

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
October 6, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Skowhegan Area High School**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 54 was held on October 6, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area High School Cafeteria.

ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (565 present, 434 absent):

Alicia Boulette (Skow-53) PRESENT	Rebecca Anderson (Smith-27) ABSENT
Mark Bedard (Skow-53) PRESENT	Annemarie Dubois* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Daniel Frey* (Smith-27) ABSENT
Janet Burrill (Canaan-43) PRESENT	Theresa Howard* (Corn-30) ABSENT
Jeannie Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT	Michael Lambke* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Samantha Delorie (Norr-46) PRESENT	Desiree Libby* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) PRESENT	Morrigan McLeod* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Bruce Hurley (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Brandy Morgan* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Peggy Lovejoy (Skow-53) PRESENT	Timothy Williams* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	Jacqueline Wolinski* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Gary Sinclair (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Sara Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	

1. Call to Order

The Superintendent called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

a. Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions

- Adult Education Director, Jeremy Lehan, presented an update to the Board on the Adult Ed Program. This summer and fall they co-sponsored the “Wabanaki Voices” series in conjunction with the History House. Featured speakers included Darren Ranco, James Francis, and Dwayne Tomah.
- September 19-24 was Adult Education and Family Literacy Week. Jeremy had the privilege of going to Augusta that week. The Maine Adult Education Association and the Department for Education presented Governor Mills with the Champion of Adult Education Leadership Award.

- Adult Ed classes have resumed in earnest, with lots more in-person enrichment classes this fall, including line dancing, aerobics, welding, and more.
- Jeremy shared that 20 people who have begun working toward their diplomas this fall, both in person and online via Zoom.

3. Approval of the Minutes - 9/15/22

ON A MOTION BY Sarah Bunker, seconded by Mark Bedard, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 9/15/22 into the record. (565 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Patricia Fournier, Bus Aide.

b. School Personnel

Skowhegan Area Middle School Principal, Zachary Longyear, shared that there will an iPower Presentation on online/internet safety October 12th at 6pm at the Middle School.

c. Visitors

There were no visitors present who wished to speak.

5. Committee Reports

a. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 9/20/22

ON A MOTION BY Jeannie Conley, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 9/20/22 into the public record. (565 yes)

Jeannie Conley, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendations:

ON A MOTION BY Jeannie Conley, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to adopt Policy BED, as written. (565 yes)

ON A MOTION BY Jeannie Conley, seconded by Samantha Delorie, the Board voted to adopt Policy JLCDB, as written. (512 yes, 53 no)

b. Building Committee – 10/3/22

ON A MOTION BY Sarah Bunker, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Building Committee meeting of 10/3/22 into the public record. (565 yes)

Superintendent Moody reviewed the minutes. There were no recommendations.

6. Superintendent’s Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

The Superintendent reviewed vacancies and recommended the Board’s approval of pages one and two of nominations.

ON A MOTION BY Samantha Delorie, seconded by Mark Bedard, the Board voted to approve nomination pages one and two. (565 yes)

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of October 6, 2022, Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock and Smithfield were current on their monthly assessments with October assessment due on the 20th. Skowhegan was outstanding for September and October.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody reported on the October 3rd playground presentation by Architects Pat Carroll and Sashie Misner, who specializes in outdoor natural playgrounds.

Results of the community input on the school name survey was shared. Margaret Chase Smith was by and away the top choice with over 48% of respondents in favor of some variation of that name. Second, at 24%,

was Skowhegan (area, Community, etc.). Both the Support Services and Educational Policy/Program Committees will review the names, which will go to the Building Committee who will make a recommendation to the full board. This meeting will take place on October 26th, at 6:00 in the SAMS library.

On October 17th a zoom session for staff is scheduled to share information on the new school playgrounds with the architects. A survey will be posted for feedback from staff following the presentation. Board members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

d. Review/Update of Federal Projects/Federal Funds Update

The Superintendent referred to the Restated Resolution to Authorize \$1,872,900.00 School Revolving Renovation Fund Financing that was previously approved by the Board on 9/15/22 and asked the Board for its approval in the form presented at this meeting.

ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to approve the “Restated Resolution to Authorize \$1,872,900.00 School Revolving Renovation Fund Financing”, in the form presented to this meeting and that the Secretary file an attested copy of said Resolution with the minutes of this meeting. (565 yes)

Superintendent Moody reported that ESSER I (Cares Act) funding ended in September. The district will work over the next few months to finalize the books and get reimbursement for spending associated with ESSER I.

e. Update on Schools and the Start of the Year

Superintendent Moody shared that he has been visiting the schools and reading in classrooms. Kindergarten classes are making huge strides relative to the last two years and schools are seeing progress K-12.

Superintendent Moody informed the Board that following a restructuring of the accounting department, a new position, Director of Federal Funds and Finance, will be created. This move, which is position neutral as the new position would take the place of a current open position, will fill an important role for the district. This approach will include administrative restructuring as staff retire over the next few years.

f. Other

The enrollment report was shared with the Board. Enrollment as of 10/6/22 was 2,235.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch reported in the following:

- A flyer was shared and reviewed with the Board from the Drug Enforcement Agency on “Fake Pills” awareness.
- Information on the New Elementary School Name Survey Results were shared with the Board. 48% suggested the name include Margaret Chase Smith, and 24% suggested Skowhegan be in the name. The Building Committee will review the suggestions at their meeting on October 26th.
- Recently visited Thomas College to interview and recruit eight students for substitute teaching. Will go again in a few weeks to hopefully add more names to our substitute teaching list.
- At North Elementary School, all teachers are implementing K for ME Curriculum with the focus of building communities.

Support Services Manager, David Leavitt, reported that with the recent resignation of a trip driver, MSAD 59 bus drivers have been covering trips when needed.

Mr. Leavitt also reported that School Nutrition is serving 120+ more meals per day than last year.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old and unfinished business

9. Introduction of New Business

There was no introduction of new business

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools