

**Meeting of Board of Directors
April 9, 2020, 6:00 pm
REMOTE via Zoom**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 54 was held remotely via Zoom, on April 9, 2020, at 6:00 pm.

ATTENDANCE BY ROLL CALL (all present)

BOARD MEMBERS (999):

Mark Bedard (Skow-53) - PRESENT
Harold Bigelow (Skow-53) PRESENT
Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT
Maryellen Charles (Mercer-16) PRESENT
Jeannie Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT
Derek Ellis (Skow-53) PRESENT
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
Brandy Morgan (Norr-46) PRESENT
Jennifer Poirier (Skow-53) PRESENT
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT
Dixie Ring (Canaan-43) PRESENT
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT
Gary Sinclair (Corn-30) PRESENT
Karen Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT
Todd Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT
Kathy Wilder (Norr-46) PRESENT

1. Call to Order
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
Flag Salute followed.

2. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. School Board meeting – 3/5/20
 - b. Personnel Committee meeting – 3/5/20
 - c. Support Services Committee meeting – 3/12/20

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Jean Franklin, the
Board voted by roll call to approve the minutes of the Board of**

Directors' meeting of 3/5/20, the Personnel Committee meeting of 3/5/20, and the Support Services Committee meeting of 3/12/20 into the public record, including the acceptance of Skowhegan Conservation Commission's grant of up to \$2,000 to the SAHS Eco-Team to start a honey beekeeping project.

The MOTION PASSED with all members voting YES by ROLL CALL (999 YES)

3. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to retire from Patti Champagne, Grade 1 Teacher at Bloomfield Elementary School, effective June 2020.

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to resign from Melissa Eelman, Grade 5 Teacher at Margaret Chase Smith School, effective June 2020.

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to enter into the Maine State Retirement System/return to work from Kevin Withee, Cooperative Education Instructor, effective June 2020.

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to enter into the Maine State Retirement System/return to work from Melody Brann, Speech Pathologist, effective June 2020.

b. School Personnel

There were no School Personnel who wished to speak.

c. Visitors

There were no visitors who wished to speak.

4. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

There were no vacancies, nominations, recommendations to consider.

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of April 9, 2020, all six towns, including Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield were current on their monthly assessments, with April assessments due on the 20th.

c. Update and Vote on Distance Learning Plan

The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent reviewed the proposed Continuity of Education Plan for the delivery of District Learning, which can be found on the District's website.

The following motion was made:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Haley Fleming, to move that the RSU 54/MSAD 54 Board of Directors approve the proposed Continuity of Education Plan for the delivery of District Learning, as presented (see attached plan).

The MOTION PASSED with all members voting YES by ROLL CALL (999 YES).

d. Update on New School Construction Building Study

The Superintendent reported no new developments in the new school construction building study. The next steps will be to have the land behind the high school assessed as part of the building study.

e. Food Delivery Program & Possible April Vacation Delivery (2 days)

The Superintendent reported that in the last two weeks 62,000 meals were delivered to District families, and the numbers are increasing each day. Food will be delivered two days during April vacation.

The Superintendent commended staff and the school board for pulling together during this time.

f. Update on Assistant Superintendent Search

The Superintendent reported that initial interviews of six applicants for Assistant Superintendent have been held, of which two to three candidates will be recommended to the Personnel Committee for final interviews.

g. Update on Budget Development and Approval Process for 2020-2021

Budget development is ongoing; negotiations with the Education Association is ongoing. The process for budget approval for 2020-2021 is unclear. The Governor has moved the June Referendum date to July 14th. The exact process for budget approval will be clearer in the coming weeks. The Superintendent hopes to have a draft budget by late April or early May.

h. Update on COVID-19 District Plans

The Superintendent reported that following a meeting with Regional Superintendents, the consensus was to continue with remote learning for the remainder of the year, subject to change, and following statement was shared:

In light of the Commissioner of Education and Governor's guidance to plan on moving to remote learning through the remainder of the 2019-20 school year, the MSAD 54 School District will continue implementing our distance learning plan we have submitted to the Board of Directors. This plan includes the move to us providing universal level 2 learning opportunities following April vacation. In the event State and CDC guidelines change, in such a way that would allow a return to school, we would adjust our plans accordingly.

5. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent thanked staff for the ongoing communication with staff and parents. Remote meetings continue with Instructional Coaches, Administrators and School Staff meetings on a regular basis.

The Support Services Manager commend the support staff in the schools, at the Central Office and Bus Garage for the phenomenal work during this time.

6. Old and Unfinished Business

The Chair acknowledged all staff for the fabulous work being done for our students and community.

7. Introduction of New Business

Jeannie Conley asked if mental health resources are available. Mr. Moody shared that there are resources available on the COVID-19 link on the District's website. The District's Crisis Team continues to work on providing additional resources.

8. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools