



## MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

### STATE OF MAINE

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The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on May 8, 2024, at Edward Little High School in Auburn, Maine and virtually via Zoom. The following members were present: Chair Fern Desjardins; Vice Chair Paulette Bonneau; Wendy Ault; Kristin Bishop; James Ford; Thomas Keller; Victoria Kornfield; Edmond Morin; Denham Ward; Ryan Hafener; and Phat Thai.

Others Present: Scott Brown, Director of School Facilities, MDOE; Christopher Howell, Superintendent, RSU 14; Bill Hansen, Director of Facilities, RSU 14; Joe Britton, Architect, Lavallee Brensinger; Lance Whitehead, Architect, Lavallee Brensinger; Michael Perry, Director of Higher Education and Educator Support Services, MDOE; Dr. Shelly Tennett, Chair of Teacher Education, Husson University; Linda Fuller, Program Review Team Member, College of the Atlantic; and Emily Cummins, Office Specialist, State Board of Education.

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Fern Desjardins called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM. She welcomed Emily Cummins to her first meeting of the State Board as Office Specialist II and asked Ms. Cummins to introduce herself, followed by Board members introducing themselves.

Chair Desjardins recognized Wendy Ault on being honored at the University of Maine at Augusta's Commencement Ceremony on May 4, 2024 with an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. Ms. Ault was presented with a gift on behalf of the Board.

Roll call was taken by Chair Desjardins who declared a quorum present.

#### **VISION STATEMENT:**

Read by student member, Phat Thai: The vision of the Maine State Board of Education is that all students will receive a high-quality education leading to graduation with the skills, knowledge, and principles to be prepared for future learning, careers, and life.

**ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

By consensus, the Board agreed to add:

IX.F Consideration to Adopt the Proposed Changes to Chapter 61

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

By consensus, the Board agreed to table a motion for the April 10, 2024 minutes to the June meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No Public Comment

**OFFICER’S REPORTS:**

**Chair, Fern Desjardins**

- Emily Cummins started working as Office Specialist II for the State Board on April 22. Paulette joined Emily at the Cross Building and Fern via Zoom that afternoon for orientation. Onboarding with Emily has continued since then with Paulette and Fern assisting Emily with the many responsibilities of the position and developing the Performance Management Form expectations and development plan for her probationary period.
- Fern met with Senate President Troy Jackson and Republican Leader Harold “Trey” Stewart III on April 11. She was delighted to hear that “Noonday meal expenses incurred while in attendance at a board meeting or hearing shall be deemed a reimbursable expense, but shall not exceed \$5 per meal” was favorably voted on by the legislature to be increased to the same amount that legislators receive for lunches.

**Vice Chair, Paulette Bonneau**

- Paulette attended both agenda reviews on April 1 and April 29.
- Coordinated the May 10 State Board meeting with Edward Little High School Principal Annear
- Offered ZOOM support to scheduled SBE Committee meetings
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Paulette participated in the orientation of Emily Cummins on her first day at work for the State Board.
- April 25<sup>th</sup> - She attended the monthly CTE Committee meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### ***School Construction Committee (Fern Desjardins):***

The School Construction Committee met on April 29.

- The committee recommended the exhibit that will be taken up under New Business to grant Design and Funding Approval for Phase I Site Development to RSU 14 (Windham and Raymond) for a new grades 5-8 Middle School construction project.
- Superintendent of Schools Heather Manchester, School Board Chair Troy Ripley, and a number of residents from RSU 17 attended the meeting. Seven residents of West Paris expressed concern on the construction options being considered and the possibility of not replacing the Agnes Gray School in West Paris.
- Discussion took place on legislative bills LD 2285 *Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Establish the Commission to Study School Construction Policy and Funding* and LD 2214 dealing with the Supplemental Budget and money made available for a regional high school construction project in the Guilford and Dexter area and also for a project in West Paris.
- The next Committee meeting will be held on Friday, May 31 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cross Building in Room 500.

### ***Certification and Higher Education (Thomas Keller):***

The Certification and Higher Education Committee met April 24, 2024.

#### Higher Education update

There is a set of review visits coming up and SBE observers on the review teams are as follows: UMaine, October, Tori; Thomas College, September, Paulette; Syracuse University/Edward Little, Fall, Tori; Colby College, March 2025, James; UMaine Machias, Spring 2025, Ed (people were assigned during the SBE Business meeting).

No progress is reported on Beal University. Michael Perry and Sarah Forster are to meet on this.

CAEP has added a new standard that overlaps nicely with the Maine standards for chapter 114. This does not negate the need for a visit and report to the State Board for program approval.

#### Certification update

Michael reported that there were 2,946 applications processed in March, processing time is approximately 3 to 4 weeks and hold time on phone calls to certification is around 5 minutes.

Denham reported on the Regional Longitudinal Data Study which is driven by questions such as what data do we want from SAUs? What constitutes a vacancy? And how to reduce the reporting load on SAUs?

#### Chapter 115 review

Regarding LD 2221/Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Amend Chapter 115, Tom laid out the plan noting two major deadlines, one being having the amendments delivered to the AAG office by July 1, 2025, and the other submitting the proposed rule by January 9, 2026.

#### ***Career and Technical Education (Edmond Morin):***

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee met on April 25.

- The Committee discussed the Maine Carl D. Perkins Federal funds supporting vocational and technical education. Dwight Littlefield, State Director for Career and Technical Education, provided the third quarter Perkins report. The CTE Committee approved the report and forwarded its recommendation to the State Board. The Board will also be voting on the first and second quarter reports as well as the FY2025 Perkins budget allocation.
- Dwight reported that the state has approximately \$400,000 for secondary CTE in the Perkins reserve fund and suggested that the committee may want to consider using some reserve funds to bolster Male non-traditional involvement.
- Dwight also reported that the board has about \$180,000 to award through the George Briggs Trust for Vocational Education.
- Other activities report out by Dwight included: the DOE has put out a Request for Applications for a \$20 Million dollar bond; four CTE projects received funding for program, equipment, and facility upgrades through the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, which uses dollars from the federal American Rescue Plan. These are in Biddeford, Limestone, Mexico and at Oxford Hills.
- The Community College System stated that a Memorandum of Understanding involving Maine DOE, the UMaine System and MCCS regarding a protocol about dual and concurrent enrollment is moving forward. It was noted that 60% of MCCS activity is through its CTE centers or on CTE pathways.
- Maine Administrators of Career and Technical Education submitted names of its teachers of the year to go on to higher competitions. The CTE Student of the Year celebration took place a couple of weeks ago. There are 27 Maine CTE students of the year, one for each of Maine's CTE Centers or Regions. For the first time, each of the students received \$500 that they can use for advanced study or tools. Ed represented the State Board at the gathering.
- Representatives from CTE Schools said they are in the midst of making decisions about enrollment, given capacity issues. UTC in Bangor has looked for temporary

space for some of its new programs. It was noted that not all CTE schools in Maine have this problem; some have declining enrollments.

- The next meeting is scheduled for May 23.

***Legislative Action (Paulette Bonneau):***

- The committee has not met since the last State Board meeting.
- An educational bill listing for the 131st-second regular session was prepared and sent to all board members.

***Student voices (Ryan Hafener, Phat Thai, Wendy Ault, and James Ford):***

The Student Voices Committee met on May 6.

- Phat and Ryan shared highlights of their last month's activities.

***Board Effectiveness (Paulette Bonneau):***

The Board Effectiveness Committee met on April 29.

Their primary discussion was:

- Review and update of the strategic plan
- Brainstormed topics for discussion at the retreat (e.g., Ch. 114, school funding, board roles and responsibilities, and what the board stands for). They decided to ask each committee chair to share and discuss, with all board members, 2-3 major issues their committee is facing.

***Nomination and Election (Wendy Ault):***

The Nomination and Election Committee met on May 7, 2024.

- April 29, 2024, all SBE members received an email with a copy of the nomination and election policy and procedure document, along with the nomination forms for the upcoming term of service.
- The committee met May 7, 2024, to review all the nominations that were submitted. The committee was presented with one name for chair and vice chair.
- The following single slate of nominees is: Fern Desjardins for Chair and Paulette Bonneau for Vice Chair.
- Members who wish to self-nominate must obtain two supporting nominations from Board Members and present them to the Nomination and Election Committee Chair at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting.

***Charter Commission Representatives (Victoria Kornfield, Thomas Keller, and James Ford):***

The two committees – School Performance and Finance – reviewed the proposed budget for funding what we value. The Personnel Services line alone is \$433,448. Monitoring continues to be hampered by the lack of accessibility to the MEA results for schools and the state as a whole.

On July 1, the MCSC will open up the call for letters of intent for the 10<sup>th</sup> charter school slot. There is a variety of interested parties.

The MCSC continues to meet monthly as a Commission and each committee meets monthly as well.

***Professional Standards Board (Denham Ward):***

The Professional Standards Board has not met since the April meeting of the State Board.

***NASBE:***

***Executive Committee/Board of Directors (Fern Desjardins):***

- The Finance and Audit Committee met on April 17. The committee reviewed the Quarter 1 Report, member dues, grants, and sponsorships. Committee members received the FY2023 audit and will vote on it at their July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. They discussed a proposal for subleasing the NASBE office space; the availability of better interest rates on financial accounts; having a limited printing of The State Education Standard; and, the recruitment of new member states.
- NASBE's Board of Directors met on April 22. They received the Quarter 1 Report on the Strategic Plan and Operations from President and CEO Paolo DeMaria. Committee and Affiliate Chairs (or designees) reported out on their recent meetings.
- Processes to receive recommendations for officer elections to the 2024-25 NASBE Board of Directors and nominations for the 2024 NASBE awards were released to the membership on April 11 via email. Recommendations are due Friday, May 31, 2024. All states are encouraged to nominate at least one person or organization in each award category.
- The deadline to register for the New Member Institute is May 17.
- The second meeting of the Principal Collaborative was held on May 2. Educational leaders from Missouri and Delaware discussed the principal development work happening in their states. Discussion included the importance of induction programs, mentors and coaches, how principal qualities have a great impact on teacher retention, and that some teachers leave because of their principals and principals leave because of their superintendents.

- The May 6 session of Office Hours covered AI in education and policy implications. North Carolina and West Virginia shared the AI guidance they've adopted. Leaders from New York and Kansas also reported out on where they are at with AI and facilitated questions and discussion among the 23 participants.

***Government Affairs Committee (Thomas Keller):***

The Government Affairs Committee met May 7<sup>th</sup> and had a half hour conversation with Luke Rhine ([luke.rhine@ed.gov](mailto:luke.rhine@ed.gov)) who is the Deputy Assistant Undersecretary in the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education of the US Department of Education. One item of interest he mentioned was that \$25M in grants was given to 17 states. Maine does not seem to be one of them. There was much discussion on Perkins 5 reauthorization.

The NAGB is meeting next week and Ryan is serving on a panel about students and large-scale assessments. Congratulations, Ryan!

CT noted that they have just entered into an agreement with a number of other states for immediate reciprocal certification. "Educators must hold a valid certificate from Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Virginia, and/or Vermont to be eligible for a certificate based on enhanced reciprocity." Maine does it differently in that "Maine's model is that reciprocity applies to educators with a certificate from *any* state/territory/country, so long as the certification lines up with our areas *and is on the US ED approved state specific shortage areas list ([here are the Maine teacher shortage areas for 2024-25](#), effective July 1, 2024).*" This is statutory language and not rule language.

***Public Education Positions Committee (Paulette Bonneau):***

The committee met on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

- Reviewed survey results to determine the direction of the committee
- General findings were that existing papers are relevant and need to be updated to reflect current concerns.
- The question was raised on whether or not the papers and positions of NASBE influence state boards and state education departments.
- Survey results indicated that most members are concerned about equity and access to public education.

**UNFINISHED (OLD) BUSINESS:**

No Unfinished Business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Major Capital School Construction Program; *Design and Funding Approval Consideration for Phase 1 Site Development*; RSU 14 - New Middle School Construction Project**

STATEMENT OF FACT: RSU 14 Superintendent Christopher Howell requests that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval for Phase 1 Site Development for a new grades 5-8 Middle School to be constructed in the Town of Windham.

Windham Middle School (grades 6-8) rated 5<sup>th</sup> on the Final Priority List of the 2017-2018 Rating Cycle and was placed on the Approved Projects List at the November 4, 2020 State Board of Education meeting. The project received State Board of Education Site Approval on July 12, 2023 and Concept Approval on September 13, 2023. The project was approved by local referendum vote on November 7, 2023.

It has been recommended that in the best interest of the project the construction be separated into two phases. Phase 1 Site Development Approval will permit the extensive site work required for the project to move more quickly than waiting for approval of the site and building combined. The earlier approval will take advantage of summer weather and a positive bidding environment of site-specific contractors and will also allow students to occupy the school one year earlier than they would have had the work on the site waited for Design and Funding Approval of the entire project.

The major site design elements of the project have not changed since Concept Approval. There have been several changes through the site engineering process that have resulted in cost efficiencies, improved traffic circulation, and student safety.

Design and Funding Approval for Phase 1 Site Development is being requested pursuant to MRS Title 20-A §15905(1) and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

***Project Information:***

Project: RSU 14 New Grades 5-8 Middle School Construction Project  
Superintendent: Christopher Howell  
Architect: Lavallee Brensinger Architects – Lance Whitehead  
Schools to be closed: Windham Middle School and Jordan Small Middle School

***Project Budget Information:***

Phase 1 Site Development Total: \$30,167,056.  
Phase 1 State/Local: \$27,601,513.



Phase 1 Local Only: \$2,565,543.

Total Project Cost: \$171,551,289.

Local Only (no State participation): \$39,838,444.

Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$131,712,845.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner of the Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval for Phase 1 Site Development to RSU 14 for a new grades 5-8 Middle School construction project as presented.

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On April 29, 2024 the School Construction Committee recommended that pursuant to MRS Title 20-A §15905(1) and State Board of Education Rule Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, this exhibit be placed on the May 8, 2024 State Board meeting agenda and the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval for Phase 1 Site Development to RSU 14 for a new grades 5-8 Middle School construction project as presented.

MOTION by Kristin Bishop, seconded by Edmond Morin, and unanimously voted by those present that pursuant to MRS Title 20-A §15905(1) and State Board of Education Rule Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval for Phase 1 Site Development to RSU 14 for a new grades 5-8 Middle School construction project as presented.

**APPROVAL OF HUSSON UNIVERSITY EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE CHAPTER 114**

BACKGROUND: Educator preparation programs (EPPs) offered by institutions of higher education in Maine are approved by the State Board of Education following the guidelines laid out by Rule Chapter 114, *Purpose, Standards and Procedures for the Review and Approval of Preparation Programs for Education Personnel*. Approved EPPs are able to recommend graduates for eligibility to earn certification under “Pathway 1” in Rule Chapter 115 for the specific certification areas included in their review.

Husson University in Bangor, Maine, last received a five-year approval of its educator preparation programs in 2019. The program applied for reapproval in 2023 and submitted a self-assessment report indicating their adherence to the EPP standards in Rule Chapter 114. A review team chaired by Dr. Anita Charles of Bates College was approved by the State Board of Education on December 13, 2023, with Hon. Tori Kornfield assigned as the State Board observer. Due to extenuating circumstances involving one of the approved team members, the State Board of Education conducted a

special meeting to formally add an additional review team member on February 1, 2024.

The formal in-person review of Husson University's educator preparation programs took place between February 7-10, 2024. The review team finalized consensus findings and recommendations for the State Board of Education, and a draft of their report was reviewed by Husson EPP staff to verify factual accuracy and to provide any feedback or response to the review team's findings. Upon the finalization of the review team report, a copy was received by the State Board of Education's Certification and Higher Education Committee at their regular meeting on March 27, 2024; the State Board of Education formally received the report during its regular meeting on April 10, 2024, along with the program's self-report materials, in accordance with Rule Chapter 114, subsection 3.11.

The state review team has recommended the State Board of Education approve Husson University's educator preparation programs for a period of five years in five different certification areas:

- 020 General Elementary
- 075 School Counselor
- 100 English/Language Arts (Secondary)
- 350 Physical Science (Secondary)
- 395 Life Science (Secondary)

Now, pursuant to State Board of Education Rule Chapter 114, subsection 3.11, paragraph d, it is before the State Board of Education whether to accept the review team's recommendations and approve Husson University's educator preparation programs.

RECOMMENDATION: That, pursuant to State Board of Education Rule Chapter 114, subsection 3.11, paragraph d, the State Board of Education accept the Husson University EPP review team's recommendations and grant a full five-year approval to Husson University's Educator Preparation Programs for the period of Spring 2024 through Spring 2029.

MOTION by Thomas Keller, seconded by Victoria Kornfield, and unanimously voted by those present that pursuant to State Board of Education Rule Chapter 114, subsection 3.11, paragraph d, the State Board of Education accept the Husson University EPP review team's recommendations and grant a full five-year approval to Husson University's Educator Preparation Programs for the period of Spring 2024 through Spring 2029.

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD QUARTERLY REPORTS OF THE MAINE CARL D. PERKINS GRANT AS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE STRENGTHENING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY ACT (P. L. 115-224).**

BACKGROUND: As a condition for the receipt of Federal funds to support vocational and technical education, §122 of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education For The 21st Century Act (P. L. 115-224), requires a designated eligible agency in each State, which in Maine is the State Board of Education, to submit a State Plan for Career and Technical Education. The State Plan was approved by the Office of Career and Technical and Adult Education on May 22, 2020. Further requirements are as follows:

**SEC. 121. STATE ADMINISTRATION.**

(a) **ELIGIBLE AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.**—The responsibilities of an eligible agency under this title shall include:

(3) convening and meeting as an eligible agency (consistent with State law and procedure for the conduct of such meetings) at such time as the eligible agency determines necessary to carry out the eligible agency’s responsibilities under this title, but not less than 4 times annually;

The State Board Chair has requested, in accordance with Title 20-A, Section 405, 7, that the Career and Technical Education (CTE) team submits a quarterly financial report to the Board and in response to this request we are submitting this report as the first, second and third quarter report for FY2024.

RECOMMENDATION: The State Board approve the Quarterly reports for the period of July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024, of the State of Maine Plan for Career and Technical Education under the Strengthening Career and Technical Education For The 21st Century Act (P. L. 115-224).

MOTION by Edmond Morin, seconded by Paulette Bonneau, and unanimously voted by those present that the State Board of Education approve the Quarterly reports for the period of July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024, of the State of Maine Plan for Career and Technical Education under the Strengthening Career and Technical Education For The 21st Century Act (P. L. 115-224).

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FY25 BUDGET ALLOCATION OF THE MAINE CARL D. PERKINS GRANT AS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE STRENGTHENING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY ACT (P. L. 115-224).**

BACKGROUND: As a condition for the receipt of Federal funds to support vocational and technical education, §122 of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education

For The 21st Century Act (P. L. 115-224), requires a designated eligible agency in each State, which in Maine is the State Board of Education, to submit a State Plan for Career and Technical Education. The State Plan was approved by the Office of Career and Technical and Adult Education on May 22, 2020. Further requirements are as follows:

PART A ALLOTMENT and ALLOCATION §112 - WITHIN STATE ALLOCATION

(a) From the amount allotted to each State for a fiscal year, the eligible agency shall make available—

(1) not less than 85 percent for distribution to local eligible recipients

(2) not more than 10 percent to carry out State leadership activities

(A) not more than 2 percent to serve State correctional institutions (Arthur R Gould School)

(B) not less than \$60,000 and not more than \$150,000 shall be available for services that prepare individuals for non-traditional fields

(C) an amount equal to 0.1 percent shall be made available for the recruitment of special populations to enroll in CTE programs

(3) an amount equal to not more than 5 percent, for administration of the State plan

PART B STATE PROVISIONS §121 - STATE ADMINISTRATION

(a) ELIGIBLE AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.— The responsibilities of an eligible agency under this title shall include:

(3) convening and meeting as an eligible agency (consistent with State law and procedure for the conduct of such meetings) at such time as the eligible agency determines necessary to carry out the eligible agency's responsibilities under this title, but not less than 4 times annually;

In accordance with § 121 – Within State Allocation, the Career and Technical Education (CTE) team has prepared the FY2025 Perkins budget allocations and submits this budget to the State Board of Education for approval.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The State Board of Education approve the FY2025 Perkins State Budget for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 in accordance to

§121 of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education For The 21st Century Act (P. L. 115-224).

