

**RSU 54/MSAD 54**

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
March 25, 2021, 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 March 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area High School Cafeteria.

**ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (751 present, 248 absent):**

Mark Bedard (Skow-53) – PRESENT	Jeannie Conley* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Harold Bigelow (Skow-53) PRESENT	Derek Ellis* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Jennifer Poirier* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Maryellen Charles (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Dixie Ring* (Canaan-43) ABSENT
Annemarie Dubois (Skow-53) PRESENT	Kathy Wilder* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Haley Fleming (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) PRESENT	
Goff French (Smith-27) PRESENT	
Theresa Howard (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Christy Johnson (Smith-27) PRESENT	
Michael Lambke (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Desiree Libby (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Peggy Lovejoy (Skow-53) PRESENT BY REMOTE	
Brandy Morgan (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Gary Sinclair (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Karen Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	

1. Call to Order

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

a. Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions

Senior and member of the Speech Team, Lizzie Stevens, presented her storytelling piece “*The Nightingale*”, by Hans Christian Anderson.

3. Approval of the Minutes

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Goff French, to approve the minutes of the following minutes:**

- Board meeting of 3/11/21
- Support Services Committee meeting of 3/17/21 (Item 5a)

**The MOTION PASSED with all members present voting YES by ROLL CALL. (751 YES)**

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to retire from Ann Wishart, custodian at Somerset Career and Technical Center, effective June 2021.

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Kyah Lang, Ed Tech at Mill Stream Elementary School.

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Joshua Lichner, Transportation Aide.

b. School Personnel – There were no school personnel who wished to speak.

c. Visitors – There were no visitors who wished to speak.

5. Committee Reports

a. Support Services Committee – 3/17/21

Jean Franklin, Committee Vice Chair, reviewed the minutes of the Support Services Committee meeting of 3/17/21, and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation:

**ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Goff French, the Board voted to accept the grant awarded to Skowhegan Area Middle School from Perloff Foundation for a 3D Printer (\$365 value).**

**The MOTION PASSED with all members present voting YES by ROLL CALL. (751 yes)**

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

The Superintendent reviewed vacancies and recommended the Board's approval of page one the nominations.

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to approve nominations page one.**

**The MOTION PASSED with all members present voting YES by ROLL CALL. (751 yes)**

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of March 25, 2021, Canaan, Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield paid their March assessments. Cornville was outstanding for March. Monthly assessment payments are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

The Superintendent reported that the site application for the new elementary school is moving forward with the Margaret Chase Smith School site.

A meeting is scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup> with town representatives regarding moving the fields located on the site.

The Building Committee is scheduled to meet on April 7<sup>th</sup>, and meetings with staff at Bloomfield, Margaret Chase Smith and North Elementary schools have been set.

d. Update on Schools/Extra and Co-Curriculars/COVID-19

Marti Stevens Learning Center is currently fully remote and closed to in-person due to a positive COVID-19 case. There have been no additional cases as a result of the minimal exposure.

Administrators have moved to a shift of focusing on intervention and supports, resulting in advertising for positions. Discussions with the

Alfond Youth Center are taking place on potential afterschool programming options at Canaan and Mill Stream Elementary schools.

As a result of the next round of stimulus package coming out, focus on significant project expansion to Middle School cafeteria, as well as air handling and climate control systems at Mill Stream, Bloomfield and Canaan Elementary Schools are being considered.

A new system for meal deliveries include sending meal boxes home with students, which will be planned for April 1<sup>st</sup>, which is the day prior to the next Teacher Workshop Day.

An update on athletics include spring sports season is planned for a normal season length. The travel schedule is limited, with Middle School travel being local.

e. FY22 Status Quo Draft Budget

Health Insurance rates for 2021-2022 have not been released.

Many factors are still undetermined in regard to the 2021-2022 budget, including potential significant additional enrollment. The goal is to get students to return to in-school learning, including Pre-K and Kindergarten.

FY21 and FY22 Budget Valuation and Local Share Comparison sheets were shared.

f. Approval of 2021-2022 District Calendar

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to approve the 2021-2022 District Calendar as presented.**

**The MOTION PASSED with all members present voting YES by ROLL CALL. (751 yes)**

g. Other

i. Enrollment Report

Enrollment as of 3/11/21 was 2,251 (last report – 2,240)

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent updated the Board on what's been happening in our schools, including the following:

- 13 students have earned their diploma through the Adult Education Program so far this school year.
- A local grandmother in Canaan has been painting and hiding rocks on the playground at Canaan Elementary School, which will result in a reward if found
- March Madness at Mill Stream Elementary School. Kindness chain is spreading throughout the school for noticing acts of kindness.
- At SAMS, there has been an increase in in-person enrollment. March madness
- The SAHS Speech Team won the state champion competition, and the One Act Plays were held on 3/21/21. Junior, Jaycie Christopher scored her 1,000 point this basketball season. Boys Basketball had a great season, making it to the AB Central Maine Championship Game. Kim McEwen received the AP Computer Science Award for expanding young women's access to AP Computer Science for the 19-20 school year.
- The SCTC Student Leadership Group presented to our staff at the March 19<sup>th</sup> Teacher Workshop Day.
- The District was awarded a \$25,000 grant for youth mental health support.
- A competitive grant to provide additional support to students who do not typically get supports was awarded to the Margaret Chase Smith and Mill Stream Elementary School.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

Mark Bedard shared that Jaycie Christopher also won the girls state foul shooting championship, making 68 of 70 shots in the final to claim the championship.

Also acknowledged was Senior Miles Lambke, who has been selected to receive the 2021 Principal's Award, representing Skowhegan Area High School. The award, sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association, is given in recognition of a high school senior's academic achievement and citizenship.

9. Introduction of New Business

SAHS Principal Bruce Mochamer updated the Board on graduation and end of year plans for seniors. All events will go forward “as normal”, following social distancing guidelines. Scholarship night and Academic Awards night will be held, with parents, in separate assemblies based on cohort. Plans are also underway to hold a prom, also following social distancing guidelines.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools