

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
March 21, 2019, 7:00 PM
Skowhegan Area Middle School**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 54 was held on March 21, 2019, at 7:00 PM at Skowhegan Area Middle School.

1. Call to Order

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

2. Good News and Recognitions – SAHS Speech Team

Skowhegan Area High School Principal, Bruce Mochamer, introduced Speech and Drama Director, Maura Smith, and students Anna, Sophie and Taylor. Earlier this year the Speech Team won first place at the state championship tournament.

The Drama Team recently won the State Regional Competition and will compete in the State Class A Finals this weekend.

Taylor, shared with the Board his piece in the category “humorous interpretation”, for which he took first place at the statewide speech tournament.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 3/7/19

ON A MOTION BY Richard Irwin, seconded by Jennifer Poirier, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors’ meeting of 3/7/19, into the public record. (999 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted letters of intent to retire in June 2019 from the following:

- James Small, Art Teacher at Skowhegan Area High School
- Sandra Small, Ed Tech at Bloomfield Elementary School
- Martin Tracy, Bus Driver

The Superintendent shared a letter from five SAHS students in regard to the Board's vote on the usage of the Skowhegan Indian name.

b. School Personnel

There were no school personnel who wished to speak.

c. Visitors

- Five designated visitors spoke in regard to the Nickname/Mascot Issue.
- A concerned parent spoke in regard to bullying and the need to bring Rachel's Challenge program back into the schools.

5. Committee Reports

a. Finance Committee – 3/7/19

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 3/7/19 into the public record. (999 yes)

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

b. Support Services Committee – 3/14/19

ON A MOTION BY Mark Bedard, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Support Services Committee meeting of 3/14/19 into the public record. (999 yes)

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

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to approve the proposed outdoor classroom space near Marti Stevens Learning Center. (999 yes)

ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Derek Ellis, the Board voted to approve the establishment of the Quinn Family Scholarship and the Cornville School Fund Award. (999 yes)

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Mark Bedard, the Board voted to approve the following donations: \$100 to Canaan PTF in memory of Alice Morton; \$60 to Canaan Food Cupboard from Berry Family; \$500 for SAHS Ski Team from Skowhegan Savings Bank; \$88 to School Nutrition Program from Hannaford. (999 yes)

The next meeting of the Support Services Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the Superintendent's Office.

6. Superintendent's Report

- a. Board determination of any next steps in the process of addressing the Nickname/Mascot Issue

The Superintendent indicated that at this time there has been no actions taken or changes in relation to the process of implementation. The Superintendent recommended that we take our time while Administrators gather information and knowledge from other districts who have been through the process.

- b. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

ON A MOTION BY Jennifer Poirier, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to approve nomination pages 1 and 2. (999 yes)

- c. Update on Assessment Payments from Towns

The Superintendent shared that as of March 21st, Canaan and Cornville paid March assessment. Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield were outstanding for March. Monthly assessments are due on the 20th of each month.

d. Review of 1st Draft of 2019-2020 Status Quo Budget

Health Insurance rates are expected in early April. Once the rate increase information is received, we can update those numbers in the draft budget.

e. Approval of 2019-2020 School Calendar

The Superintendent shared the draft 2019-2020 School Calendar with one change from previous draft, and asked the Board for its approval.

ON A MOTION BY Todd Smith, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to approve the proposed 2019-2020 School Calendar. (999 yes)

f. Approval of Drama Team to attend 2019 New England Drama Fest

The Superintendent requested the Board's approval to approve the Drama Team to attend the New England Drama Festival in Rhode Island, pending qualifying at this weekend's State Finals.

ON A MOTION BY Lynda Quinn, seconded by Goff French, the Board voted to approve, the Drama Team to attend the 2019 New England Drama Festival in Rhode Island, contingent upon qualifying at the upcoming State Final Drama Competitions. (999 yes)

e. Other

The Superintendent reviewed a date change for District Budget meeting, which will be scheduled for Monday, May 20th.

Haley Fleming (Norr), will be attending the 276 FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia from March 29th through mid-June. The Board wished Haley the best of luck.

The Chair announced that the agenda for next meeting will include a discussion of a referendum vote as requested in a petition presented to the Board.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent distributed information on the Rachel's Challenge Program. He has been in communication with a representative from the program and will review details, including pricing, with the Educational Policy/Program Committee at its next meeting.

The Assistant Superintendent shared various activities taking place on our schools.

The Assistant Superintendent asked for the Board's approval to submit the 21st Century Grant Application, which will support after school programs in three of our schools.

ON A MOTION BY Peggy Lovejoy, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to approve the submission of the 21st Century Grant application. (999 yes)

The Support Services Manager updated the Board on positive DEP Review of Air Permitting License. The last delivery of pellets for the

Jennifer Poirier (Skow) commended Mr. Leavitt for all the work he has done, which is reflected in how smoothly the systems are running throughout the district.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old or unfinished business.

9. Introduction of New Business

There was no introduction of new business.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools