

**RSU 54/MSAD 54**

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
January 9, 2020, 7:00 pm  
Skowhegan Area Middle School**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 54 was held on January 9, 2020, at 7:00 pm at Skowhegan Area Middle School. Mark Bedard\*, Maryellen Charles\*, Jeannie Conley\*, Derek Ellis\*, Jean Franklin\*, Jennifer Poirier\* and Kathy Wilder\* were absent.

\*excused

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.  
Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions

There were no scheduled presentations for this meeting.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 12/19/19

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Goff French, the Board  
voted to approve the amended minutes of the Board of Directors’  
meeting of 12/19/19, into the public record. (682 yes)**

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent read his formal letter of intent to retire, effective June 30, 2020 (see attached).

b. School Personnel

There were no school personnel who wished to speak.

c. Visitors

Gloria Gordon commented on the Nickname/Mascot feedback process and high school bathroom renovation concerns.

Cecile Gray commented on the timeline of the Nickname/Mascot process.

Shelly Dodge commented on her concerns with the high school bathroom renovations and high school lunch options for students during 3<sup>rd</sup> lunch.

5. Committee Reports

a. Support Services Committee – 12/19/19

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Haley Fleming, the Board vote to accept the minutes of the Support Services Committee meeting of 12/19/19 into the public record. (682 yes)**

Theresa Howard reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendations:

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Goff French, the Board voted to approve the establishment of the Ted H. Mathieu Scholarship. (682 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Peggy Lovejoy, seconded by Todd Smith, the Board voted to accept the listed donations. (682 yes)**

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

**ON A MOTION BY Dixie Ring, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to approve nomination pages 1 and 2. (682 yes)**

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of January 9, 2020, Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock and Smithfield were current on their monthly assessments, with January assessment due on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Skowhegan was outstanding for December and January.

c. Update on New School Construction Project

The Superintendent shared that he serves on the DOE's School Construction Committee, and at a recent meeting he had the opportunity to speak with Scott Brown, Director of DOE's School Construction Programs, in regard to the new construction project including space for 3-year old students in PreK.

The Building Committee minutes of January 6, 2020 were reviewed:

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Building Committee meeting of January 6, 2020, into the public record (amended to add Peggy Lovejoy as present). (682 yes)**

Theresa Howard reviewed the minutes. There were no recommendations. The next meeting of the Building Committee is scheduled for January 27, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Superintendent's Office.

d. Update on Step 1 of MSAD 54 Nickname/Mascot Transition Plan

The Superintendent reviewed the draft Feedback Forms (hardcopy and online) for suggestions regarding the Nickname/Mascot and Related Imagery process. The form will be distributed next week to District Schools, Town Offices, Libraries, etc, and available online. A notice to community members will be posted in the Morning Sentinel with information regarding the form.

Christy Johnson suggested adding a QR code to the form to make the online version more easily accessible.

e. Other

The Superintendent shared the current enrollment report for PreK-12 – 2,369.

The Support Services Committee meeting set for February 6<sup>th</sup> will be moved to Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm. The Finance Committee will meet with the District's auditor to review the FY2019 audit report on February 6, 2020, at 6:00 pm, prior to the Board meeting.

The RSU 54 Poverty Results for September through December were shared with the Board. The percent of poverty has gone from 63% in September to 59% in December, and represents a decrease of 105 kids, which is a positive effect on the economy yet a decrease in federal funding.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent shared that the DOE's public portal on school data will be updated and available in approximately a month.

The Title I Audit is complete with no errors reported from DOE. Also, the Special Education Audit is complete.

On Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, a press release is scheduled at Educare Central Maine in Waterville, for the unveiling of LD1760, "An Act To Support Children's Healthy Development and School Readiness".

The Support Services Manager shared that pellet boiler is running well and burning approximately 6 ton of pellets per day.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

Dixie Ring would like to see the high school bathroom renovations completed and improvement in the high school lunch issues.

Gary Sinclair inquired about Tier III School status being discussed at the committee level. Mr. Moody commented that a presentation on Tier 3 School status will be on the agenda for an upcoming Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting.

9. Introduction of New Business

There was no introduction of new business discussed.

10. Executive Session – Personnel Matter pursuant to *Title I MRSA §405(6)(A)*

**ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Todd Smith, the Board voted to enter into executive session at 7:48 pm, to discuss a personnel matter. (682 yes)**

The Board returned to regular session at 8:00 pm and the following recommendation was made:

**ON A MOTION BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Dixie Ring, the Board voted to approve the nomination of Jonathan Moody as Superintendent of Schools for RSU 54/MSAD 54 in accordance with the contractual terms outlined, with a three-year contract. (682 yes)**

The Board adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools