

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
January 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Skowhegan Area High School**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 54 was held on January 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area High School Cafeteria.

ATTENDANCE BOARD MEMBERS (886 present, 86 absent, 27 vacancy):

Mark Bedard (Skow-53) PRESENT	Daniel Frey* (Smith-27) ABSENT
Alicia Boulette (Skow-53) PRESENT	Gerry Redlevske* (Mercer-16) ABSENT
Sarah Bunker (Mercer-16) PRESENT	Dixie Ring* (Canaan-43) ABSENT
Jeannie Conley (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Annemarie Dubois (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Jean Franklin (Canaan-43) PRESENT	
Theresa Howard (Corn-30) PRESENT	
Michael Lambke (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Desiree Libby (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Peggy Lovejoy (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Morrigan McLeod (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Brandy Morgan (Norr-46) PRESENT	Vacancy (Smith-27)
Jennifer Poirier (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Lynda Quinn (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Amy Rouse (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Gary Sinclair (Corn-30) PRESENT	*excused
Karen Smith (Skow-53) PRESENT	
Kathy Wilder (Norr-46) PRESENT	
Jacqueline Wolinski (Skow-53) PRESENT	

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

a. Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions – There were no scheduled presentations.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 1/20/22

ON A MOTION BY Jean Franklin, seconded by Kathy Wilder, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors’ meeting of 1/20/22 into the record. (833 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

Superintendent Moody acknowledged and accepted the following letters of intent to retire:

- Mary Shorey, Ed Tech at Margaret Chase Smith School
- Concetta Clark, Interventionist at Mill Stream Elementary School
- Kathy Lupo, Special Ed Teacher at Margaret Chase Smith School

Superintendent Moody acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Charity Chillington, Title I Ed Tech II at Mill Stream Elementary School

b. School Personnel

Cecile Gray, District Bus Driver and Resident, expressed support of the school board and administration regarding universal masking.

c. Visitors

Vicky Wofford, Elijah Wofford, Dennis Hammock and Nick Blanchard spoke individually in opposition of masking children.

Maureen Delahanty Calder spoke in support of masking.

5. Committee Reports

a. Personnel Committee – 12/16/21

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Jennifer Poirier, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting of 12/16/21 into the public record. (833 yes)

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

b. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 1/11/22

ON A MOTION BY Sarah Bunker, seconded by Karen Smith, the

Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 1/11/22 into the public record. (886 yes)

Sarah Bunker, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes. There were no recommendations.

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

Superintendent Moody reviewed vacancies and recommended the Board's approval of page one of nominations.

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to approve nominations page one. (833 yes, 53 abstain)

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

Superintendent Moody shared that as of January 20, 2022, all six towns were current on their monthly assessment payments. Assessments are due on the 20th of each month.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Project

Superintendent Moody reviewed upcoming meeting dates: Personnel Committee will meet on Thursday, February 3rd at 6pm, prior to the next Board meeting; Support Services Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 9th at the Madison High School to tour the SCTC Welding Program; and the Building Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 2nd at 6pm at Skowhegan Area Middle School.

First set of building plans will be reviewed at the Building Committee meeting on February 2nd.

A meeting with the DOE's Construction Team is scheduled for January 24th and with the Skowhegan Selectmen on February 22nd.

d. Review of Federal Project/Federal Funds Update

Superintendent Moody reported that principals have submitted their budgets for 2022-2023 and will be reviewing with them individually over the next two weeks. The Board will begin the review process in late February, early March.

ESSER I and ESSER II Federal Fund applications are being revised to transfer monies based on how they qualify.

e. Update on Schools, State COVID-19 Protocols and MSAD 54 Plan

Superintendent Moody reviewed the current recommendation to universally mask in schools and suggest that the board continue to review the masking requirement at the second Board meeting each month. He reiterated that the top priority of the district has been to keep students in school safely and that Universal masking, under the updated state rules, now allows the district to keep even those students who are close contacts in school. He shared that 100% of the school districts we compete against at the high school level universally mask. It is the hope of the district that masking will no longer be necessary after this school year.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

Assistant Superintendent Hatch reviewed SOP changes, which include:

- number of days of quarantine, depending on symptoms, changed from ten days to five days.
- number of days of close contact quarantine is now
- no longer looking at close contacts on buses or outside.
- Outbreak definition was revised from 3 cases to 15% of student population absent due to illness.
- If school is following mandatory masking, contact tracing is no longer required.

Updated information was sent to families and posted to the district website.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

There was no old or unfinished business discussed.

9. Introduction of New Business

The Board thanked Karen Smith for her service to the Board and the community and wished her well in her new position with MSAD 54.

10. Executive Session – Consultation with Legal Counsel *pursuant to MRSA §405(6)(E)*

ON A MOTION BY Jeannie Conley, seconded by Kathy Wilder, the Board voted to enter into executive session at 7:50 pm to discuss consultation with Legal Counsel *pursuant to MRSA §405(6)(E)*

The Board returned to regular session at 7:55 pm

11. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools