



**MASL Minutes**  
**May 7, 2011**  
**Penquis Valley HS**

**Present:** Tina Taggart, Gayle Peirce, Ellen Simone, Anne Small, Nancy Grant, Peggy Becksvoort, Gretchen Asam, Edna. And by Tanderg: Eileen Broderick, Barbara Hammond. Debbie Gahm on standby with Skype.

Introductions

**Secretary's Minutes:** *Nancy moved acceptance as corrected, Tina seconded. Motion accepted.*

Discussion of **Principal's letter:** It will be going out Wednesday. Any further changes should be sent to Edna. We also discussed a link to the MASL website for the application and a follow-up in September. Bookmarks were also suggested.

Discussed salary raise for Edna: After a short discussion Edna was asked to present an updated request at the next Board meeting.

**Discussion of Vision Tour:** Peggy asked the group to come up with supportive resources, research, etc. The group decided that ask Dr. Everhart to work with AASL to take a larger stand for all school libraries and make their presence felt in all states. Elementary school issues, Ed. Techs issues, leaving positions vacant and filling professional positions with non-professionals were also noted. The group then discussed who else could be invited to the Poland event. The list included groups with political clout, the Heritage Policy Foundation, the Camden Group. Peggy will write to Peggy Keagan about these groups. We also considered AP & CNN, AARP and MEA. Other possible additions included authors, the New Gloucester fireman who got new lungs. Jennifer Jacobsen author of the Andy Shane series, Kristen Cappy, Kiwanis, Boys & Girls Clubs, Scouts, and Key Clubs.

**Spring Fling Evaluations:** Edna shared the findings which were that it was generally a positive experience. She noted the response to the PayPal question which showed only small interest at this point. Edna was asked to post comments to the web page and synthesize them for Retreat.

**Nominations** and encouraging people to be on the Board: The discussion included AASL reps., being able to get a scholarship for NESLA, and connections. Peggy will do notices to encourage folks to join. The importance of having a virtual option was discussed as well as the need to plan for Tandberg meetings in the winter and/or after school. Pam will be asked to find more info about the bridging piece through the University. The group also discussed the need for a facilitator in these kinds of meetings as well as getting experience so we can be more adept at virtual meetings. We also considered it a way to the get to principals and administrators to

help them become more fluent in virtual meetings. The group considered getting a national figure in to work on this.

**Retreat:** Since the original dates overlap the MLTI meetings it was decided to move to July 21<sup>st</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup>. Edna will touch base with Sue Leiter to see if those dates are available and report back to the group.

**Maine Reading Association (MRA)/MASL program:** The Book Whisperer, Donnalyn Miller has been contracted for \$2000 + travel from Texas. MRA was leery of splitting fees etc., but after discussion has agreed and the MoU is just about set. The event will be Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> at the Senator Inn in Augusta. Edna mentioned the possibility of doing our first Mentoring event Friday evening in conjunction with the Saturday event at the Senator. Discussion of pros and cons followed.

**Pam's stuff (submitted through email):**

- It's been a busy stretch since our Spring Fling. I have spent lots of time on the issue of e-books, e-readers and the possibility of a School Downloadable Library. Jeff Mao and I met with James Jackson Sanborn to discuss possibilities for managing such a creation and OverDrive finally has a proposal of some sort to talk with us about. The call will be early next week. As soon as there is anything conclusive to say, I'll let folks know, but there is a lot of work and negotiation to go through to get what works best for as many schools as possible. In response to my post to MELIBS about a possible consortium, I had more than 80 positive responses- not bad.
- We have a State Literacy Team meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The MLTI and MASL responses were strong advocacy documents for including information literacy and digital literacy in the scope of the plan. However, last I heard, the "Striving Readers" funding that was to go to implementation has been cut from the federal budget.
- I still receive many requests for "standards" for staffing, collection and facility in the tough budget times. Hope you all saw my MELIBS post about ALA 's attempts to include school libraries in ESEA. That would make a big difference.
- I wish Sylvia, with her long, and in-depth relationship with the statutes, were here. I have been urging some schools to pay attention to Ch 125, not for the staffing – which is minimal and a bit scary as we consolidate-- but because it address the issue of accessibility of resources. Staffing/book budget cuts can really affect that:
- *Chapter 125 BASIC APPROVAL STANDARDS: PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS 9.01 Library-Media Resources*

*A) Each school shall maintain a library-media program that includes books, written materials, online Internet resource materials, multimedia materials, and information technology that support the curriculum. Resources will be appropriate to the ages of the children served by the school. A certified library-media specialist shall oversee the library-media program in a school administrative unit. However, this shall not be interpreted to mean that each school must have a certified library-media specialist.*

*B) The library-media resources, including access to the Internet, shall be accessible to all enrolled students and personnel during school hours. The school administrative unit shall have a policy governing access to library resources by students in approved equivalent instruction programs in accordance with state law and Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 130.*

*C) The Comprehensive Education Plan shall address updating and maintaining library-media resources.*

- I'm still planning one more webinar out of the State Lib. The ambitious schedule I had of one per month beginning in January was really modified by scheduling and technology issues. Peggy was my guest on the E-reader one ; fun to have company and support though I was frustrated by the tech glitches. I still need to find time to listen to the recording! I am still hoping to do one in May on Transition HS-College -- or as Sylvia said "Bridging the Gap."
- Also from the State Lib, the SMLD position is still in the budget so far. Will keep you posted.

Next there was discussion of professional issues and the lack of knowledge and understanding of support staff in some of these areas. Ellen asked about using self-checkout and how to do it? The group shared using thumbprints and other workable methods and noted that teaching the kids to do self checkout could save the school money. They also suggested that Ellen use this as a tool with administration. (i. e. Since I'm saving you money can you help with this.....)

Peggy noted that Jen Stanbro has resigned and we need someone who can go the State Board of Education. Peggy will put out a call for someone to replace Jen. The group gave Peggy some suggestions including thinking of it as a job share with perhaps two people filling the role.

Cindy Petherbridge has also resigned so we need to find someone for her role as well. It was agreed that there would be time for the L4L group to come together on Thursday morning prior to the start of Retreat Sunday. Everyone was asked to get name to Peggy of those interested in Literacy. General observations about moving L4L forward were that we need to get in teacher's faces with this stuff, need to share ideas for teaching skills and that we need more PR.

June meeting was set for June 4<sup>th</sup> at Falmouth Middle School.

Adjournment at 12:45

Respectfully Submitted,

Edna M. Comstock, Secretary Pro tem.