

**RSU 54/MSAD 54**

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
January 19, 2017, 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 January 19, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School. Paula Beach\*, Harold Bigelow\*, Ken Hogate and Karen Smith\* were absent.

\*excused

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions

Bloomfield Elementary School Principal Jean Pillsbury and teachers Kathy Dorko, Katie Kiger, Concetta Clark and Susan Nelson, presented to the Board on the Connect, Create, Move Days, which are planned events that allow students to connect their learning to real life situations, engage in creative processes and use their bodies in meaningful ways. CCM Days align to the PBE Guidelines. The first CCM day was held on November 17<sup>th</sup>, with two additional days planned before the end of the school year.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 1/5/17

**ON A MOTION BY Richard Irwin, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 1/5/17. (817 yes)**

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of intent to retire from Cheryl McGowan, Music Teacher at Skowhegan Area Middle School, effective June 2017.

- b. School Personnel – No School Personnel wished to speak.
- b. Visitors – No visitors wished to speak.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 1/10/17

**ON A MOTION BY Karyn Curran, seconded by Heidi Chartrand, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 1/10/17 into the public record. (817 yes)**

Karyn Curran, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendations:

**ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Jennifer Poirier, the Board voted to approve revised Policy JICIA: Weapons, Violence and School Safety; and adopt new Policy JICK: Bullying and Cyberbullying Prevention in Schools, as reviewed and submitted. (817 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Jerry Redlevske, the Board voted to approve Policy GCI: Professional Staff Development Opportunities, as reviewed and submitted. (817 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Jane Arthur, the Board voted to approve Policy ILD: Educational Research: Student Submission to Surveys, Analyses or Evaluations, as reviewed and submitted. (817 yes)**

The next meeting of the Educational Policy/Program Committee is scheduled for February 14, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

- b. Support Services Committee – 1/17/17

**ON A MOTION BY Jennifer Poirier, seconded by Jerry Redlevske, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Support Services Committee meeting of 1/17/17 into the public record. (817 yes)**

Jennifer Poirier, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation:

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Heidi Chartrand, the Board voted to accept donations totaling \$4,067.98 to the Bloomfield Elementary School; and a donation totaling \$2,046.68 from the Lebanon Lodge No. 116 to the Robotics Club. (817 yes)**

The next meeting of the Support Services Committee is scheduled for February 28, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

**ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to approve nomination pages one and two. (817 yes)**

b. Update on Assessment Payments from Towns

The Superintendent shared that as of January 19, 2017, all six towns were current on their monthly assessment payments. January assessments, which are due on the 20<sup>th</sup>, were outstanding for Canaan, Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield. Cornville's assessment payment for January was received.

c. Other

The Superintendent shared the following:

- Revolving Renovation Fund, if accepted, will need to go to a bond referendum. The Support Services Committee will discuss the options further at their next meeting.
- The District did not receive approval for federal funding to continue the After School Program. We will reapply for Century 21 Grant in April and in the meantime, the elementary and middle school programs will continue providing one to two nights per week.
- Preliminary 2017-2018 budget work continues. Highlights of the Governor's budget in regard to public education were shared, some of which include:
  - o Providing Incentives for Voluntary Regionalization Efforts

- Fund regional education service agencies to reduce administrative costs
- Incentivize grassroots, voluntary regional efforts
- Repeal the current EPS formula and replace it to provide funding to districts for direct instruction, accountability and teachers
- Statewide teacher contract that would fund a minimum salary and benefits for statewide teachers
- Adjust student-teacher ratios for smaller class size in K-3 and larger class size in higher grades
- The 2017-2018 draft calendar will be shared and reviewed by the SCTC surrounding districts and the Education Association.
- The first Unified basketball game will be held at the Skowhegan Area High School on January 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.
- The Finance Committee will meet with the District's auditors on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m., prior to the Board meeting, to review the 2016 audit report.

## 7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent updated the Board on activities taking places in each of the schools.

The Assistant Superintendent also reported on the following:

- Ongoing observations in the classrooms continue and have been very positive.
- Substitute Teacher/Ed Tech hiring continues. The District did make adjustments to substitute pay to help attract quality applicants.
- Professional development is continuing for staff, especially those members of the vertical curriculum committees. Trainings specific to our curriculum development, the build out of the requirements for graduation and Proficiency Based Education, with focus on scoring criteria and assessment continue.
- PEPG work on new evaluation plan continues as the District works through the last pilot year of the State's required new evaluation rollout.
- Artist in Schools program will take place for grades 3-6 on February 7th at SAHS.

The Support Services Manager reported that his office is working on 2017-2018 budget draft, capital improvement application, as well as gathering information for various bids for snow plowing and pellets that will go out this year.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

No old and unfinished business was discussed.

9. Introduction of New Business not listed on the Agenda

No new business was discussed.

10. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools