

**RSU 54/MSAD 54**

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
June 6, 2019, 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 June 6, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School. Mark Bedard\*, Haley Fleming\*, Desiree Libby\*, Lynda Quinn\* and Karen Smith\* 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

High School Physics Teacher Scott Pillsbury, along with students Olivia and Meredith, presented to the Board on the Kleinschmidt Windstorm Challenge they participated in at UMO in May. Students designed and constructed a floating platform for a scale model wind turbine. Teams were judged on the stability of their design as well as their oral presentation to a panel of judges.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 5/16/19 and 5/20/19

**ON A MOTION BY Richard Irwin, seconded by Jennifer Poirier, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 5/16/19 and 5/20/19, into the public record. (748 yes)**

4. Communications

- a. Letters – There were no letters shared.
- b. School Personnel – There were no school personnel who wished to speak.
- c. Visitors – There were no visitors who wished to speak.

5. Committee Reports

a. Personnel Committee – 5/16/19

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting of 5/16/19 into the public record. (748 yes)**

Theresa Howard, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes. There were no recommendations.

b. Support Services Committee – 5/30/19

**ON A MOTION BE Jennifer Poirier, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Support Services Committee meeting of 5/30/19 into the public record. (748 yes)**

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

**ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to allow KVCAP to place storage shed at Mill Stream Elementary School for equipment storage. (748 yes)**

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to approve the acceptance of donations as listed. (748 yes)**

The next meeting of the Support Services Committee is scheduled for 6:00 pm on 6/13/19 at the Superintendent's Office.

c. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 6/4/19

**ON A MOTION BY Richard Irwin, seconded by Sarah Bunker, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 6/4/19 into the public record. (748 yes)**

Amy Rouse, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes.

There was a recommendation that the Board support and adopt draft policy GBEB: Staff Conduct with Students, which was tabled until the Education Association has reviewed the draft policy.

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

**ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to approve nominations page 1, 2 and 3. (748 yes)**

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of June 6, 2019, the towns of Canaan, Cornville, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield were current on their monthly assessments, with June due on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Mercer was outstanding for May and June.

c. 2019-2020 Budget Updates

The Superintendent reported on the following:

- The current budget is on target for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.
- The District Budget Validation Referendum is June 11<sup>th</sup>

d. Other

- The Department of Education approved the Interlocal Agreement for the Kennebec Alliance
- LD989 – Increase minimum teacher salary to \$40,000, is being reviewed by the Appropriations Committee.
- LD240 – An Act to Allow Public Employers of Teachers to Negotiate Regarding Educational Policies. Maine School Management Assoc. urged School Boards to approve and sign a Resolution in Opposition to LD240. Following discussion, the following motion was made:

**ON A MOTION BY Jennifer Poirier, seconded by Goff French, the Board voted on the following Resolution in Opposition to LD240 – An Act to Allow Public Employers of Teachers to Negotiate Regarding Educational Policies:**

**RESOLVED**

**WHEREAS**, The RSU 54/MSAD 54 School Board believes strongly in the value of collaboration with its employees as a means of improving education for all students; and

**WHEREAS**, the requirement in current Labor Relations Law that requires school boards “meet and consult” with their employees prior to adopting educational policy, and then negotiate the impact of any policy change on their employees, is designed to protect the rights of both employees and the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the RSU 54/MSAD 54 School Board acknowledges and reaffirms its support of and belief in the importance of the meet and consult process; and

**WHEREAS**, the RSU 54/MSAD 54 School Board believes it is a fundamental, democratic principle that the ultimate decisions over local education policies must rest with the citizens and local control over educational policy is a fundamental building block of our educational system that must never be eroded; and

**WHEREAS**, L.D. 240, An Act To Allow Public Employers of Teachers to Negotiate Regarding Educational Policies, would be the first step in requiring local educational policies to be bargained with unions and ultimately be decided by outside arbitrators thereby severely limiting local control over our schools;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RSU 54/MAD 54** School Board that it strongly and unequivocally urges its local legislators, and the Legislature as a whole, to reject L.D. 240.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT** a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor, to Legislative leadership in the House and Senate, to the Maine School Boards Association, and to area news media.

**(451 yes, 152 no, 145 abstain)**

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent was not present.

The Support Services Manager reported that coordination of summer work projects continues and will be reviewed by the Support Services Committee at its meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no discussion.

9. Introduction of New Business

High School Graduation will take place on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>; Marti Stevens Learning Center Graduation is set for Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>; and the Adult Education Graduation is set for June 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Chair acknowledged board member Richard Irwin, who is completing a combined 32 years serving on the Board of Directors. Fellow board members applauded Richard for his service.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools