

RSU #63 Board Meeting
Date: July 28, 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

Board Chair, Scott Walton called the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the flag salute and moment of silence.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Heather Grass to approve the minutes for the June 23, 2025 Board Meeting.

Discussion: None

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed

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

Heather Lander recognized and thanked a few volunteers that helped with the Field Day, Kate, Amanda, and Rachel. She apologized for failing to thank them last month, and expressed her appreciation and recognized the impact they made on making Field Day a success.

Acceptance of Gifts and Donations: Motion by Rachel Downs with a second by Linda Graban to accept \$5,000 donation from Maine Military Supply, Inc. toward the Holbrook Playground.

Discussion: It was noted, with this donation, the Holbrook Playground is fully funded.

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed

Presentation: None

Questions and Comments from the Public: Board Chair, Scott Walton opened the public comment with an update on being transparent with the process of securing a new Superintendent of Schools. He advised there will be an executive session tonight to discuss the options being considered: Full time Superintendent, Part-time Superintendent, Join another district, or Hybrid Superintendent/other administrative positions (similar to when Susan Smith was Superintendent/Director of Curriculum and Instruction).

Kristie Licata, Eddington resident asked the board and policy committee to revisit and reconsider their policy on high school tuition and asked they amend the policy to include room and board for schools that do not have tuition costs. Amanda Mitchell, Holden resident spoke regarding teacher retention efforts and asked for an update on contract negotiations with teachers. Alex Mitchell, Holden resident challenged the board to stay true to the goals of the district. He stated past conduct of the board has been unbecoming and their priorities did not make sense.

Dates of Next Committee Meetings:

Budget and Finance Committee: TBD

Policy Committee: TBD

Curriculum Committee: TBD

School Consolidation Advisory Committee Meeting: August 18, 2025 at 6:00pm Holbrook Middle School

Board Meeting: August 25, 2025 at 6:30pm, Holbrook Middle School

Budget and Finance: Motion by Brittany Wood with a second by Heather Grass to approve the July 9, 2025 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

Discussion: None

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed

RSU 63 Board Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2025

Page 1 of 4

Superintendent's Report: Nothing to add

Executive Session:

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Amy Hart to enter executive session for discussion of legal counsel pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) at 6:47pm.

Discussion: None

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

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

Public session resumed at 7:00pm

Action regarding Executive Session: Scott Walton advised after the June board meeting and multiple tie votes, Superintendent Stoneton investigated if RSU 63 had weighted votes. Per the Certificate of Organization dated June 19, 2009 based on state valuation, the district does have weighted votes and will utilize this method moving forward for any votes that result in a tie. Weight count is as follows: Clifton (1 voting member) – 763; Eddington (3 voting members) – 708; and Holden (4 voting members) – 725.25.

Acceptance of Reports: Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Linda Graban to approve the committee and superintendent reports.

Discussion: None

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

Old Business: Motion by Heather Grass with a second by Heather Lander to approve the playground at Holbrook.

Discussion: Heather Lander advised the picture provided in the board packet was not the color scheme ordered. The decision was made for a more neutral color scheme. Students were interviewed to determine what they wanted for a playground.

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

New Business:

Interim Teaching Principal, Holbrook Middle School: Motion by Heather Lander with a second by Cherie Faulkner approve the Interim Teaching Principal position at Holbrook Middle School

Discussion: Rachel Downs asked for clarification on how many classes and what kind of classes this person would ideally teach, and if we had to advertise. Superintendent Stoneton advised 1 non-core class and we did not have to advertise as it is an interim position. Brittany Wood asked if this person would dedicate 90% of their time to being Principal in the office. Superintendent Stoneton confirmed. Linda Graban asked if we had applicants for the Holbrook Principal position and if so, why we had not reviewed or interviewed. Superintendent Stoneton advised there were multiple key administrative positions that needed to be filled when he stepped in. He has hired a Special Education Director and is working on the Business Manager position and based on the last board meeting, the board did not know what direction they wanted to go with the Principal position. Therefore, he is recommending a one-year Interim Teaching Principal to allow time for the Board to make a decision and it also provides stability for our students and staff.

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

Vote: 5 Yes; 2 Opposed; 1 Abstention; *Motion Passed*

Naming of Holbrook Playground: Motion by Heather Lander with a second by Linda Graban to approve the naming of the Holbrook Playground the “*Chris Greely Champions of Kindness Playground*”

Discussion: None

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

School Consolidation Advisory Committee Scope and Purpose: Scott Walton stated there was discussion at the meeting on the name of the committee and funding for floor plans. He proposed renaming the committee to the Advisory Committee on Efficiency and a \$5,000 funding limit for floor plans.

Motion by Amy Hart with a second by Linda Graban to approve the name change to Advisory Committee on Efficiency and Scope and Sequence plan and create a \$5,000 floor plan limit.

Discussion: None

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed

Personnel Actions:

Resignations/Retirements: Jon Larson, Holden Custodian

Elections:

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Rachel Downs to elect James Spencer as Special Education Life Skills Teacher at Holbrook Middle School

Discussion: None

Vote: 8 Approved; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed

Appointments: Krista Vining-Means, Special Education Director; Jamie Coburn, Grade 4 Teacher; Justin Seip, Grade1 Teacher; Joseph Flanagan, III, Part-time Custodian at Eddington; Pam Bull, Van Driver

Reassignments: Hannah Crabtree, Substitute to Grade 3 Long Term Substitute Teacher

Searches: Transportation Manager/Bus Driver, Custodian, Assistant Cook (Holden), Assistant Cook (Holbrook), (2) Ed Tech III, Business Manager, Special Education Teacher Resource Room at Holbrook, 7/8 Math Teacher, Speech Language Pathologist, Ed Tech II Title I/Elementary RTI, Spare Van Driver, and Spare Bus Drivers

Rachel Downs asked why the Assistant Principal at Eddington has not been listed. Superintendent Stoneton advised it is in the budget, but by order of position needs and priority, it has not been addressed.

Executive Session:

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Heather Grass to enter executive session for discussion of legal rights and duties of the RSU 63 Board of Directors pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) at 7:21pm.

Discussion: None

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

Vote: 8 Yes; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed

Public Session resumed at 8:04pm

Actions Regarding Executive Sessions: None

Scott Walton noted a few reassignments that were missed – Sherry Neill from Holden Cook to Eddington Cook; Theresa Jameson from Holbrook Cook to Holden Cook; and Jenny-Lee Lagrange Holbrook Assistant Cook to Cook.

Executive Session:

Motion by Heather Grass with a second by Cherie Faulkner to enter executive session with Karen Quimby (Board Negotiation Team representative) for discussion of labor contracts pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D) at 8:06pm.

Discussion: None

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

Vote: 8 Yes; 0 Opposed; Motion Passed

RSU 63 Board Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2025

Page 3 of 4

Public Session resumed at 8:57pm.

Scott Walton advised to stay in line with policy and as the Board was in Executive Session, he called for a motion to extend the meeting past 8:30pm.

Motion by Cherie Faulkner with a second by Linda Graban to extend the meeting past 8:30pm.

Discussion: None

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

Actions Regarding Executive Sessions: None

Adjournment: At 8:58pm, 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: August 25, 2025