

RSU 54/MSAD 54

**Meeting of Board of Directors
February 28, 2019, 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 February 28, 2019, at 7:00 PM at Skowhegan Area Middle School.

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
Flag Salute followed.

2. Good News and Recognitions

There was no scheduled presentation.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 2/7/19

ON A MOTION BY Jeannie Conley, seconded by Amy Rouse, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors’ meeting of 2/7/19, into the public record. (999 yes)

4. Communications

a. Letters

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted letters of intent to retire in June 2019 from the following:

- William Laney, Director of Adult and Community Education
- Janice Malek, Grade 3 Teacher at Bloomfield Elementary School
- Sue Nelson, Elementary Art Teacher
- Mark Boivin, Math Teacher at Skowhegan Area Middle School
- Mary DiPompo, Special Education Teacher at Skowhegan Area High School
- Rosemary Genetti, Classroom Ed Tech at North Elementary School
- Robert Arris, Maintenance and Grounds

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Tamara Ranger, ELA Teacher at Skowhegan Area Middle School, effective March 15, 2019.

The Superintendent acknowledged and accepted a letter of resignation from Shannon Ryan, Guidance Counselor at Skowhegan Area High School, effective June 2019.

b. School Personnel

Steve Swindells, thanked the Board for their hard work and commitment to our community.

c. Visitors

- Six designated visitors spoke in regard to the Nickname/Mascot Issue.
- A Cornville parent shared transportation concerns.
- A Norridgewock resident shared her concerns with technology use issues affecting students.

5. Committee Reports

a. Personnel Committee – 2/7/19

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting of 2/7/19 into the public record. (999 yes)

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

b. Educational Policy/Program Committee – 2/12/19

ON A MOTION BY Jennifer Poirier, seconded by Richard Irwin, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the Educational Policy/Program Committee meeting of 2/12/19 into the public record. (999 yes)

Amy Rouse, Committee Chair, reviewed the minutes and asked the Board to vote on the following recommendation

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Peggy Lovejoy, the Board voted to approve the establishment of a Coding Club at Skowhegan Area Middle School to begin after February break. (999 yes)

The next meeting of the Educational Policy/Program Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the Superintendent's Office.

6. Superintendent's Report

- a. Board determination of any next steps in the process of addressing the Nickname/Mascot Issue

A motion was made by Harold Bigelow and seconded by Lynda Quinn to take no action or further discussion on the Nickname/Mascot Issue until Legislature mandates the change.

Following discussion, the motion was withdrawn, and the following motion was made:

ON A MOTION BY Desiree Libby, seconded by Jeannie Conley, the Board voted to hold a workshop session at the March 7th Board meeting to discuss the Native American Nickname/Mascot Issue, with the possibility of action on the issue. (794 yes, 53 no and 3 members did not vote - 152)

The Board took a five minute recess at 7:45 pm and resumed regular meeting at 7:50 pm.

In regard to the Board Workshop Session on March 7th, it was agreed that comments would be limited to three minutes for each Board member. There will be no public comment allowed as this is an opportunity for Board members to express their own thoughts on the Nickname/Mascot Issue, before discussing any potential action.

b. Vacancies, nominations, recommendations

ON A MOTION BY Theresa Howard, seconded by Jennifer Poirier, the Board voted to approve nominations page 1. (999 yes)

c. Update on Assessment Payments from Towns

The Superintendent shared that as of February 28th, Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Smithfield were current on their monthly assessment payments.

d. Review of 1st Draft of 2019-2020 Status Quo Budget

The Superintendent reviewed the first draft of the 2019-2020 Status Quo Budget. Committees will review each portion of their respective budgets through the month of March.

e. Other

The Superintendent reported that notice was sent out to parents and staff of the change in the March 11th Teacher Workshop Day to a Student Day and the workshop is moved to the end of the school year.

The Superintendent shared a draft 2019-2020 school calendar with the Board. The calendar will be reviewed and recommended for approval at a future meeting.

7. Assistant Superintendent and Support Services Manager

The Assistant Superintendent shared various activities taking place on our schools, including the following:

- Speech Team placed 1st in State Competition
- Marcus Christopher and Annie Cooke were named KVAC North Players of the Year and congratulations to both basketball teams for making it to the finals
- Hockey Team received the KVAC North Sportsmanship Award
- Unified Basketball games continue through next week with their final game against the high school staff on March 7th at 3pm

Mike LeBlanc has been named KVAC North Girls Basketball Coach of the Year

- 28 SCTC students attended the ProStart Competition in February and five students, including Madison Damon and Duncan Kunz from SAHS, qualified for the national competition in Washington DC

The Support Services Manager updated the Board on the proposed boundary map submitted to the National Parks Service as part of the matching grant for the track renovation project. The boundary map was not accepted and a more acceptable map was received and includes all open space associated with the campus. It was the consensus of the Board to continue negotiating on the boundary map to pursue funding.

The Support Services Manager shared that an auto transfer switch has been installed on the generator at Mill Stream Elementary School.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

Jennifer Poirier suggested that consideration for next year's budget include funds for bullying prevention programs.

9. Introduction of New Business

There was no introduction of new business.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent H. Colbry, Superintendent of Schools