from December 4 to December 18 due to the storm. This was posted in the Daily Bulldog. (Just an FYI.)

Our next meeting will be January 8 at 12:00 pm at the Western Mountains Baptist Church on Rte 27 in New Portland right before entering Kingfield. This is not a church sponsored event nor do you have to be a Kingfield senior, all are invited.

If you have any questions or would like more information on our group, please feel free to contact Jo Bessey-Holme at (207) 779-7200. Hope to see you soon...

Submitted: Nanci Mahlmann

RSU 74 / School Board

The December school board meeting was held on December 7 at Garret Schenck. There were many excellent looking food choices prepared by the CHS culinary arts students. The first food item I tried was a chocolate chip cookie. After eating one, and being somewhat obsessive, I didn't try any other food items. Instead, I ate five or six more chocolate chip cookies. Miss Butler also mentioned that GS fourth grade teacher Heather Austin prepared a food item just for me. It was M+M casserole, and Mrs. Austin gave a recipe for me so that I could prepare the dish on my own. The M+Ms, along with the cookies, made for an excellent supper. The M+M's I didn't finish Wednesday night made for an excellent Thursday morning snack.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Two appointments and a nomination were added to the agenda.

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

Presentation: Brian Twitchell, Andrea Ferrari, and Barbara Jordan discussed Tier 1, 2, and 3 student supports with the board.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Campbell gave a 2024-25 budget timeline to the board. He also announced the January board meeting will begin at 5:30 pm.

Appointments: Amy Cates: CCS After-School Program, Courtney Rollins: CCS 5-6 girls' basketball, Aaron Lane: CCS 5-6 boys' basketball, Jamie Robinson: CHS JV girls' basketball.

Bailey Dunphy: CCS 7-8 boys' basketball, Bailey Dunphy: CHS softball, Robert Lindblom = CHS girls' basketball volunteer, Tori MacDonald: CCS cheering volunteer

Resignations: Jamie Lancaster: CCS custodian, Kim Cole: CHS JMG, Dan Haes: custodian, Solon

Nominations: Sandy Gravel: Title One Ed Tech 3, Solon; Maria Cirelli: Second Grade Long Term Sub, Solon; Rebecca Cocker: Ed Tech One, CCS; Lacie Sanipas: custodian, CCS;

Sarah Savage: custodian, Solon

Admin Reports: Few of the administrators added to their written reports. 1.) Jean Butler welcomed the board to GS, and she praised the CHS culinary arts students for the food. She also noted that GS students

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is January 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.

had prepared fruit kabobs. 2.) Peter Campbell reported that Alison Marcoux is now the JMG specialist at CHS. He invited board members to attend the play at CHS on Thursday and Friday. 3.) In response to a question from a board member, AD Erik Carey said he is looking to add JV basketball games, but many local high schools struggle to field JV teams, as athletic participation is down statewide. 4.) Student board rep Kayli Folco discussed what is happening at CHS. Jack Kaplan was the staff member of the month, and Lucas Vicneire was student of the month. Mrs. Marcoux is on board in the JMG role. Seniors are designing their sweatshirts. 21 students are working on the yearbook, which will be dedicated to Kim Cole. Several math team students received perfect scores at recent meets, and a few missed perfection by just one question. There are 20 options for students to choose from during Cobra Time.

Committees: The Superintendent Evaluation Committee met on December 1 and December 6. The Policy Committee met on November 15, as did the Buildings and Grounds Committee, which instructed Mr. Greene to get price quotes in the event any furnaces need to be replaced.

Public Participation: None spoke.

RE October 26: The board authorized the superintendent to request October 26 be approved as an emergency day, so it will not need to be made up at the end of the year.

Policies: 1.) The board approved the second reading of policies IKFA (Academic Achievement, Graduation Requirements, and Early Graduation) and JLCD (Administering Medication to Students). 2.) Madison Health Center - The board approved signing a Collaborative Practice Agreement with the Madison Health Center. 3.) The board approved the first reading of policy EBCA (Comprehensive Health and Safety Emergency and Management Plan). 4.) The board approved the first reading of policy EBCB (Emergency Evacuation Drills).

Overnight Field Trips: The board approved three overnight trips for the Outdoor Skills and Leadership class at CHS.

Executive Session: At about 7:10 pm the board entered executive session to discuss the superintendent's evaluation. This was the final action item on the agenda. The only remaining item was...

Adjournment: I did not stay to witness the official end of the meeting.

Reminder: The next board meeting will be on January 3 at CCS. It will begin at 5:30 pm rather than the usual start time of 6:00 pm.

Submitted: Dave Ela, Carrabec Teachers Association

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Trail Master: The trail master reported that three bridges have been replanked and are ready to go and field markers are up. He also added bridge mats need to be added over a wet spot on the Chick Road Trail and a bridge on New Portland Hill needs to be reset.

Old Business: The grant for storm damage has been approved, the work has been completed, and money should be on the way soon.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

The January meeting will be held on Saturday, January 13, starting at 6:30 pm.

When the meeting was over a Yankee swap was held and yummy refreshments were shared. A good time was had by all.

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

New Portland Churches

Happy New Year! Always an exciting time of year. We ended 2023 with a beautiful Christmas service as well as an outstanding Children's Christmas program.

Our outreach programs for the New Hope Women's shelter, as well as Christmas gifts for both the Carrabec Community School and Edgewood Nursing Home, as well as our annual cookie drive benefiting the Free Street Church were awesome! So many wonderful people donated their resources and talent. Thank you!!

Won't you join us for worship and fellowship? Our services are on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am. We are located on Rte 27 in New Portland, just before you enter Kingfield. Or if you like, you can go online to www.westernmountainschurch. Hope to see you soon...

Submitted: Nanci Mahlmann

HAPPY
New Year
2024

