

**Meeting of Board of Directors
August 22, 2024, 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 August 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area High School Library.

ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (698 present, 301 absent):

Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Mark Bedard* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Samantha Delorie (Norr-46) PRESENT	Janet Burrill* (Canaan-43) ABSENT
Valerie Coulombe (Norr-46) PRESENT	Jeannie Conley* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Karyn Curran (Skow-53) PRESENT	Janice Malek* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Lauren Fox (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Lynda Quinn* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) PRESENT	Timothy Williams* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Daniel Frey (Smith-27) PRESENT	
Tanya Groce (Skow-53) PRESENT	*excused
Theresa Howard (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Michelle Kelso (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Michael Lambke (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Desiree Libby (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Peggy Lovejoy (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Julian Payne (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Sara Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Michelle Taylor (Smith-27) PRESENT	

1. Call to Order

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

a. Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions

There were no scheduled presentations.

3. Approval of the Minutes - 8/8/24

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 8/8/24 into the record. (698 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

Superintendent Moody acknowledged and accepted letters of resignation from the following:

- Amy Arsenault, Art Teacher at SAMS
- Jessica Franzose, School Office Assistant at MSLC
- Joshua Hunt, Technology Ed Tech III
- Angela O’Neill, Ed Tech I at MSES

b. School Personnel

There were no school personnel who wished to speak.

c. Visitors

Senator Brad Farrin presented two legislative proclamations from the 131st legislature, honoring two MSAD 54 educators for their accomplishments: Kaley Brown, 2024 Somerset County Teacher of the Year, and Jonathan Moody, 2024 Maine Superintendent of the Year.

5. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

6. Superintendent’s Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

Superintendent Moody reviewed vacancies and recommended the Board’s approval of nominations.

ON A MOTION BY Sarah Bunker, seconded by Julian Payne, the Board voted to approve nomination pages one and two. (698 yes)

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

Superintendent Moody shared that as of August 22, 2024, Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock and Smithfield were current on their

monthly assessments. Skowhegan was outstanding for July and August. Assessments are due on the 20th of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

The Percent for Art Committee held their first meeting on August 15th. Superintendent Moody and Principal Myla Kreider joined committee members Sara Smith and Peggy Lovejoy, Architect Doug Breer as well as two artists from the community and rep from the Maine Arts Commission. The next committee meeting is scheduled for December 11th at 10:30 at the Superintendent's office.

Small group tours of the building site can be arranged for any interested board members; those interested should reach out to the Superintendent. Windows are scheduled to be delivered on 9/16/24, and installation will begin throughout the months of September and October.

Superintendent Moody shared that he was appointed as Superintendent Representative for the State on a Commission studying the State Board's role and duties and is specifically tasked with reviewing school construction and DOE certification.

d. Review/Update of Federal Projects

Finance Director Melannie Keister continues to move through reimbursements and is closing in on the spending. The Superintendent will share an update on federal spending in the future.

The Department of Education hosted a community conversation at the high school tonight. The goal is to bring educators, parents, students and business leaders together to discuss a shared vision for our schools. The DOE has been holding these in person conversations throughout the state for the past two months.

e. Select Representative to the Delegate Assembly

Samantha Delorie volunteered to be the Alternate Delegate Representative.

f. Summer Work

Assistant Superintendent Hatch shared that over the summer administrators and staff participated in Literacy and Science Curriculum Work and Training. Administrators spent three days of intense training

on a new evaluation model, which focuses on improvement of instruction and how administrators give feedback and track growth with our staff and target areas for improvement.

g. Start of School

Superintendent Moody shared that Opening Day for staff is set for Monday, August 26th, starting with breakfast at 7:15 in the high school cafeteria and followed by a districtwide welcome gathering for all staff. Board members are welcome to attend.

h. Other

Current enrollment, as of 8/22/24, was 2,119.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch reported that hiring is going well and the district is close to being fully staffed. The district has hired long-term substitutes, including retired teachers, to fill several vacancies.

The Assistant Support Services Manager, Jessica Brown, reported that custodians are excited to get back to second shift following a busy summer working to clean and prepare the schools for the opening.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

Michelle Kelso shared ranking statistics for Maine in the 90's consistently ranked first or second on the national assessment of educational progress in math and reading and now we are down to 36th in the nation.

9. Introduction of New Business

Julian Payne extended his appreciation to all involved in the preparation and planning for the End of Summer Cookout for summer staff.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools