

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
January 23, 2025, 7:00 p.m.  
Skowhegan Area Middle School**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 54 was held on January 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School Cafeteria.

**ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (807 present, 192 absent):**

Mark Bedard (Skow-53) PRESENT	Janet Burrill* (Canaan-43) ABSENT
Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Lauren Fox* (Mercer-16) ABSENT
Jeannie Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT	Daniel Frey* (Smith-27) ABSENT
Valerie Coulombe (Norr-46) PRESENT	Peggy Lovejoy* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Karyn Curran (Skow-53) PRESENT	Sara Smith* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Samantha Delorie (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) 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	
Janice Malek (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Michelle Taylor (Smith-27) PRESENT	
Timothy Williams (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Wayne Wofford (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Olivia Huff (Student Rep) PRESENT	

1. Call to Order

- a. Flag Salute – 7:00pm

2. Good News and Recognitions

The REACH Sewing Club presented to the Board. Students from Margaret Chase Smith School and Skowhegan Area Middle School shared some of the projects they have been working on.

3. Approval of Minutes – 1/9/25

**ON A MOTION BY Samantha Delorie, seconded by Timothy Williams, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of 1/9/25 into the public record. (807 yes)**

#### 4. Communications

##### a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted letters of intent to retire from the following:

- David Dorr, Director of Somerset Career and Technical Center, effective June 30, 2025
- Barbara Tracy, Grade 2 Teacher at Bloomfield Elementary School, effective June 2025
- Lorinda Waltz, Ed Tech at Skowhegan Area Middle School, effective June 2025

##### b. School Personnel

There were no school personnel who wished to speak.

##### c. Visitors

Cornville resident, Julian Payne, commented on the process of School Board Committee assignments.

#### 5. Committee Reports

##### a. Support Services Committee – 1/9/25

**ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Tanya Groce, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Support Services Committee meeting of 1/9/25 into the public record. (807 yes)**

Jean Franklin, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendations:

**ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to approve the establishment of the Laura Salley Memorial Scholarship. (807 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Michael Lambke, the Board voted to accept the listed donations. (807 yes)**

##### b. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 1/21/25

**ON A MOTION BY Karyn Curran, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 1/21/25 into the public record. (807 yes)**

Karyn Curran, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendations:

**ON A MOTION BY Karyn Curran, seconded by Samantha Delorie, the Board voted to adopt Policy DJE as revised. (807 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Karyn Curran, seconded by Valerie Coulombe, the Board voted to remove Policy IHBAL from the current list of District policies. (807 yes)**

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

**ON A MOTION BY Karyn Curran, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to approve nominations page one. (807 yes)**

b. Report on Assessment Payments to Date

Superintendent Moody shared that as of January 23, 2025, Canaan, Cornville and Mercer paid January assessments, with Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield outstanding for January. Assessments are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody shared that the Building Committee is scheduled to meet on 1/29/25 and will receive a full update on the building project, including a review of furniture purchase from Principal Myla Kreider and Asst. Support Services Manager Jessica Brown. The project is on track and coordination between the contractor, clerk/architect, district and the state has been productive and positive.

Building tours have been scheduled for staff at the beginning of February. The next Dine and Discuss, designed to bring staff together who will be consolidating into the new school, will be held February 26<sup>th</sup> and will review the draft schedule for staff feedback.

Discussion continues regarding traffic flow and drop of times. Support Services Committee will be discussing the possibilities of having crossing guard volunteers.

The Percent for Art Committee will be meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup> to view presentations by Artists for that portion of the project.

d. Budget Update

Superintendent Moody shared and reviewed a draft FY26 budget calendar. A concept draft summary will be shared with the Board at the February 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, with the full draft Status Quo Budget being distributed at the March 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. From there the Board will spend the next month going line by line through the budget.

e. Other

Superintendent Moody acknowledged the following:

- A Community Childcare meeting was held today. These meetings have included various local business representatives, including KVCAP, Redington-Fairview, New Balance, SAPPI, Skowhegan Savings Bank and others, to discuss childcare needs. The North Elementary site and the spaces by Bloomfield are being discussed as options for space. Plans to survey the community about childcare needs are being discussed to get community feedback.
- Following a meeting with the High School Principal and Athletic Director, various athletic needs will be reviewed and discussed at future Support Services Committee meetings. Several of these items would have significant budgetary impact and will need to be planned and weighed against other choices that the Board makes regarding both short and long term budget planning.
- Skowhegan Area High School hosted the second annual Youth Entrepreneurship Competition with the final round being held on January 21<sup>st</sup>. This was a huge success and highlighted several tremendous community partnerships. Many thanks to the volunteers who gave their time to both judge and come out and support the kids.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch shared the following:

- Middle and High School Math Department meetings are ongoing to discuss K-12 implementation of math practices and the ongoing K-12 curriculum work.
- Vertical ELA Committee is working on refining the vertical K-12 curriculum practices to align with updated state and federal standards in literacy.

Support Services Assistant Manager reported that a frozen pipe burst at the High School and a transformer blew at SCTC; crews were successful in getting this under control and school was not cancelled.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old or unfinished business.

9. Introduction of New Business not listed on the Agenda

Amy Rouse shared that this Saturday the High School will be hosting the Maine State Championship Speech and Debate Tournament.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools