

## Friends of RSU 16

### Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2018

**Present:** Yvon Gilbert, David MacMahon, Carl Beckett, Mary Martin, Arthur Reed, Ken Healey, Craig Worth, Hester Gilpatrick, Dave Gilpatrick, Suzie Stover, Debbie Lamb, Dave Griffith, Danielle Loring, Heather Printup, Valerie Young and grade 6 students,

**Welcome/Introductions:** Introductions were made. Danielle Loring, Minot's town administrator, was welcomed.

**Middle School Renovation Cost Breakdown/Timeline:** Craig Worth, RSU 16 Operations Director, explained the general calculated costs and timeline for the project. The Middle School Renovation will go out to bid on January 9, 2019 and bids will be opened on February 6, 2019. The RSU 16 School Board meeting had been moved to Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> to allow more time for bid review before the Board vote.

**Presentation: The Ecology School Program:** Mary provided an introduction to The Ecology School, which provides programs focused on ecology, the environment, and sustainability. Before retirement Mary accompanied Elm Street School sixth grade students to The Ecology School. After retirement she was invited to join The Ecology School Board and has been a member of the board for 7 years. RSU 16 students in grades K-5 participate in two Ecology School programs a year and sixth graders participate in the 3 day residential program in Saco. Students from Valerie Young's six grade class presented a slideshow that highlighted their experience at The Ecology School. They answered questions and discussed the components of the program. The program cost is covered by RSU 16 and Poland Spring Bottling, with support from The Ecology School. Heather Printup, Community Relations Manager from Poland Spring Bottling talked about their long term financial commitment to RSU 16 and the tri-towns in support of The Ecology School program and other community programs.

**Meeting Schedule:** Friends of RSU 16 will meet the second Friday of each month during the school year. (January 11<sup>th</sup>, February 8<sup>th</sup>, March 8<sup>th</sup>, April 12<sup>th</sup>, May 10<sup>th</sup>, June 14<sup>th</sup>, September 13<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup>, December 13<sup>th</sup> )

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of Friends of RSU 16 will be January 11th at Elm Street School Conference room at 9:00.

***Thank you for your donation of food items for the Backpack Program and books for the children's literacy project at the Food Bank in Auburn. There will be containers available for food and children's books at each of our meetings.***