



AUGUSTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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STATEMENT OF BOARD CHAIR CONCERNING JUNE 8, 2016 BOARD MEETING.

As Chair of the Augusta Board of Education, I have determined that a mistake was made in entering into executive session for Agenda Item 21 at the Board meeting on June 8, 2016.

The Board took a vote on a motion to go into executive session on Agenda Item 21 to discuss the evaluation of the Superintendent pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405(6)(A). The vote on the motion was five to four in favor of the motion to enter executive session. In calculating the required vote of 3/5 members present and voting for entering executive session, I miscalculated the numbers and incorrectly considered the motion to have passed. I then directed the Board to enter executive session. This mistake was an oversight on my part, for which I apologize and take responsibility.

The Board had previously discussed the evaluation of the Superintendent at its Personnel Committee meeting on June 6, 2016. The discussion on June 6 took place in executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A), following a vote of more than 3/5 of the Board members present and voting at the June 6 meeting. During the session on June 8, 2016, the Board had further discussion concerning the evaluation to be provided to the Superintendent. No actions were taken or changed at the June 8, 2016 meeting.

Information concerning the evaluation of school employees is deemed confidential pursuant to 20-A M.R.S. § 6101(2)(B)(3). Discussions about employee evaluations are proper for executive session under both 1 M.R.S. § 405(6)(A), which provides for executive session discussion of the evaluation of a public employee, and 1 M.R.S. § 405(6)(F), which provides for executive session discussion of information contained in records that are deemed confidential by statute. Although the subject matter of the June 8 discussion was proper for executive session, I should not have directed the Board to enter into executive session in the absence of a vote by 3/5 of the members present and voting.

Kimberly Martin
Chairperson, Augusta Board of Education