

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
September 1, 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 September 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area High School Cafeteria.

ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (774 present, 225 absent):

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

Skowhegan Area High School's new Athletic Director, Brian Jones, presented to the board on the start of fall athletics.

3. Approval of the Minutes - 8/18/22

ON A MOTION BY Jacqueline Wolinski, seconded by Mark Bedard, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 8/18/22 into the record. (774 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

There were no letters to share.

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. Support Services Committee – 8/18/22

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Desiree Libby, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Support Services Committee meeting of 8/18/22 into the public record. (774 yes)

Jean Franklin, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation:

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to accept the donation of twenty-five \$100 gift cards for area students that need assistance with clothes and school supplies. (774 yes)

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 Jean Franklin, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy,
the Board voted to approve nomination pages one through four.
(774 yes)**

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of September 1, 2022, Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock and Smithfield were current on their monthly assessments. Skowhegan was outstanding for July and August. Assessments are due on the 20th of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody reported that the new elementary school project is going well. The Building Committee is scheduled to meet on September 7th at 6pm in the Middle School Library.

The Fundraising Committee (KVCAP - Campaign for the Skowhegan Area Early Childhood Center) has secured a \$250,000 donation to their Early Childhood Center. The Funding committee will be holding a kickoff event later in September which will formally begin the campaign.

A survey for naming the new elementary school will be posted to the website for a second time, to gather suggestions from community members and students in the process of selecting a name for the new school.

d. Update on Return to School Plan and Review of Federal Funds

Superintendent Moody reported on the various federally funded projects, including the Middle School Expansion project, which is projected to be completed by April. There was a delay due to the availability of steel; the steel arrived and has been put in place. It is anticipated that the addition be closed in before winter.

Window replacement bids are out for Bloomfield and we expect to have information to the Board for the next meeting. The Wireless Infrastructure project has been delayed as a result of supply shortages, but we are hopeful it will begin soon. All federal funds are on a timeline:
ESSER I (Cares): Obligated by September 2022
ESSER II: Obligated by September 2023
ARP: Obligated by September 2024

e. Update on Schools and the Start of the Year

Superintendent Moody shared his PowerPoint presentation to staff on the opening day which focused on the district Mission, Vision and Guiding Beliefs. Staff are working to focus on school culture and climate to start the year and are incredibly excited to have students return to school in much the same way they have in the past (pre-Covid).

f. Other

Superintendent Moody shared the 9/1/22 enrollment report (2,161).

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent reported on the following:

- The New Teacher Orientation days were extended to three days to focus more on guiding beliefs. There were 51 new staff (from this year and last) who attended various trainings by our district coaches, including best practices in literacy instruction, expectations in district, and how to access the curriculum. Other training included Trauma informed training with Renee Stevens, and Dylan Engler, and KVCAP staff coordinated the mandatory reporting training.
- The opening of school went very well with positive energy in classrooms.
- Interviewing for ed tech openings continues. In an attempt to increase the number of substitute teachers/ed techs in the district, a meeting with Thomas College is scheduled to interview students for potential substitute teaching jobs.

The Support Services Manager reported that a meeting was held with the Department of Transportation to discuss the relocating the bus garage next year.

A few of the high school students hired to work with the custodial staff this summer will be continuing to work throughout the school year; the students have done a great job working for the district.

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. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools