

SAU #20 Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 11, 2025
Meeting Minutes
Milan Village School Library

Board Members Present: Dennis Wade, Gina Saladino, Benjamin Mayerson, Andrew Mullins, Crystal Labrecque, Peter Donovan, Stephen Michaud, Michael Waddell, Tiffani Arsenault, Ashley Devost, Keith Moon, Stacey Smith, Jo Carpenter, Nathan Corrigan, and Barney Valliere (6:34)

Administration: David Backler, Superintendent SAU 20; Cassandra Micucci, Business Administrator SAU20; and Tina Binette, Student Services Director

Public: Shelli Fortin, Minutes

Regular Meeting

1. **Call to Order**– Gina Saladino called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Discussion of 2025-2026 School Year Staffing**

On a motion by Peter Donovan, seconded by Dennis Wade, the Board voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Jennifer Katz-Borrin effective June 30, 2025.

David Backler advised that moving forward, in looking at how they will cover needs and in response to concerns from taxpayers, they are hoping to have one full-time director, Tina Binette, and hire a part-time employee to assist. Backler noted that he does not disagree that the job is complex, however having one director with a support person makes sense.

A Board member asked how many hours the part-time person would cover and if this will be enough to cover what Katz-Borrin was doing. Backler advised that Katz-Borrin was responsible for out-of-district placements, charter and private schools, Milan, and Errol, and feels that they will still be able to continue to cover that with the assistance of a part-time employee.

A Board member asked about the budget, as only one full-time employee was budgeted this year for the SAU. Backler advised that one full-time employee was budgeted for GRS as well, and GRS would be picking up their percentage, which will cover the cost.

A Board member asked what the hourly rate would be for a part-time position, and Cassandra Micucci advised it would be approximately \$45 per hour.

A Board member asked if the employee would need to be certified, and was advised they would prefer that, and have a couple candidates in mind.

A Board member asked how quickly the position would be posted, and Backler advised next week. Katz-Borrin will work until June 30, and the new employee would start July 1.

When asked her feelings, Tina Binette advised that she feels like it is a good decision, especially if they can build confident teams in each of the schools. Binette also advised that it will provide consistency across the district. Binette noted that this is the way the position was set up years ago, and it worked well. A Board member shared that they have confidence in the decision with Binette in charge.

Milan Board members shared concerns about the amount of time that will be available for the Milan Village School, as the current director was at the school often. Backler stated that he feels the team in place will be sure needs are met. Binette stated that it depends what you consider the role of the Student Services Director to be, as when you have strong teams in the buildings the director does not need to be there all the time.

A Board member questioned why they were previously told they needed two full-time positions, and now they need less. Backler explained that they had enough work for the two positions when it was started, but had planned to work toward this model in the future.

Backler noted that they will form a hiring committee and will welcome Board representation. Benjamin Mayerson, Andrew Mullins, and Stacey Smith advised they would be interested in being part of the committee.

A Board member asked about a transition plan, and was advised it will depend on who they hire, but will make sure to have one in place.

A Board member asked if Katz-Borrin would still be tied to the SAU after she goes back to school for her school psychologist degree, and was advised she would not be, as those services are contracted through NCES.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Non-Public Session

There was no non-public session needed.

6. Next Regular Meeting – Thursday, May 8, 2024 6:30 pm Errol Consolidated School

7. Other

Gina Saladino advised that they have been working on the Superintendent evaluations, and will let the Board know when they are ready. Saladino advised their mission is to make it simpler and easier to understand.

8. Adjournment

On a motion by Benjamin Mayerson, seconded by Barney Valliere, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 pm.