

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
October 19, 2023, 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 October 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School Cafeteria.

ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (758 present, 241 absent):

Mark Bedard (Skow-53) PRESENT	Annemarie Dubois* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Daniel Frey* (Smith-27) ABSENT
Janet Burrill (Canaan-43) PRESENT	Cheyenne Goodrich* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Jeannie Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT	Bruce Hurley* (Mercer-16) ABSENT
Karyn Curran (Skow-53) PRESENT	Janice Malek* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Samantha Delorie (Norr-46) PRESENT	Timothy Williams* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Michael Lambke (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Peggy Lovejoy (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) PRESENT	
Desiree Libby (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Theresa Howard (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Michelle Kelso (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Julian Payne (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Sara Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Michelle Taylor (Smith-27) PRESENT	

1. Call to Order

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

a. Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions

Myla Kreider, Principal of Canaan Elementary School, presented to the Board on various events taking place at the school, including:

- Thanks to the Paint for Brighter Future grant, the school walls are being painted. Appreciation for our custodial crews and Quinn Hardware was acknowledged.
- Grandparents Day was a huge success, with 140 attending the luncheon.
- Canaan will host its Trunk or Treat event on October 28th.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 10/5/23

ON A MOTION BY Mark Bedard, seconded by Samantha Delorie, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors’ meeting of 10/5/23 into the record. (758 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

Superintendent Moody acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Makayla Robinson, Ed Tech at Canaan Elementary School.

Superintendent Moody acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to retire from Steven Russell, Custodian.

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. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 10/10/23

ON A MOTION BY Karyn Curran, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 10/10/23 into the public record. (758 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 Jean Franklin, the Board voted to adopt revised Policy IJOA – Field Trips and Excursions as written. (758 yes)

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

Superintendent Moody reviewed vacancies and recommended the Board's approval of nominations.

ON A MOTION BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Karyn Curran, the Board voted to approve nominations page one. (758 yes)

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

Superintendent Moody shared that as of October 19, 2023, Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock and Smithfield were current on their monthly assessments. Skowhegan was outstanding for August and September. Assessments are due on the 20th of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody reported that the new school construction project is on track for steel to arrive the first of December. Aerial footage of the project is being edited and will be posted on the website.

d. Review/Update of Federal Projects/Federal Funds

The Finance Director and staff continue working hard with federal compliance documentation to submit for reimbursements.

ESSER II (4M through end of December). ARP reimbursements are ongoing with 4M outstanding to spend out of that grant. Assistant Superintendent Hatch is working with our Technology Director, Dan Dwelley, to create a structure for a replacement plan for devices at approximately \$450,000 per year with a seven-year rotation, utilizing ARP funds and MILTI (State Program). A portion would be built into this year's budget with a portion built into next year's budget.

If CDS funding comes through before the new year, we can justify the 1.9M of the local only portion of the school construction project with zero cost to taxpayers.

e. Update on Schools

Superintendent Moody shared information on the REACH After School Program Open House Celebration scheduled for Saturday, October 28th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Skowhegan Area Middle School Gym.

Representatives from Senator Collins' office and potentially Senator Kings' office at the event as well as a representative from the National After School Alliance will highlight our program.

The High School and Tech Center are collaborating on a new process for course sign ups, starting with sharing details on courses with an interest survey to students, followed by a review and determinations based on the survey and put it back out to students to sign up.

f. Other

We have eight Board members signed up for the MSMA Fall Conference on October 26 and 27.

Julian Payne shared that he is attending the Delegate Assembly on October 25th as the Board's representing Delegate and asked for input on the various proposed resolutions that will be voted on.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch shared that walkthroughs have started in the schools with administrators as a group observing classrooms, as well as building walkthroughs with principals. Board Walkthroughs will be set and shared with board members for scheduling.

The Support Services Manager reported that the Canaan roof project is complete and the generator start up testing will take place next week. The SRRF grant money for the project was submitted and has been approved. The high school elevator is now delayed until mid-December.

Mr. Leavitt shared that foundation is being poured and should be completed before the steel arrives in early December.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

Peggy Lovejoy shared that she was pleased to see the return of the basketball hoop at Margaret Chase Smith School.

9. Introduction of New Business

In light of the legislative bill to extend lunch breaks to 30 minutes, Julian Payne asked how long lunch breaks are in the schools (20-25 minutes).

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools