

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
June 15, 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 15, 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	Samantha Delorie* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Jeannie Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT	Cheyenne Goodrich* (Norr-46) ABSENT
Karyn Curran (Skow-53) PRESENT	Janice Malek* (Norr-46) 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	
Michael Lambke (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Desiree Libby (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Peggy Lovejoy (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Julian Payne (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	*excused
Sara Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Michelle Taylor (Smith-27) 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

Students from the SAHS Eco-Team, along with advisor, Kate Drummond, presented to the Board. Students shared data from their air quality testing at the high school.

3. Annual Reorganization Meeting

The Superintendent of Schools conducted the Election of a Board Chair.

a. Election of Chair

Jean Franklin nominated Lynda Quinn and Jeannie Conley seconded the nomination.

There being no other nominations, the Superintendent declared the nominations closed. **Lynda Quinn was elected Chair of the Board.**

a. Election of Vice Chair

Sarah Bunker nominated Amy Rouse and Jean Franklin seconded the nomination.

Julian Payne nominated Daniel Frey and Theresa Howard seconded the nomination.

There being no other nominations, the Chair declared the nominations closed. **By secret ballot, Amy Rouse was elected Vice Chair of the Board by a vote of 516 to 113.**

b. Election of Finance Committee Chair

Jeannie Conley nominated Jean Franklin and Theresa Howard seconded the nomination.

There being no other nominations, the Chair declared the nominations closed. **Jean Franklin was elected Chair of the Finance Committee.**

c. Election of Finance Committee

ON A MOTION by Jean Franklin and seconded by Janet Burrill, the Board voted to stay with the current members of the Finance Committee, Mark Bedard, Sarah Bunker and Lynda Quinn. (629 yes)

Chair Quinn recognized retiring high school principal Bruce Mochamer and thanked him for his dedication and service to the students and community of MSAD 54. Mr. Mochamer thanked the Board for its support.

4. Approval of the Minutes - 6/1/23

ON A MOTION BY Peggy Lovejoy, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 6/1/23 into the record. (629 yes)

5. Communications

a. Letters

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

- Lauren Heulitt, Weekend Custodian at SAHS
- Karen Laney, Grade 2 Teacher at Bloomfield Elementary
- Krista Ryder, School Nurse at Bloomfield Elementary
- Jamie Leo, Grade 2 Teacher at Bloomfield Elementary
- Amber Betts, Ed Tech at SAMS
- Whitney Pelletier, Ed Tech at Canaan Elementary
- William Vigue, Assistant Principal at SAHS

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

Resident Michelle Kelso spoke on the recent Skowhegan elections; Resident Vicky Wofford asked to distribute a handout to Superintendent Moody and Board Member Peggy Lovejoy; Resident Todd Smith congratulated recently elected Skowhegan Board members.

6. Committee Reports

a. Support Services Committee – 6/1/23

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Sara Smith, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Support Services Committee meeting of 6/1/23 into the public record. (629 yes)

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

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to accept the low bid of Landry/French as General Contractor for the Margaret Chase Smith Community School. (629 yes)

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to approval the removal of the trees along the high school access road and replanting with Rock Maple. (629 yes)

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Jeannie Conley, the Board voted to accept the following donations:

- Town of Skowhegan has donated \$1,000 to Adult Education to purchase an Ipad
- Canaan Elementary Food Cupboard has received a donation of \$500 from Maine Highlands FCU
- Marti Stevens has received a donation of two \$25 gift cards from Tractor Supply

(629 yes)

b. Building Committee – 6/6/23

ON A MOTION BY Michelle Taylor, seconded by Julian Payne, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Building Committee meeting of 6/6/23 into the public record. (629 yes)

Superintendent Jonathan Moody reviewed the minutes. There were no recommendations.

c. Finance Committee – 6/12/23

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 6/12/23 into the public record. (629 yes)

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

7. 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 Sara Smith, the Board voted to approve nomination pages one through four. (629 yes)

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

Superintendent Moody shared that as of June 15, 2023, 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. Computation and Declaration of Votes for Budget Validation Referendum

The Superintendent shared the Computation and Declaration of Votes of the District Budget Validation Referendum held June 13, 2023. A total of **624** affirmative and **205** negative votes were declared on Article 1, relating to the adoption of the District’s 2023-2024 budget.

ON A MOTION BY Janet Burrill, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted that the Computation and Declaration of Votes dated June 15, 2023, and attached hereto be approved.

FURTHER VOTED that the Computation and Declaration of Votes be entered upon the records of RSU 54/MSAD 54.

FURTHER VOTED that a certified copy of the Computation and Declaration of Votes be sent to each of the Municipal Clerks within the District.

(629 yes)

Attested copy attached hereto.

Following the vote, the Board of Directors signed the Computation and Declaration of Votes.

d. Approval and Signing of Assessment Warrants

ON A MOTION BY Janet Burrill, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to approve and sign the Assessment Warrants for the District's six towns, as presented. (629 yes)

Following the vote, the Board of Directors signed Assessment Warrants.

e. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody shared that the groundbreaking ceremony will take place in August and the fundraising committee will be holding a fundraiser that same day.

Superintendent Moody reported that the recent fundraiser at Bigelow Brewing raised nearly \$20,000.

f. Review/Update of Federal Projects/Federal Funds COVID-19

Superintendent Moody shared and reviewed the updated Federal Funds Summary, including spending timelines and summaries. Updated iteration of the plan and federal spending can be found on the district public page at <http://msad54.org/public>.

g. Update on Schools and the End of Year

Superintendent Moody expressed his appreciation to all staff and educators for all they are doing for students.

h. Other

With the next Board meeting not being until August 3rd, the Superintendent requested the Board's authorization to offer contracts to qualified teachers and staff during the summer months so that the District would not face the possibility of losing good candidates between Board meetings.

ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Jeannie Franklin, the Board voted to authorize the Superintendent to offer contracts to qualified teachers and staff during the summer months so that the District would not face the possibility of losing good candidates between Board meetings. (629 yes)

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch reported on the various school closing events.

The Support Services Manager shared that the crews are ready for a very busy summer.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old and unfinished business discussed.

9. Introduction of New Business

Chair Quinn congratulated Karyn Curran, newly elected and returning Board member from Skowhegan.

Janet Burrill thanked Jean Franklin, who brought happy meals for all Kindergarten and Grade 1 students at Canaan Elementary School to enjoy, along with playing BINGO. Jean Franklin thanked Principal Myla Kreider for having her at the school.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools