

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
October 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 October 19, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School. Tim Downing*, Darcy Surette*, Karen Smith* and Todd Smith* were absent.

*excused

1. Call to Order

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

2. Good News and Recognitions

Bruce Mochamer, Principal of Skowhegan Area High School, introduced students Brianna and Taylor to the Board. Brianna and Taylor presented a proposal to the Board to establish a Spanish Club at the High School. The same proposal was presented to the Educational Policy/Program Committee on 10/17/17. The Spanish Club would be held once per week after school and will be supervised by Spanish teachers Donna Irish and Sara Nadeau. The club would focus on Spanish culture and would include various activities involving guest speakers, pen pals and Spanish cuisine days. There will be no cost to the District for this club.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 10/5/17

ON A MOTION BY Jennifer Poirier, seconded by Jeannie Conley, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings of 10/5/17. (836 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Hillary Arsenault, School Office Assistant at Margaret Chase Smith School.

b. School Personnel

Jeremy Lehan, Chief Negotiator for the MSAD 54 Education Association, along with several members from the Association were present. On behalf of the Association, Mr. Lehan expressed appreciation for an anticipated positive resolution to the contract negotiations

c. Visitors – No visitors wished to speak.

5. Committee Reports

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

ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Maryellen Charles, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 10/17/17 into the public record. (836 yes)

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

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Richard Irwin, the Board voted to support and approve the addition of a Spanish Club at the Skowhegan Area High School, at no cost to the District. (836 yes)

ON A MOTION BY Maryellen Charles, seconded by Goff French, the Board voted to support and adopt revised Policy JJA, Student Organizations, as written. (836 yes)

The next meeting of the Educational Policy/Program Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the Superintendent's Office.

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to approve nominations page one. (836 yes)

b. Report on Assessment Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of October 19, 2017, Mercer paid October Assessment; Canaan, Cornville, Norridgewock and Smithfield were outstanding for October, which is due on the 20th of each month; Skowhegan was outstanding for September and October.

c. Upcoming MSMA/MSBA Fall Conference

The Superintendent shared the agenda and details on the various clinics scheduled for the October 26-27 Fall Conference. There are currently 14 Board members registered to attend the conference.

d. SCTC Half-Time Coop Position

The Superintendent shared details on a Half-Time Cooperative Education Instructor position being created at the Somerset Career and Technical Center. The position will be funded by a grant for three years. This is a 20-hour per week position, primarily focused on the Cooperative Education Class at MCI and the MSAD 53 Alternative Education School. The following recommendation was made:

ON A MOTION BY Peggy Lovejoy, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to support the addition of a grant-funded Half-Time Cooperative Education Instructor at the Somerset Career and Technical Center. (836 yes)

e. Update on Chapter 232 Middle School CTE Law

The Superintendent updated the Board on the revisions to Rule Chapter 232, expansion of CTE to middle school. The revisions will provide a framework to develop and implement middle school career and technical education. The Department of Education is developing a funding plan for 2018-2019 to present to the Legislature, designed to ensure adequate resources for expansion. The direction is aimed at an experience for students rather than a program.

f. Other

The Superintendent shared the following information:

- The district enrollment as of 10/19/17 was 2,497 (last report-2,503).

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent updated the Board on various activities happening in the schools.

The Support Services Manager reported that the new physical requirements for school bus drivers will be based on the Department of Transportation standards, which included increased medical requirements.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

No old and unfinished business was discussed.

9. Introduction of New Business not listed on the Agenda

The decision was made to move the October 24th Support Services Committee meeting to Tuesday, November 21st at 6:00 pm at the Superintendent's Office.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools