

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
December 19, 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 December 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area High School Cafeteria.

**ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (761 present, 238 absent):**

Mark Bedard (Skow-53) PRESENT	Sarah Bunker* (Mercer-16) ABSENT
Jeanne Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT	Janet Burrill* (Canaan-43) ABSENT
Valerie Coulombe (Norr-46) PRESENT	Desiree Libby* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Karyn Curran (Skow-53) PRESENT	Michael Lambke* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Samantha Delorie (Norr-46) PRESENT	Timothy Williams* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Lauren Fox (Mercer-16) PRESENT	
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) PRESENT	
Tanya Groce (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Theresa Howard (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Michelle Kelso (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Peggy Lovejoy (Skow-53) PRESENT	*Excused
Janice Malek (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Julian Payne (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	Daniel Frey (Smith-27) arrived at 7:22 pm
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Sara Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Michelle Taylor (Smith-27) PRESENT	
Olivia Huff – Student Representative - PRESENT	

1. Call to Order
  - a. Flag Salute – 7:00pm

2. Good News and Recognitions

There were no scheduled presentations.

3. Approval of Minutes – 12/5/24

**ON A MOTION BY Michelle Taylor, seconded by Lauren Fox, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of 12/5/24 into the public record. (761 yes)**

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted the following resignations:

- Erica Waugh, Special Education Teacher at Canaan Elementary School, effective March 2025.
- Jessica Roy, Elementary Librarian Ed Tech III, effective 12/6/24.

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. Personnel Committee – 12/5/24

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Michelle Kelso, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting of 12/5/24 into the public record. (761 yes)**

Theresa Howard, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes. There were no recommendations.

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

**ON A MOTION BY Tanya Groce, seconded by Sara Smith, the Board voted to approve nominations page one. (761)**

b. Report on Assessment Payments to Date

Superintendent Moody shared that as of December 19, 2024, Mercer paid December assessment and Canaan, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield were paid through November. 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 Parent Advisory Committee met via zoom on 12/18/24, with new members joining. Administrators hosted a virtual discussion of the new school for the Committee including updates from the Clerk of the Works reports.

The Percent for Art Committee met on 12/11/24, and selected five semi-finalists who will present to the Committee on 2/12/25.

The next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm on 1/29/25, and will receive a full update on the building project.

d. Budget Update

Superintendent Moody shared that after meeting with all staff, a budget freeze is now in place on the FY25 budget. Other than ongoing necessary programmatic spending, all additional spending has been frozen for the remainder of the school year.

e. State DOE/Legislative Update

Superintendent Moody shared a copy of LD 63, pertaining to school boards and the responsiveness to the public. The Superintendent shared that statute indicates that although directors are elected from their respective towns, once elected, a Board Member's responsibility is as a "Director" of the district.

The Superintendent shared his work with the State Board of Education to increase the allowability for non-traditional routes to educational certification for citizens, something the Board has shown interest in supporting. He is hopeful that through the revision of Ch. 115, there will be greater flexibility to work with community members to help them work toward certification while serving in important positions in the schools.

f. Other

Superintendent Moody acknowledged the following:

- Deb Tanner's Sweet Dreams project
- Thanked the Board for being engaged
- Thanked administrators, staff and the Education Association for caring about what's best for kids.
- The Superintendent reminded the Board to complete his evaluation prior to the new year.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch shared that he met with the Professional Development Committee to continue planning for the Mark Workshop.

Jessica Brown, Assistant Support Services Manager, reported that all is well in Support Services.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old or unfinished business.

9. Introduction of New Business not listed on the Agenda

There was no introduction of new business not listed on the agenda.

10. Executive Sessions

a. Student Discipline Matter pursuant to Title I MRSA §405(A)

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Tanya Groce, the Board voted to enter into executive session at 7:22 pm, to discuss Student Discipline Matter pursuant to Title I MRSA §405(A). (761 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Valerie Coulombe, seconded by Mark Bedard, the Board voted to return to regular session at 8:35 pm. (761 yes)**

b. Personnel Matter pursuant to Title I MRSA §405(6)(A)

**ON A MOTION BY Michelle Kelso, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to enter into executive session at 8:44 pm, to discuss Personnel Matter pursuant to Title I MRSA §405(6)(A). (761 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Michelle Kelso, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to return to regular session at 8:45 pm. (761 yes)**

Julian Payne (Cornville) announced his resignation from the MSAD 54 Board of Directors, effective immediately.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools