

Notice of Special Board Meeting, Tuesday, January 8th

Location/Time: Skowhegan Area Middle School (SAMS) Gymnasium, 6:00 PM

Sign-Up: SAMS Cafeteria, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

(SNOW DATE: Monday, 1/14/19 same time/location)

The MSAD54 School Board has called a special board meeting to allow individuals to share their thoughts on the issue of the Indian name at our Skowhegan Area Schools. This is not a debate or discussion with the board, rather, this is a forum to allow public comment. In advance of the meeting the School Board wants to thank those who will take the time to share their thoughts. The Board realizes that many people are passionate in their opinions on this issue and has endeavored to create a process to allow as many voices to be heard as possible. It is important to note that the Board will not be voting or deliberating on the 8th.

Question to be addressed: Why should the district support or not support a change to the use of the Indian name and seal?

To ensure an orderly and fair process the board has established the following guidelines:

- Speakers from both sides of the issue will be given opportunities to speak by alternating from those in favor of change, and those against it.
- The board will entertain only those speakers who registered to speak in advance.
- **Sign-ups will be held in the middle school cafeteria in advance of the meeting, beginning at 5:00 PM on January 8th and closing with those in line to sign-up at 6:00PM.** No additional speakers will be allowed to sign-up following the closing of the sign-up period. The Board will only call/recognize speakers who signed up in advance following the process described above.
- Any person wishing to submit written testimony in advance of the meeting is encouraged to do so.
- Speakers will be called to speak alternating from each list. Speakers will have 2 minutes to speak and should begin by stating their name and town of residence.
- Speakers must keep their comments to the allotted 2 minutes. A warning will be given at 20 seconds remaining and speakers must finish speaking when time is announced.
- Speakers will not be allowed to cede or give their allotted time to another speaker. The maximum time any one speaker can speak will be 2 minutes.
- All comments should be directed to the board, and we encourage all speakers to follow the rules of decorum. Any individuals who use obscenity or vulgar language, make defamatory statements about individuals or groups, or disrupt the meeting will forfeit their time to speak. Any person who fails to comply will be asked to leave.

It is important to note that this special board meeting is not a public debate or conversation, it is a forum for the board to listen to those who wish to offer their thoughts on the question listed above and who follow the outlined process.