

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
December 15, 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 December 15, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area High School Cafeteria.

ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (598 present, 401 absent):

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

Attorney Chelsey Carrier, of Skowhegan, presented to the Board on the Skowhegan Backpack Program and Pantry Program. Funding for these programs is made possible through various community donors, including New Balance Foundation, High Family of Dealerships, Animal Medical Clinic and Gorman Foundation. Somerset Public Health facilitated a grant from Good Shepherd Food Bank and selected the Skowhegan Backpack Program as one of four programs to receive funding, which will be used to convert an outbuilding at the SCTC into a district-wide pantry and packing facility for the weekly bags and storage facility for food and supplies.

Chelsey organized a successful “November Days of Giving” for 200 food box sponsors. With the help of volunteers, school groups packed 230

holiday food boxes, which were delivered by SCTC staff to MSAD 54 families in need.

3. Approval of the Minutes - 12/1/22

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 12/1/22 into the record. (598 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

Superintendent Moody acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to retire from Louise Pike, Title I Ed Tech II at Canaan Elementary School, effective June 2023.

Superintendent Moody acknowledged a letter of resignation from Cody Killam, Custodian at Skowhegan Area Middle School.

b. School Personnel - There were no school personnel who wished to speak.

c. Visitors - There were no visitors present who wished to speak.

5. Committee Reports

a. Building Committee – 12/7/22

ON A MOTION BY Sarah Bunker, seconded by Timothy Williams, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Building Committee meeting of 12/7/22 into the public record. (598 yes)

Superintendent Moody 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 nominations.

ON A MOTION BY Samantha Delorie, seconded by Timothy Williams, the Board voted to approve nominations page one. (598 yes)

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of December 15, 2022, all six towns (Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield) were current on their monthly assessments. Assessments are due on the 20th of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody updated the Board on the New School Construction Building Project, including:

- Focus on the playground designs continue, with much feedback from students and staff.
 - The January 4th Building Committee meeting will be important as we finalizing the school entrance design.
 - Naming results were shared with Margaret Chase Smith Community School being the top choice.
 - A breakdown of the number of Naming Opportunities by room/availability/donor amounts and status was shared. The board had previously supported the list of naming opportunities in July of 2022. The full list of individual donor names will be shared/reviewed as a complete list at a later date.
- d. Review/Update of Federal Projects/Federal Funds and Review of MSAD 54's Plan for a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

Superintendent Moody shared MSAD 54's Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services and recommended the Board's approval to reaffirm the plan as presented to continue to follow Federal CDC guidance.

ON A MOTION BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board approved to reaffirm the MSAD 54's Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services as presented. (598 yes)

Superintendent Moody updated the Board on the status of federal funds and reported that we are on track to meet the December 30th deadline to submit ESSER I spending.

e. Update on Schools

Superintendent Moody recognized SCTC Director, David Dorr, and administrators for their work with the Skowhegan Food Pantry.

Superintendent Moody shared information on an overnight field trip for SCTC's CNA students to the University of Maine at Fort Kent. The Board supported the field trip.

f. Other

Superintendent Moody shared and reviewed a Resolution to Authorize Lease Purchase of Three (3) New School Buses in the Principal Amount of \$373,025.99. Skowhegan Savings Bank was the low bidder at an interest rate of 4.75% for a term of up to five (5) years. The goal is to purchase three (3) buses per year and rotate buses over a ten (10) year cycle. The District will be reimbursed by the State at roughly a 60/40 rate (state/local).

ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to adopt the Resolution entitled, "Resolution to Authorize Lease Purchase of Three (3) New School Buses in the Principal Amount of \$373,025.99 in the form presented at this meeting. (598 yes).

Superintendent Moody shared the results of the top three (3) logos for the MSAD 54 Aspire River Hawks. Superintendent Moody reported that ideas from students were collected and staff and students voted on seven (7) logos. Logo #1 received the most votes and recommended the Board's approval, as follows:

ON A MOTION BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to approve the First Choice for the MSAD #54 Aspire River Hawks Logo. (598 yes)

Superintendent Moody reviewed the process for snow day decision, which include communication with meteorologist Russ Murley and

surrounding school districts. If school is canceled, athletics are also generally canceled.

Enrollment Report was shared – 2,243 (2,246 last report).

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch's report was focused on the MSAD Aspire River Hawks Logo (see 6f above).

Support Services Manager, David Leavitt, reported that the Canaan Elementary School project is scheduled to start on December 27th and will continue during school vacations.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old and unfinished business.

9. Introduction of New Business

Mark Bedard acknowledged the SCTC Carpentry students for building osprey nest for placement on the tops of CMP polls.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools