



School Construction Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the April 29, 2022 Meeting

The School Construction Committee met in Cross Building, 5th Floor, Rm. 500 on April 29, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Fern Desjardins (Chair), Wilson Hess

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mary Becker, State Board of Education staff
Scott Brown, MDOE School Facilities staff
Nathan McIvor, MDOE School Facilities staff
Jonathan Moody, MSAD 54 Superintendent
Roberta Hersom, MSAD 49 Superintendent
James Kalian, Bennett Engineering
Patrick Carroll, Carroll Associates
Douglas Breer, Stephen Blatt Associates
Andrew Johnston, Atlantic Resource Consultants

Fern Desjardins called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Motion by Wilson Hess, seconded by Fern Desjardins, and voted unanimously by those present to accept the March 25, 2022 minutes as written.

Scott Brown provided an overview of the RSU 54 New Grades PreK-5 School Construction Project, noting that it gained a successful Site Approval on July 14, 2021. Superintendent Jonathan Moody introduced his team and presented the proposed project and explained how the project will meet the future Pre-K through 5 educational needs of RSU 54. He also explained the CDS, CTE, and Early Childhood Education components of the project and the added value those programs bring to the region.

Superintendent Moody then presented plans of the building, elevations, and site layout. He spoke in detail regarding the design and how it allowed maximum sunlight into the classrooms and expansive views of the site's natural setting. He also explained that the building will use a combination of wood pellets and heat pumps to meet air conditioning, ventilation, and heating requirements of the building.

Wilson Hess asked how the design team determined the best heating solution for the proposed building. James Kalian explained that engineers are required to choose the most efficient system for the building and that wood pellets and heat-pumps yielded the best results. Other questions regarding CTE, CDS, travel distances, and building enrollments were discussed.

Motion by Wilson Hess that the Committee recommend that the RSU 54 Concept Approval Exhibit be placed on the May 11, 2022 State Board of Education's business agenda with the Committee's recommendation of approval. The motion was seconded by Fern Desjardins and voted unanimously to approve by those present.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

The next School Construction Committee meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.