

**RSU 54/MSAD 54**

**Meeting of Board of Directors  
August 20, 2020, 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 August 20, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at Skowhegan Area Middle School Gymnasium. Christy Johnson\*, Jennifer Poirier\* and Kathy Wilder\* were absent.

\*excused

1. Call to Order

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

a. Flag Salute followed.

2. Approval of the Minutes – 8/6/20

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Karen Smith, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting of 8/6/20, into the public record. (873 yes)**

3. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted letters of resignation from the following:

— Robert Tompkins, Ed Tech at Mill Stream Elementary School

— Elizabeth Erskine, Ed Tech at Margaret Chase Smith School

b. School Personnel – No School Personnel wished to speak.

c. Visitors – There were no visitors who wished to speak.

4. Committee Reports – There were no reports.

5. Superintendent's Report

a. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

**ON A MOTION BY Goff French, seconded by Jean Franklin, the Board voted to approve nomination pages 1, 2 and 3. (873 yes)**

b. Report on Assessments Payments to Date

The Superintendent shared that as of August 20, 2020, Cornville was current on their assessments, with August paid. Norridgewock was outstanding for August; Canaan, Mercer and Skowhegan were outstanding for July and August. Monthly assessments are due on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

c. Update on New School Construction Building Study

The Superintendent shared that a meeting with Stephen Blatt Architects was held today to review the existing facilities report. Will meet next week with DOE School Construction Team to review work done to date and discuss next steps.

d. Update on Nickname/Mascot and Related Imagery Process

Student survey was released on August 14<sup>th</sup> for student input on the nine selected mascot names. The survey will be available through September 4, after which the top three choices will be reviewed by the Board committees for final recommendation to the Board.

e. Update on Planning to Return to School Sept. 1, 2020

The Superintendent reviewed the financial report for the Coronavirus Relief Fund from the Department of Education and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation:

**ON A MOTION BY Maryellen Charles, seconded by Theresa Howard, the Board voted that the Superintendent, in accordance with Policies DJ and DJ-R, be authorized to forego competitive bidding of certain purchases to be funded by federal Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars because (i) the purchases are only available**

**from one source; or (ii) the December 30, 2020 deadline for expenditure of CRF funds does not permit the delays that a competitive bid process would cause, such as those documented by the Superintendent in the handout presented to this meeting, which shall be incorporated into the minutes of this meeting. (873 yes)**

The Superintendent reviewed the highlights of the updated Outline of the MSAD 54 Return to School Plan (<http://bit.ly/54plan>), and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation:

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY Maryellen Charles and seconded by Derek Ellis to approve the MSAD 54 Outline of a Safe Return to School as written.**

Following questions and comments,

**THE MOTION PASSED. (873 yes)**

f. Other

The Superintendent shared a revised calendar, which includes adjustment for the start of school to a 3-week soft start schedule from September 1 through September 18, with a Teacher Workshop Day (no school) added on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**ON A MOTION BY Amy Rouse, seconded by Maryellen Charles, the Board vote to approve the revised 2020-2021 school calendar. (873 yes)**

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent reviewed the MSAD 54 Digital Learning Handbook, which was developed by administrators and teachers over a 6 – 7 week period. The chart provides purposes for Synchronous Learning (live online learning) and Asynchronous Learning (independent learning activities).

75 teachers/ed techs took advantage of Summer Professional Development offerings, with over 1,700 hours of PD logged. Sub committees of 30-35

staff have worked to develop plans for workshop days prior to opening of school, that include building based collaborative work time. We will have a digital learning choice board for teachers to choose the PD that best fits their needs.

The Support Services Manager reported that crews are very busy. The Support Services Committee will tour the high school bathrooms and auditorium at their next meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

The Chair indicated that the 2020-2021 Committee Assignments will be emailed to Board members.

9. Introduction of New Business

There was no introduction of new business.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Moody, Superintendent of Schools