

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
July 28, 2022, 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 July 28, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area High School Cafeteria.

ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (717 present, 272 absent):

Alicia Boulette (Skow-53) PRESENT	Rebecca Anderson (Smith-27) ABSENT
Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Mark Bedard* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Janet Burrill (Canaan-43) PRESENT	Daniel Frey* (Smith-27) ABSENT
Jeannie Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT	Michael Lambke* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Samantha Delorie (Norr-46) PRESENT	Morrigan McLeod* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Annemarie Dubois (Skow-53) PRESENT	Brandy Morgan* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) PRESENT	Gary Sinclair* (Corn-30) ABSENT
Theresa Howard (Corn-30) PRESENT	Jacqueline Wolinski* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Bruce Hurley (Mercer-16) PRESENT	
Desiree Libby (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Peggy Lovejoy (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Sara Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Timothy Williams (Skow-53) PRESENT	

1. Call to Order

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

a. Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions

Peggy Lovejoy shared that former alumni Ezekiel Russell (Zeke) was chosen for a special project in Boston called *Raining Poetry*, where dozens of poems were placed throughout the streets of Boston and are only visible when it rains. Zeke's poem about David Ortiz was placed at Fenway Park's Gate A Entrance. Zeke has written a book of poetry, which will be published next October.

3. Approval of the Minutes- 6/16/22

ON A MOTION BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Janet Burrill, the Board voted to a to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 6/16/22 into the record. (717 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

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

- Joseph Raymond, Computer/Network Technician
- Tabitha Brewer, Grade 4 Teacher at Canaan Elementary
- Nicole Beers, Grade 4 at Canaan Elementary
- Kelley Greenleaf, Transportation Assistant/Dispatcher

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to retire from Jane Bigelow, High School Guidance Office Assistant.

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to retire from Mona Violette, High School Special Education Teacher.

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 – 6/16/22

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting of 6/16/22 into the record. (717 yes)

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

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

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

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to approve nomination pages one and two. (717 yes)

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of July 28, 2022, all six towns (Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield) were current on their monthly assessments. Assessment payments due on the 20th.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody shared that the Middle School Project has delays with steel availability. A temporary wall will be added in the cafeteria until steel is constructed, which will mean it will be in place for the start of school.

KVCAP fundraising campaign to raise 2M toward the Early Childhood Center will kick off in the fall.

Assistant Superintendent Hatch shared the results of the first survey on the naming of the new elementary school. We received 266 responses with 31 different options. The top 3 were related to following:

- Margaret Chase Smith (41%)
- Skowhegan Area (24%)
- Riverhawks (9%)

We will plan to resend survey again in August and early September.

The Building Committee is scheduled to meet on September 7th at 6pm in the Middle School Library.

d. Update on Schools and The Start of the Year

Superintendent Moody shared that Principals and Teaching Staff are working hard and prepping for the opening of school. People are excited about the 2022-23 school year and focusing on instruction and ongoing work with curriculum and other projects.

e. Update on Federal Funds

Superintendent Moody reported that review of FY21 and FY22 federal fund reports continues and adjustments are being made to the federal grants.

The Superintendent discussed the Federal Funds Return to School Plan.

The FY21 Audit Report has been received and was in excellent standing. The Finance Committee will meet with our auditor to review the FY21 financials.

f. Other

Superintendent Moody shared that two of our schools (MSES and SAHS) did not qualify for the Community Eligibility Program (free lunch). This will require eligibility forms to be completed by all families and will not affect the free lunch for the 2022-2023 school year. District families must fill out these forms for the district to return these schools to the program for the 23-24 school year; if families do not complete these forms these schools may lose free lunch for all students. The district will work to get communication out to families in August.

The Soccer Boosters have the opportunity to build a new shack and would like to move forward with the project. The building is being donated by New England Rent to Own LLC, and Poulin Concrete Construction is doing the groundwork and slab. The Board supports the project and will go before the Support Services Committee for recommendation and formal approval at their next meetings.

The Superintendent thanked the board for their dedication to the students and for taking time out of their summer to meet.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent reported on the following:

- Eight teaching positions open, of which two are pending with six no potential hires
- 23 Ed Tech open positions with no applicants
- Summer School has ended as of today. There were 113 high school and middle school students participating; 8 students earned their diploma; 30 earned one credit; 15 earned 2 credits; and 3 earned 3 credits
- Over 200 Middle and High School students attended SCTC offerings, including Financial Lit/ Psych 101/Honeybee Husbandry/PE and Outdoor Leadership. Middle Schoolers attended camps on residential construction and robotics.
- SCTC partnered with JMG and Redington-Fairview with a Scrub Club to work on different aspects of health care field; as well as Somerset Public Health to do a Gateway to Opportunity in the Community; and Educate Maine and Project Log In on a “Girls Who Code” program.
- Title I Summer Programming held a Camp Lit program with 143 participated and R.E.A.C.H. after school program followed (156 students). A Parent Fair was held on the last day with 66 parents participating.

The Support Services Manager reported on the following:

- 17 support services openings
- The Maine Bond Bank has approved our 1.8 Million Dollar interest free loan for the revolving loan fund
- Finalizing bid specs on the Elevator Project
- Canaan project submittals for materials are coming in
- Bloomfield windows project will be going out to bid

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old and unfinished business

9. Introduction of New Business

There was no introduction of new business

10. Executive Session – Consultation with Legal Counsel *pursuant to MRSA §405(6)(E)*

ON A MOTION BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to enter into executive session at 7:54 pm to discussion consultation with Legal Counsel *pursuant to MRSA §405(6)(E)* (717 yes)

The Board returned to regular session at 8:01 pm

11. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools