

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
May 1, 2008, 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 May 1, 2008, at 7:00 PM at Skowhegan Area Middle School. Jean Franklin*, Robert Gardner*, and Sarah Tracy 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 - None

3. Approval of Minutes – 4/17/08

ON A MOTION BY Richard Irwin, seconded by Les Flannery, the Board voted to approve the revised minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 4/17/08. (834 yes)

4. Communications

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

Several Cornville parents/residents were present in support of the Cornville School. One parent read the School Board's Code of Ethics and Educational Philosophy. Concerns were shared in regard to combining the 3rd and 4th grade classes with one teacher for the 2008-2009 school year.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Finance Committee – 4/17/08

ON A MOTION BY Karen Dunn, seconded by Lorraine Mahoney, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 4/17/08 into the public record. (834 yes)

Chair Karen Dunn, reviewed the minutes. The Committee reviewed the 3rd quarter financial report and the FY07 audit report.

6. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, and recommendations

There were no nominations.

b. Other

The Superintendent reviewed the budget approval process and shared with the Board a handout from Drummond Woodsum of the legal steps and time parameters for budget validation referendum, as well as Administrative Letter from Commissioner Gendron regarding the budget approval process.

The Superintendent shared with the Board a mailer that will be sent to all residents of MSAD #54, which outlines the budget, itemizes the articles and informs the voters of the district budget meeting and the budget referendum. In addition to the mailer, notices will be published in the newspaper and on the district's web site. Numerous emails will be sent to all employees of the district and budget summary proposals will be distributed in all of the towns.

The Superintendent continues to meet with each town's selectpersons. The informational budget meeting will be held at the Middle School on May 8th.

The Superintendent asked for the Board's approval of the Bond in the amount of \$14,911,382 from Maine Municipal Bond Bank for the new Mill Stream Elementary School.

ON A MOTION BY Mary Turbyne, seconded by Lisa Hickey, the Board of Directors of Maine School Administrative District No. 54 (the "District"), hereby authorizes a borrowing in the amount of Fourteen Million Nine Hundred Eleven Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two Dollars (\$14,911,382) from Maine Municipal Bond Bank (the "Bank") by and on behalf of the District as of May 15, 2008 for the purpose of providing financing for school construction purposes, which project was previously approved by the voters of the District by referendum election held on October 16, 2006. (788 yes, 46 no)

ON A MOTION BY Les Flannery, seconded by Lorraine Mahoney, under and pursuant to the provisions of Title 20-A M.R.S.A. Sections 1311 and 1351, the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Treasurer of the District be, and each acting singly hereby is, authorized to borrow in the name and on behalf of the District the sum of Fourteen Million Nine Hundred Eleven Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two

Dollars (\$14,911,382) as of May 15, 2008, and, in connection therewith, the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized to issue general obligation securities (bonds or notes) of the District in an original principal amount of Fourteen Million Nine Hundred Eleven Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two Dollars (\$14,911,382) and to execute and deliver such general obligation bonds or notes (as so executed and delivered, the "Bond") in registered form under the seal of the District and as attested by the Secretary, which Bond shall be dated May 15, 2008, and be in substantially the form presented to this meeting, with such changes therein not contrary to the general tenor thereof as the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Treasurer may approve, the execution and delivery thereof to be conclusive evidence of such approval; and that the appropriate officials of the District be, and each acting singly hereby is, authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the District such documents and certificates and take such actions as may be necessary or convenient in connection with such borrowing, including without limitation such certificates and agreements as may be reasonably required by bond counsel or the Bank; and that no part of the proceeds of said borrowing shall be used, directly or indirectly, to acquire any securities and obligations, the acquisition of which would cause the Bond to be an "arbitrage bond" within the meaning of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, of 1986 (the "Code"); and that the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized to covenant on behalf of the District to file any information report and pay any rebate due to the United States in connection with the issuance of the Bond, to take all other lawful actions necessary to ensure that interest on the Bond will be excluded from the gross income of the owners thereof for purposes of federal income taxation and to refrain from taking any action that would cause interest on the Bond to become includable in the gross income of the owners thereof. (788 yes, 46 no)

ON A MOTION BY Noella DesPres, seconded by Paul Natale, the Board voted that the Chair of the Board of Directors and Treasurer of the District be and they hereby are authorized and directed to execute an Arbitrage and Use of Proceeds Certificate on behalf of the District in connection with the Bond issued pursuant to a loan agreement between the District and the Bank previously approved by the Board (the "Loan Agreement"), and to do and perform on behalf of the District all acts and things necessary or desirable in order to assure that interest paid on such bonds shall, for purposes of federal income taxation, be excluded from the gross income of the owners thereof. (788 yes, 46 no)

ON A MOTION BY Lisa Hickey, seconded by Carol Rasmussen, the Board voted that the District be and it hereby is authorized to issue and deliver the Bond in accordance with the Loan Agreement, and that the Chair of the Board of Directors and Treasurer of the District be and they hereby are authorized and directed to execute said Bond on behalf of the District. (788 yes, 46 no)

The Superintendent asked for the Board's approval of the furniture and equipment bid for the new Mill Stream Elementary School.

ON A MOTION BY Kathy Libby, seconded by Allan Laney, the Board voted to accept the bid package as presented for the new Mill Stream Elementary School. (834 yes)

The Superintendent asked for the Board's approval of and the signing of a Resolution for Qualified Zone Academy Bond.

ON A MOTION BY Paul Natale, seconded by Lorraine Mahoney, the Board voted to approve and sign the Resolution of Board of School Directors for Qualified Zone Academy Bond as presented. (788 yes, 46 no)

The Superintendent asked for the Board's approval of the Warrant to Call MSAD 54 Budget Meeting, Warrant and Notice of Election and Notice of Amounts Adopted at Budget Meeting.

ON A MOTION BY Carol Rasmussen, seconded by Bob Mealey, the Board voted that the warrant for the District Budget Meeting presented to the meeting be and is hereby approved and that a District Budget Meeting be and is hereby called for May 12, 2008 for the purpose of voting on the annual budget for the District for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

FURTHER VOTED: That the Warrant and Notice of Election for the District Budget Validation Referendum presented to the meeting be and is hereby approved, and that a District Budget Validation Referendum be and is hereby called for May 15, 2008 for the purpose of approving the budget adopted at the District Budget Meeting for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

FURTHER VOTED: That the form of Notice of Amounts Adopted at Budget Meeting presented to this meeting be and is hereby approved, and that the Secretary of the District is hereby authorized and directed to complete said Notice by adding the amounts approved by the voters for each expenditure category and the total school budget summary expenditure amount, all in accordance with the District

Budget Meeting on May 12, 2008, and to cause copies of said notice, as completed, to be delivered to the municipal clerks of each municipality of the District for posting at the polling places for the May 15, 2008 District Budget Validation Referendum. (834 yes)

The Superintendent reviewed scenarios for the Cornville instructional program and has met with the Cornville staff for their input on how to meet the program needs of all students with a staff of five teachers.

Karen Dunn, Skowhegan Board member, expressed her appreciation of the concerns shared by the Cornville parents. She also stressed the cost per pupil in Cornville as compared to the other district schools.

Robert Mealey, Skowhegan Board member, commented that in the future, the Board should consider other options for Cornville, such as sending students from the neighboring district towns to the Cornville Elementary School.

Joseph Parker, Cornville Board member, thanked the parents present at the meeting and requested the Educational Policy/Program to discuss the reallocation of the budget to include the addition of a teacher in Cornville for the 2008-2009 school year.

Matthew Quinn, Cornville Board member, thanked the parents and commented that the budget proposal is based on the communities as a whole.

Pat Elwell, Chair, thanked the parents and commended the teachers for their hard work and dedication.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Business Administrator

The Assistant Superintendent was not present.

The Business Administrator had nothing to report.

8. Old and Unfinished Business – There was no old and unfinished business discussed.

9. New Business

The Superintendent asked for the Board's approval to change the last student day at the Norridgewock Central Grade School, Mercer and Smithfield Elementary Schools to June

13th. This will allow the staff time to complete the moving process from the schools, which will allow the demolition of the Norridgewock to be on schedule.

ON A MOTION BY Lorraine Mahoney, seconded by Mary Turbyne, the Board voted to approve June 13, 2008, as the last student day at Norridgewock Central Grade, Mercer and Smithfield Elementary Schools. (834 yes)

The Superintendent reminded the Board that the Gala Retirement Celebration is on May 6th at Ken's Celebration Center starting at 5:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools