

RSU #63 Board Meeting  
Date: June 23, 2025  
Location: Holden Elementary School  
Minutes

RSU 63 Board Member(s) Present:

*Town of Holden:* Amy Hart, Heather Lander, Cherie Faulkner, and Scott Walton

*Town of Clifton:* Linda Graban

*Town of Eddington:* Heather Grass, Rachel Downs, and Brittany Wood

Superintendent Fulgoni called the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the flag salute and moment of silence.

Superintendent Fulgoni welcomed the re-elected board members, Heather Lander and Heather Grass.

Election of RSU 63 Board Chair

Superintendent Fulgoni called for nominations for Board Chair.

Motion by Amy Hart with a second by Scott Walton to elect Rachel Downs as Board Chair.

Discussion: Cherie Faulkner voiced her concerns in regards to lack of Budget and Finance experience. Rachel stated she has business experience and is a graduate of Husson University.

**Roll Call Vote: Scott Walton: Yes; Heather Grass: No; Cherie Faulkner: No; Linda Graban: No; Heather Lander: No; Amy Hart: Yes; Rachel Downs: Yes; Brittany Wood: Yes**

**Vote: 4 Yes; 4 Opposed; *Motion failed***

Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Amy Hart to elect Scott Walton as Board Chair.

Discussion: None

**Roll Call Vote: Scott Walton: Yes; Heather Grass: Yes; Cherie Faulkner: No; Linda Graban: No; Heather Lander: Yes; Amy Hart: Yes; Rachel Downs: Yes; Brittany Wood: Yes**

**Vote: 6 Yes; 2 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

**Scott Walton is Board Chair**

Superintendent Fulgoni congratulated Scott Walton and passed the meeting over to him.

Election of RSU 63 Vice Chair

Scott Walton called for nominations for Vice Chair.

Motion by Amy Hart with a second by Brittany Wood to elect Rachel Downs as Vice Chair.

Discussion: None

**Roll Call Vote: Scott Walton: Yes; Heather Grass: No; Cherie Faulkner: No; Linda Graban: No; Heather Lander: No; Amy Hart: Yes; Rachel Downs: Yes; Brittany Wood: Yes**

**Vote: 4 Yes; 4 Opposed; *Motion failed***

Motion by Heather Lander elect Cherie Faulkner as Vice Chair.

***Motion failed due to not receiving a second nomination***

Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Brittany Wood to elect Amy Hart as Vice Chair.

Discussion: None

**Roll Call Vote: Scott Walton: Yes; Heather Grass: No; Cherie Faulkner: No; Linda Graban: No; Heather Lander: Yes; Amy Hart: Yes; Rachel Downs: Yes; Brittany Wood: Yes**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 3 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

**Amy Hart is Vice-Chair**

RSU 63 Board Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2025

Page 1 of 8

### **Agenda Adjustments**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Rachel Downs to add under New Business Resignation of Superintendent of Schools.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Linda Graban to add under New Business Options for covering Superintendent's responsibilities on interim basis

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Heather Lander to add under New Business Need to initiate search for new Superintendent

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

Motion by Amy Hart with a second by Rachel Downs to add an Executive Session for discussion of progress of teacher contract negotiations and election of new staff

Discussion: Cherie stated an executive session could not be added due to posting requirements.

Superintendent Fulgoni advised they could add an executive session

**Vote: 4 Approved; 4 Opposed; *Motion Failed***

Scott Walton asked for a motion for discussion with Teachers in a Town Hall Meeting. Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Brittany Wood to add under New Business Town Hall Meeting with Teachers this summer.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Heather Lander to approve the minutes for the May 22, 2025 Board Meeting.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

Motion by Heather Grass with a second by Amy Hart to approve the minutes for the May 22, 2025 Budget Meeting.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 7 Approved; 0 Opposed; 1 Abstention (Cherie Faulkner); *Motion Passed***

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Amy Hart to approve the minutes for the June 3, 2025 Special Board Meeting – Executive Session.

Discussion: Rachel Downs noted in one of the meeting minutes (May 22, 2025) her name is listed as Rachel Woods and asked for it to be corrected.

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Rachel Downs to approve the minutes for the June 3, 2025 Special Board Meeting.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

**Recognition and/or Awards of Students, Staff, and Other:**

Heather Lander thanked all of the Field Day volunteers, staff, and administrators for the time and effort they put in to make Field Day a huge success and fun filled day for the students. Cherie Faulkner thanked Heather Grass, Heather Lander, and the Fire Department for their time and effort as well. Cherie Faulkner recognized Heather Lander for her time and effort to raise funds and donations toward the Holbrook Playground.

**Acceptance of Gifts and Donations:** Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Heather Grass to accept \$2,500 donation from Varney Inc. toward the Holbrook Playground and Plaque.

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed*

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Brittany Wood to accept \$5,000 donation from Holden 25 Days of Kindness toward the Holbrook Playground and Plaque.

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed*

**Presentation:** None

**Questions and Comments from the Public:** Susan Dunham Shane, Eddington resident and Carrie Zimmerman, Holden resident spoke regarding school consolidation. Brenda DeRoche, Eddington resident and RSU 63 Teacher spoke regarding vacancies in the central office processing of payroll. Desiree McCarthy, Eddington resident and RSU 63 Teacher questioned the Board role in the discussion of joining Brewer School Department. Dodie Smith, Holden resident and RSU 63 Social Worker questioned the responsibility of filling the many open positions as well as the procedure for hiring a new superintendent. Inez Laverdiere, Holden resident and RSU 63 staff member and Brittany Wood, Eddington Board member questioned what Superintendent Fulgoni's role was with Holden and Brewer consolidation discussions. Ann Veal, Taryn Burtchell, Jacob Burtchell, and James Spencer spoke regarding the Holbrook Life Skills Teaching position.

**Dates of Next Committee Meetings:**

1. **Budget and Finance Committee:** TBD
2. **School Consolidation Committee Meeting:** Monday, June 30, 2025 at 5:30pm Eddington Elementary School
3. **Policy Committee:** TBD
4. **Board Meeting:** TBD

**Budget and Finance:** None

**Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Fulgoni stated this would be his last board meeting and announced James Stoneton, AOS 47 Superintendent will be the Interim Superintendent.

**Acceptance of Reports:**

Scott Walton asked Heather Grass for an update on the School Consolidation Committee and if they would be interested in opening it up to an advisory committee to allow more people to join the committee. Heather Grass stated the next meeting was planned for June 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss information and tie up any loose ends. Rachel Downs asked if there will be new members since this meeting is the re-organization of the Board and committees. Scott Walton advised traditionally committees were filled on a volunteer basis and appointed if no there were no volunteers. He added that he would like to see the School Consolidation Committee change to an advisory committee rather than a standing committee. Rachel noted at the November 25, 2024 board meeting the Board voted on an Advisory Committee with four people. Shortly after, it was changed by the board chair to a standing committee behind closed doors.

Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Brittany Wood to change the School Consolidation Committee from a standing committee to an advisory committee.

Discussion: Making this an advisory committee will allow more people from the public to be a part of the committee.

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Rachel Downs to accept the written and verbal Committee, Administrator, and Superintendent Reports.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

Resignation of Superintendent of Schools: Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Cherie Faulkner to accept the resignation of Jared Fulgoni effective June 30, 2025.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Options for covering Superintendent's responsibilities on interim basis: Motion by Amy Hart with a second by Rachel Downs to gather information on options for interim basis beyond July and August.

Discussion: Linda Graban advised she reached out to Maine School Management Association for advice on Superintendent Fulgoni's resignation and what steps the Board needed to take. Eileen King from MSMA reached out to Superintendent James Stoneton and worked out an agreement for coverage during July and August to cover payroll and warrants. Beyond that would require another conversation.

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Heather Grass to elect James Stoneton as RSU 63 Interim Superintendent.

Discussion: Brittany Wood asked how involved would he be in the hiring process. Mr. Stoneton advised he will be involved once he learns RSU 63's process.

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Need to Initiate Search for New Superintendent: Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Linda Graban to form a Superintendent Search committee using Maine School Board Association.

Discussion: Cherie Faulkner gave an overview of the process the Board followed during the previous superintendent search. Discussion took place on the type of search (interim or full time), cost, range (local or national), etc. Superintendent Fulgoni recommended to investigate firms to conduct the search.

**Cherie Faulkner withdrew her motion.**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Brittany Wood to form a Superintendent Search Committee using any means necessary to get a Superintendent with Board approval.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 0 Yes; 5 No; Motion Failed**

Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Brittany Wood to form a Superintendent Search Committee to look at options to hire an interim superintendent with potential for a permanent superintendent.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Certification of the Referendum Results: Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Cherie Faulkner that the Computation and Declaration of Votes for the RSU 63 2025-2026 Budget, dated and attached here to and it is hereby approved (Attachment A). Furthermore, that the Computation and Declaration of Votes be entered upon the records of the District. Furthermore, that a certified copy of the Computation and Declaration of Votes be sent to each of the municipal clerks within the District.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Copier Lease Approval: Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Rachel Downs to approve the proposed tax-exempt lease with Xerox Business Solutions for the purposes of financing and funding photocopy equipment leases including any related costs of issuances of such leases in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 annually, for a term of 60 months.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Brittany Wood to authorize the Superintendent to execute and deliver the tax-exempt lease with Xerox business services on such terms and conditions discussed and provided to the Board and to execute and deliver any such documents required to execute the contract.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Create Position – Teaching Principal, Holbrook Middle School: Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Brittany Wood to create a Teaching Principal position at Holbrook Middle School

Discussion: Amy Hart suggested an option of hiring a Superintendent/Principal for Holbrook. Cherie Faulkner felt it was not a good option with three buildings. Linda Graban felt the teacher that filled in this year did a great job, but in her opinion the students suffered. Superintendent Fulgoni reminded the Board that we had a qualified applicant who withdrew due to re-course on social media. He added that Mrs. Archambault is very well respected and supported by the staff and she has worked to redesign her schedule so it allows her more flexibility and the staff are supportive of this change.

**Vote: 2 Approved; 6 Opposed; Motion Failed**

2025-2026 RSU 63 Board Meeting Dates and Locations

Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Linda Graban to approve the 2025-2026 RSU 63 Board Meeting dates and locations with July.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Review of Board Committees and Committee Member Assignments – Election of Budget and Finance

Committee Members: Scott Walton called for nominations of Budget and Finance Committee Members. Heather Lander, Rachel Downs, and Cherie Faulkner were nominated and each accepted the nomination.

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Amy Hart to elect Heather Lander as a Budget and Finance Committee Member.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Amy Hart with a second by Brittany Wood to elect Rachel Downs as a Budget and Finance Committee Member.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Heather Lander with a second by Amy Hart to elect Cherie Faulkner as a Budget and Finance Committee Member.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Scott Walton called for Budget and Finance Committee Member volunteers for Warrant Officers. Cherie Faulkner and Heather Lander volunteered.

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Heather Grass to elect Cherie Faulkner and Heather Lander as the Budget and Finance Committee Warrant Officers

Discussion: None

**Vote: 6 Approved; 2 Opposed; Motion Passed**

RSU 63 Board of Directors Documents Review

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Amy Hart to table this review.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion to Authorize the Superintendent to Hire New Staff (Administrative, Teachers, and Support Staff)

During Summer Months: Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Linda Graban to authorize the Superintendent to hire new staff (administrative, teachers, and support staff) during summer months.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Schedule Town Hall Meeting with Teachers Over Summer

Motion by Amy Hart with a second by Cherie Faulkner to schedule town hall meeting with teachers over the summer at the discretion of the Board Chair.

Discussion: Rachel Downs felt a public session may deter teachers from attending and speaking out. Scott Walton stated the intent of the meeting was to be held in public. With the change in leadership it gave a great opportunity to discuss in public. Brenda DeRoche suggested meeting in groups of board members and groups of teachers.

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

### **Personnel Actions**

Resignations/Retirements: Carmen Rioux, Director of Special Education; Kaitlyn Helfen, Grade 2 Teacher; Kendra Bruton, Holden Assistant Cook; Kelsey Linscott, Kindergarten Teacher; Sierra Blake, Grade 1 Teacher; Fletcher Marriner, Ed Tech III; Timothy Baker, Elementary Schools Principal; and Zachary Chenier, Transportation Manager/Bus Driver.

Elections:

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Heather Grass to elect Justin Smith as Grade 7 & 8 Math Teacher

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Amy Hart to elect Haley Saucier as .5 Title I/.5ELL Teacher

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Linda Graban to elect Sheila Caldwell as Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

RSU 63 Board Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2025

Page 6 of 8

Motion by Heather Grass with a second by Rachel Downs to elect Danelle Farrell as Special Education Teacher, Resource Room at Eddington Elementary

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Heather Grass with a second by Linda Graban to elect William Bradley as .6 FTE Music/Chorus Teacher at Holbrook

Discussion: None

**Vote: 7 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed (Cherie Faulkner stepped out of meeting for a moment)**

Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Rachel Downs to elect Stephanie McLean as Elementary Schools Principal

Discussion: None

**Vote: 7 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed (Cherie Faulkner stepped out of meeting for a moment)**

Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Heather Grass to elect Nicole Hogan as .6 FTE Library Media Specialist

Discussion: None

**Vote: 7 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed (Cherie Faulkner stepped out of meeting for a moment)**

Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Rachel Downs to elect Julia Poland as Grade 1 Teacher

Discussion: None

**Vote: 7 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed (Cherie Faulkner stepped out of meeting for a moment)**

Motion by Heather Lander with a second by Rachel Downs to elect Olivia Belbute as Special Education Life Skills Teacher at Holbrook

Discussion: Cherie Faulkner felt this position required review by the Board. Brittany Wood stated she did not want to lose this applicant, however the board needed to look into it and possibly hire a different candidate. Rachel Downs stated position and candidates needed to be looked into further and suggested offering the Resource Room Teaching position.

**Motion Withdrawn**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Brittany Wood to table the election of Olivia Belbute as Special Education Life Skills Teacher at Holbrook until the next meeting.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Motion by Heather Grass with a second by Rachel Downs to extend the meeting past 8:30pm.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed**

Appointments: Jessica Knights, Bookkeeper; Mary Greenlaw, Holbrook Secretary; Jason Smith, Boys Soccer Coach; Ethan Welch, Girls Soccer Coach; and Dennis Whitney, Cross Country Coach

Reassignments: Shelley Wyman, Data and Communications Specialist to Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; Jennah Geiser, Grade 1 Teacher to Grade 2 Teacher; and Ashley Perry, Grade 1 Teacher to Grade 4 Teacher

Searches: Transportation Manager/Bus Driver, Cook, Grade 1 Teacher, Grade 3 Teacher, Grade 4 Teacher, (2) Ed Tech III, Data and Communications Specialist, Part-time Custodian, Holbrook Middle School Principal, Business Manager, Special Education Teacher Resource Room at Holbrook, 7/8 Math Teacher, Speech

RSU 63 Board Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2025

Page 7 of 8

Language Pathologist, Ed Tech II Title I/Elementary RTI, Van Driver, Spare Van Driver, and Spare Bus Drivers

**Executive Session**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Brittany Wood to enter executive session for discussion of officials/appointees/employee with RSU 63 Technology Coordinator pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) at 8:29pm.

Discussion: None

**Roll Call Vote: Scott Walton: Yes; Heather Grass: Yes; Cherie Faulkner: Yes; Linda Graban: Yes; Heather Lander: Yes; Amy Hart: Yes; Rachel Downs: Yes; Brittany Wood: Yes**

**Vote: 8 Yes; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Rachel Downs to enter executive session for discussion of officials/appointees/employee with RSU 63 Facilities and Maintenance Manager pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) at 8:30pm.

**Roll Call Vote: Scott Walton: Yes; Heather Grass: Yes; Cherie Faulkner: Yes; Linda Graban: Yes; Heather Lander: Yes; Amy Hart: Yes; Rachel Downs: Yes; Brittany Wood: Yes**

**Vote: 8 Yes; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

Public Session resumed at 9:05pm.

**Actions Regarding Executive Sessions:**

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Rachel Downs to approve the salary adjustment for Technology Coordinator, George Cummings.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Yes; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Rachel Downs to approve the one-year contract for RSU 63 Facilities and Maintenance Manager, Ryan Porter.

Discussion: Rachel Downs asked if it could be a longer term. Response was it could be, but the motion was for a one-year contract

**Vote: 8 Yes; 0 Opposed; *Motion Passed***

**Adjournment:** At 9:07pm, a motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Heather Grass to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion: None

**Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed**

Respectfully submitted by,

*James Stoneton*

RSU 63 Interim Superintendent of Schools

**APPROVED: July 28, 2025**