

**RSU 54/MSAD 54**

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
June 1, 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 June 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School Cafeteria.

**ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (543 present, 403 absent, 53 vacancy):**

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

Jeremy Herrick, Social Studies Teacher at Skowhegan Area Middle School, presented to the Board on 3D Printing in the classroom. Through the Perloff Family Foundation, a grant has supported the addition of four 3D printers to Jeremy's classroom. Students in his skills block class, are given various problem-solving challenges to design. Students visited UMO to see their 3D Printed Designs, including a house and boat, as well as toured the construction of one of the world's largest 3D printers.

3. Approval of the Minutes - 5/18/23

**ON A MOTION BY Sarah Bunker, seconded by Julian Payne, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 5/18/23 into the record. (543 yes)**

4. Communications

a. Letters

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

- Maryanne Bernier, Reading Specialist at Margaret Chase Smith School
- Elizabeth Conley, Music Teacher at Skowhegan Area Middle School
- Loretta McCarthy, School Nutrition at Canaan Elementary School
- Mercedes Towle, Ed Tech at Skowhegan Area Middle School

Superintendent Moody acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to retire from Laurel Gustafson, School Office Assistant at Canaan Elementary School.

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 – 5/18/23

**ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting of 5/18/23 into the public record. (543 yes)**

Jean Franklin, Committee Member, reviewed the minutes. There were no recommendations.

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

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

**ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to approve nominations page one. (543 yes)**

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

Superintendent Moody shared that as of June 1, 2023, all six towns (Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield) were current on their monthly assessments. Assessments are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody shared that the contractor bid openings resulted in two bids coming in under budget for the school construction project, with Landry/French being the low bidder. Once the budget is finalized with the state, we will move forward with signing the contract with Landry/French. The Building Committee will meet on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

d. Review/Update of Federal Projects/Federal Funds

Superintendent Moody reported that the district had completed federal compliance documentation (Maintenance of Equity) for the federal covid monies. He noted that the District has spent the vast majority of federal funds on activities/items that directly impact students/instruction. The Superintendent noted that federal Covid relief funds will be going away following the 2023-24 school year.

e. School Safety Update

Superintendent Moody reviewed the updated MSAD 54 Safety Plan with the Board and recommended the Board's approval to begin the process of hiring a second School Resource Officer (SRO), as presented.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY Daniel Frey, seconded by Jean Franklin to support the Superintendent moving forward with the proposed Safety Plan for the SRO implementation in the specified cost range of \$73,211 to \$77,074.**

Discussion ensued and following questions, comments and clarifications, **THE MOTION PASSED. (490 yes, 53 abstain)**

f. End of Year Event

Superintendent Moody shared that graduation is Sunday, June 4th at 1:00; Marti Stevens Learning Center graduation will take place Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>; and Adult Ed graduation is scheduled for Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. These end of year events represent significant accomplishments of our students and a tremendous amount of work on the part of students, staff, and our families.

g. Other

Superintendent Moody followed up with the Board on the topic of building tennis courts on the SAMS/SAHS campus. He updated the Board on the funding options for tennis courts and the positive impact it would have on the students – including physical education programming, and on-site access for both school-day and after-school activities. Mr. Moody shared that the district can explore using remaining federal Covid-relief funds to support the project and will use local funds that had been saved through the state's Revolving Renovations Fund(SRRF) projects to cover costs not allowable under the federal funds. Superintendent Moody shared that the district had \$735,497 in funds that were not expended and were available should the Board chose to move forward with building tennis courts. The Board discussed the merits of the project and the Superintendent answered questions.

**ON A MOTION BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Daniel Frey, the Board voted to support the construction of tennis courts as presented, not to exceed the amount available (\$735,497) should federal funds not cover the cost of the project. (543 yes)**

Enrollment Report for 6/1/23 was shared – 2,250 (2,257 last report).

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch updated the Board on the hiring process. There are currently 21 Ed Tech openings and eight Teacher openings.

The Support Services Manager shared that the Bus Garage is moving to its temporary location located at the DOT lot on Route 2 in Skowhegan.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old and unfinished business discussed.

9. Introduction of New Business

There was no introduction of new business.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 8:31pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools