

**RSU 54/MSAD 54**

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
January 25, 2018, 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 25, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School. Derek Ellis\*, Desiree Libby\*, Jennifer Poirier\* and Lynda Quinn\* 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

Mill Stream Elementary School Principal, Terry Atwood, recognized School Nutrition employee Barbara Stevens, who has provided hand-made winter hats to many children in the school and community.

Mill Stream Elementary School Kindergarten Teachers Barbara Welch and Donna Hautala shared that the school is conducting a penny drive in an effort to inspire students to connect with member of their community. Money raised will be used to purchase books and packages of hot chocolate, which students decorated and dispersed to three local libraries (Mercer, Smithfield and Norridgewock). Students raised \$150 in the first two weeks of the challenge.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 12/21/17

**ON A MOTION BY Richard Irwin, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings of 12/21/17. (794 yes)**

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted letters of intent to retire in June 2018 from the following:

- Martha Douglas, Administrative Assistant at the Superintendent's Office
- Tammy Forgue, Grade 2 Teacher at Canaan Elementary School
- James Cook, Math Specialist
- Terry Atwood, Principal of Mill Stream Elementary School

b. School Personnel

Jeremy Lehan, Chief Negotiating Office for the MSAD Education Association, thanked the Board's Negotiating Committee and Administrators for their commitment to the negotiations process. The Association will meet on 2/13/18 to vote on the ratification of the contract.

Tim Downing, Board Chair, expressed his appreciation to Jeremy and the Association for their support.

c. Visitors

Skowhegan Selectman, Soren Siren, shared with the Board details of various old items the town auctioned off, resulting in over \$32,000, and encouraged the District to do the same.

5. Committee Reports

a. Personnel Committee – 12/21/17

**ON A MOTION BY Peggy Lovejoy, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting of 12/21/17 into the public record. (794 yes)**

Peggy Lovejoy, Committee Vice-Chair, reviewed the minutes. There were no recommendations.

b. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 1/16/18

**ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 1/16/18 into the public record. (794 yes)**

Amy Rouse, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation:

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Goff French, the Board voted to support and adopt revised Policy GCGB, as written. (794 yes)**

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

**ON A MOTION BY Peggy Lovejoy, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to approve nomination pages one and two. (794 yes)**

b. Report on Assessment Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of January 25, 2018, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock and Smithfield assessments were paid for January. Canaan and Skowhegan assessments were outstanding for January. Assessments are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

c. Other

The Superintendent shared the following information:

- The District enrollment as of 1/25/18 was 2,478 (last report-2,477)
- Unified Basketball Game Schedule was shared
- Unemployment Trust Fund rate for 2018-2019 has been reduced to 0.30% from 0.40%
- The next Board meeting will be on February 15, 2018. Subsidy printouts are expected by that date

The Superintendent asked the Board for its approval of a Field Trip Request by Margaret Chase Smith Teachers Linda Greenlaw and Mary Herrick. The trip would consist of fundraising efforts for bus transportation and expensed at no cost to the

District. Students would travel to Massachusetts and participate in an environmental project.

**ON A MOTION BY Jeannie Conley, seconded by Maryellen Charles, the Board voted to approve the proposed field trip request as presented. (794 yes)**

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent shared the following:

- Appreciation was acknowledged for the English Language Learners (ELL) Program presentation by Kathy Dorko, Coordinator and tutors to the Educational Policy/Program Committee on 1/16/18
- Proficiency Based Education planning continues
- 30 teachers attended a Dine & Discuss workshop on 2/1/18. The topic was writing in the elementary grades with a focus on the Lucy Calkins Program. Future Dine & Discuss workshops will take place throughout the school year.

The Support Services Manager shared that work is taking place on bus contract recommendation after receiving only one bid.

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. Executive Session – Superintendent’s Performance Assessment

**ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Richard Irwin, the Board voted to enter into executive session at 7:42 pm to discuss the negotiations. (794 yes)**

The Board returned to regular session at 8:11 pm.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools