

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
December 2, 2021 at 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 December 2, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School Cafeteria.

**ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (698 present, 301 absent):**

Mark Bedard (Skow-53) PRESENT	Annemarie Dubois* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Alicia Boulette (Skow-53) PRESENT	Peggy Lovejoy* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Jennifer Poirier* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Jeannie Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT	Dixie Ring* (Canaan-43) ABSENT
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) PRESENT	Kathy Wilder* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Daniel Frey (Smith-27) PRESENT	Jacqueline Wolinski* (Skow-53) ABSENT
Goff French (Smith-27) PRESENT	
Theresa Howard (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Michael Lambke (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Desiree Libby (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Morrigan McLeod (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Brandy Morgan (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Gerry Redlevske (Mercer-16) PRESENT	
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Gary Sinclair (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Karen Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	

\*excused

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 – There were no scheduled presentations.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 11/18/21

**ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Gerry Redlevske, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 11/18/21 into the record. (698 yes)**

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Samantha Wallace, Transportation Aide.

b. School Personnel

Canaan Elementary School Principal, Steve Swindells, thanked staff and administrators for all the support during his medical leave.

c. Visitors

A visitor commented on masking.

5. Committee Reports

a. Personnel Committee – 11/18/21

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting of 11/18/21 into the public record. (698 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 page one of nominations.

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Mark Bedard, the Board voted to approve nominations page one. (698 yes)**

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of December 2, 2021, all six towns were current on their monthly assessment payments. Assessments are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody updated the Board on the new school construction building project. A meeting with the State last week went well. The group came to consensus on adjustments to classroom size. There is a follow up meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> to continue discussion on space allocation and review of ed specs. Friday, architects revisited school in East Corinth to reassess the gym space, cafeteria and library. Nokomis High and Middle school were also visited at the recommendation of the state. The next committee meeting is scheduled for January 5<sup>th</sup>.

Federal Projects - The Superintendent and Support Services manager met with the town to discuss the middle school project. We anticipate only a minor permit will be required for the addition of classroom and cafeteria space. It is the hope of the district to break ground on the project this spring (2022).

d. Review of District Budget Revisions and Update on Federal Projects and Federal Funds

Superintendent Moody reported that in addition to the middle school project previously noted, we are moving forward with the COVID federally funded wireless network upgrade to increase the wireless capacity in the district. About half of federal funds are dedicated directly to classroom instruction and student supports (staffing etc.). Details are on the district website.

Superintendent Moody reviewed and recommended the Board's approval of the following motions regarding Supplemental State Subsidy for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Desiree Libby, the Board voted to authorize the sum of \$74,985.36 be used from MSAD 54 supplemental state funding for fiscal year 2021-2022 to make up for the loss of subsidy for the applied technology center program, with no increase in the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget and that the same amount be transferred from the CTE fund balance to the general fund balance. (698 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Jeannie Conley, the Board voted to authorize the sum of \$259,000 to be used from MSAD 54's supplemental state funding for fiscal year 2021-2022 for unbudgeted salaries, benefits, supplies and contracted**

**services, and that the Superintendent be authorized to adjust the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget and cost centers to reflect this increase. (698 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to authorize the sum of \$273,428 to be used from MSAD 54's supplemental state funding for fiscal year 2021-2022 for increases to salaries and benefits pursuant to collective bargaining and other negotiated contracts, and that the Superintendent be authorized to adjust the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget and cost centers to reflect this increase. (698 yes)**

e. Update on the Opening of School and COVID-19

Superintendent Moody shared that based on feedback, we will be shifting from daily to twice per week COVID-19 updates. The number of quarantines continue to minimize and is approximately three per case,

Board members are welcome to schedule a school walk-through by contacting the Superintendent's Office. Many positive things are happening in our schools, including the strawberry milk petition created by students at Margaret Chase Smith School. Students put together a survey and shared data with administrators, who agreed to introduce strawberry milk on Fridays, and there is a meeting scheduled to make a request to Oakhurst to make the school-size strawberry milk available.

December 8<sup>th</sup> is an early release day.

Thirty students were vaccinated at the November 29<sup>th</sup> COVID-19 vaccination clinic.

Superintendent Moody updated the Board on athletics. Current winter sports participation include: 21 alpine ski; 13 bowling; 32 boys basketball; 10 cheering; 16 girls basketball; 24 indoor track; 10 wrestling; and 25 unified basketball.

f. Other – PreK-12 Enrollment as of 12/2/21 was 2,265 (2,269 last report).

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch updated the Board on pooled testing. Nurses, administrators and staff pulled together for Monday testing following Thanksgiving break, which was very effective. The State has

canceled pooled testing during the week of school prior to Christmas break, which will affect our schools that week as we are in school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. There will be a plan in place for testing around Middle and High School student activities during the break.

The Support Services Manager reported that staff are getting ready for winter.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

Karen Smith inquired if the high school will be open for indoor walking this winter. Bruce indicated that this would be coordinated through adult education.

9. Introduction of New Business

Theresa Howard reminded Board members to return completed Superintendent Professional Assessments in a timely manner.

The Chair announced that there will be a holiday gathering prior to the December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools