

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
April 25, 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 April 25, 2019, at 7:00 PM at Skowhegan Area Middle School. Haley Fleming*, Jean Franklin* and Goff French* were absent.

*excused

1. Call to Order

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

2. Good News and Recognitions

There were no scheduled presentations.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 4/4/19

ON A MOTION BY Richard Irwin, seconded by Jennifer Poirier, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 4/4/19, into the public record. (883 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Kayla Madore, Special Education Teacher at Bloomfield Elementary School, effective June 2019.

b. School Personnel

There were no school personnel who wished to speak.

c. Visitors

- Visitors spoke in regard to the Board's consideration of a non-binding vote regarding the Indian name, imagery and mascot at the June Referendum.

5. Board Consideration of a Non-Binding Vote/Survey on the June Referendum regarding the Use of the Indian Name, Imagery and Mascot

The Chair cited the Powers and Duties of the School Board from Maine School Law and Practice for Board Members published by Drummond Woodsum.

Following Board discussion and comments, the following motion was made:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Jennifer Poirier, seconded by Todd Smith, to place the following non-binding survey question before registered voters voting in the District Referendum on June 11, 2019, provided that the question will not be put before voters if the Act to Ban Native American Mascots in All Public Schools, LD 944, is enacted prior to the date of the referendum.

NON-BINDING SURVEY QUESTION
MSAD 54
June ____, 2019

Please check one box only:

_____ MSAD 54 should continue use of the Indian name, imagery and mascot.

_____ MSAD 54 should discontinue use of the Indian name, imagery and mascot.

EXPLANATION: The Board is conducting this non-binding survey to obtain input from registered District referendum voters regarding its decision, made March 7, 2019, to retire the Indian name, imagery and mascot from MSAD 54.

Following discussion, a motion was made to amend the original motion:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Lynda Quinn, to table the original motion until after the Legislature has made its decision on LD944, or no later than May 16, 2019.

The motion to amend failed (145 yes, 738 no)

The Board voted on the original motion by roll call.

The motion was denied:

YES (318): Mark Bedard 53; Harold Bigelow 53; Richard Irwin 53; Jennifer Poirier 53; Karen Smith 53; Todd Smith 53

NO (565): Sarah Bunker 16; Maryellen Charles 16; Jeannie Conley 53; Derek Ellis 53; Theresa Howard 30; Christy Johnson 27; Desire Libby 46; Peggy Lovejoy 53; Brandy Morgan 46; Dixie Ring 43; Amy Rouse 53; Darcy Surette 30; Kathy Wilder 46

There was a five minute recess before reconvening the meeting.

6. Committee Reports

a. Personnel Committee – 4/4/19 and 4/9/19

ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meetings of 4/4/19 and 4/9/19 into the public record. (883 yes)

Theresa Howard, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes of the 4/4/19 meeting. There were no recommendations.

Theresa Howard reviewed the minutes of the 4/9/19 Personnel Committee meeting and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation:

ON A MOTION BY Todd Smith, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to appoint Jeremy Lehan as Director of RSU 54/MSAD 54 Adult and Community Education, effective July 1, 2019. (883 yes)

b. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 4/9/19

ON A MOTION BY Sarah Bunker, seconded by Derek Ellis, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 4/9/19 into the public record. (883 yes)

There were no recommendations.

7. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

ON A MOTION BY Jennifer Poirier, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted to approve nomination pages 1, 2 and 3. (837 yes, 46 abstain)

c. Update on Assessment Payments from Towns

The Superintendent shared that as of April 25th, Canaan, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield were current on their assessment payments. Cornville and Mercer were outstanding for April. Monthly assessments are due on the 20th of each month.

d. Approval of Authorization to Transfer Between Warrant Articles

The Superintendent asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation to authorize the transfer between warrant articles:

That pursuant to section 1485(4) of Title 20-A, the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to transfer not more than 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center in the current fiscal year operating budget [*and not more than \$1,784,879 in the aggregate*] to another cost center or among other cost centers, provided that the total current fiscal year operating budget shall not be increased by such transfers. (883 yes)

e. 2019-2020 Proposed Draft Budget

The Superintendent reviewed the 2019-2020 Proposed Draft Budget, which totals \$36,767,926, a 2.99% increase from last year.

The Local Appropriations required is \$14,240,284, which is \$31,683 more than the current year.

The Superintendent asked the Board for a recommendation to adopt the proposed budget:

ON A MOTION BY Lynda Quinn, seconded by Derek Ellis, the Board voted to approve the 2019-2020 proposed budget as presented. (883 yes)

An Informational Public Hearing on the 2019-2020 Proposed Budget will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2019 at the Skowhegan Area Middle School Cafeteria, prior to the Board meeting. The Board will sign warrants at the May 2nd meeting. The District Budget Meeting will be held on Monday, May 20th at 7 pm at the Skowhegan Area High School Gymnasium.

Through the month of May, the Superintendent will attend various Selectmen's Meetings to share budget information.

8. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent updated the Board on the following:

- Through the Maine College Circle Aspirations Grant, \$100 scholarships were awarded to 30 students in Grades 3-6. Mr. Moody thanked the committee and various business who help fund the scholarships and provide educational and inspirational workshops to the students.
- The New Balance Foundation has once again generously fully funded the Healthy Kid Program, providing \$80,000 for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Changes to the *SchoolTalk* newsletter has resulted in a more consistent newsletter. Jeremy Lehan, editor, Jeremy Bourque, Digital Graphics and Dominic LaFlamme, coordinator were acknowledged and thanked for their work on the newsletter.
- A letter will be sent home with all students regarding concerns of bullying and harassment and to address issues that exist around school culture and to encourage families to reach out to help.

The Support Service Manager was not present.

9. Old and Unfinished Business

Todd Smith asked for an update on the track.

10. Introduction of New Business

Peggy Lovejoy recently attended a field trip with Bloomfield students to Colby College. She was pleased that the District has an approval process for volunteers, which she had to complete as well. Peggy also recently attended Art Night at Margaret Chase Smith School.

11. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools