



School Construction Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the March 5, 2019 Meeting

The School Construction Committee held a meeting on March 5, 2019 at the Department of Education in Augusta.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Fern Desjardins and Wilson Hess

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ann Pinnette, MDOE School Facilities
Scott Brown, MDOE School Facilities

Mary Becker, State Board of Education staff
James Rier

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

Motion by Wilson Hess, seconded by Fern Desjardins, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the February 5, 2019 minutes as written.

Scott Brown opened the discussion with an update on the 16 Major Capital Construction Projects from the 2010-2011 Rating Cycle. He then provided additional details regarding the three anticipated 2019 Concept Approvals which include Edward Little High School in Auburn, RSU 24 MS/HS in Sullivan, and a combined Middle School project in South Portland. Mr. Brown talked about the project schedules, programmatic impacts on students, and cost estimates and projections for each project.

The Committee discussed recent legislative activity and asked about the status of construction related bills. Mr. Brown provided the committee members with an update of current construction related Legislative Documents (LDs) including three bills specifically related to the recapitalization of the School Revolving Renovation Fund. Mr. Brown also discussed the idea of developing a plan for a new statewide inventory that would include projected building needs/costs that could be included as part of either of the bond proposals. The Committee agreed that further investigation is needed.

The Committee briefly discussed statutory debt ceilings for Major Capital Construction and the Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility programs. The Committee will review those limits in more detail later this year when project costs and approvals are in place for the remaining projects on the Approved Projects List.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.