MOTION by Edmund Morin, seconded by Paulette Bonneau, and unanimously voted by those present that the State Board of Education approve the FY2025 Perkins State Budget for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 in accordance to §121 of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education For The 21st Century Act (P. L. 115-224). The motion is adopted.

**APPOINTMENT OF A STATE BOARD MEMBER TO THE MAINE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION**

MOTION by Wendy Ault, seconded by James Ford, and unanimously voted by those present to appoint Victoria Kornfield to serve on the Maine Charter School Commission for a second, 3-year term.

**CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO CHAPTER 61**

MOTION by Fern Desjardins, seconded by Edmond Morin, and voted eight in favor with one opposed (Denham Ward) that pursuant to 5 M.R.S. § 8072(8), the State Board of Education adopt the proposed changes to Chapter 61. The motion is adopted.

**STUDENT TRANSFER APPEALS:**

**PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING REQUESTS FOR REVIEW OF STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS**

Fern Desjardins, Chair of the Board, read a procedure for the Board when going into executive session to review requests for review of the Superintendents' decisions on student transfer requests.

The Board will be considering requests for Board review of the Superintendents' decisions regarding requested transfers of students to another school district, pursuant to Title 20-A, section 5205(6)(F). The Board will be going into executive session to consider the requests because each one involves reviewing and discussing information contained in student records made confidential by the federal law known as FERPA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The parents and any attorney representing a parent are welcome to attend the executive session for the discussion of their particular student's transfer, as are the Superintendents of the school districts involved in that requested transfer. The Board will review each of the transfer requests in separate executive sessions. Today, the Board has three transfer requests.

After the Board comes out of executive session, the Board will entertain a motion and take a vote on the disposition of the request in public session.

The Board's role in these proceedings is to review the Superintendents' decisions based on the record that was before them at the time they made the decision. Although the statute directs the Board to "communicate with" the parties involved, which the Board has done, the Board cannot accept any new evidence pertaining to a transfer request that was not considered or not available in the record at the time of the Superintendents' decision.

The Board provides for public comment, which was explained earlier in the meeting. In the executive session the same rules apply for public comment and there will be a three-minute time limit for comment. This is not a time for debate or a time to introduce new evidence. It is a time for families to highlight the things they want the Board to consider in the record.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

MOTION by Paulette Bonneau, seconded by James Ford, and unanimously voted by those present for the Board to go into Executive Session, pursuant to Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes, section 405, subsection 6, paragraph F, to discuss information contained in records that are confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, Title 20 of the United States Code, section 1232g relating to a request from LL to review the Superintendents' decisions to approve or disapprove a request for a student transfer, pursuant to Title 20-A, section 5205, subsection 6, paragraph F at 3:26 PM.

The Board returned to the regular business meeting at 3:48 PM.

MOTION by James Ford, seconded by Victoria Kornfield, and voted unanimously that given the information the Board received, it was in LL's best interest to disapprove a transfer. The transfer was disapproved.

MOTION by Paulette Bonneau, seconded by Kristin Bishop, and unanimously voted by those present for the Board to go into Executive Session, pursuant to Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes, section 405, subsection 6, paragraph F, to discuss information contained in records that are confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, Title 20 of the United States Code, section 1232g relating to a request from TT and CT to review the Superintendents' decisions to approve or disapprove a request for a student transfer, pursuant to Title 20-A, section 5205, subsection 6, paragraph F at 3:52 PM.

The Board returned to the regular business meeting at 4:16 PM.

MOTION by Kristin Bishop, seconded by Paulette Bonneau, and voted seven in favor with one opposed (Thomas Keller) that given the information the Board received, it was in TT's best interest to approve a transfer. The transfer was approved.

MOTION by Kristin Bishop, seconded by Wendy Ault, and voted three in favor with five opposed (Paulette Bonneau, Thomas Keller, Victoria Kornfield, Edmond Morin, and Denham Ward) that given the information the Board received, it was in CT's best interest to approve a transfer. The motion was lost.

MOTION by Victoria Kornfield, seconded by Thomas Keller, and voted five in favor with three opposed (Wendy Ault, Kristin Bishop, and Fern Desjardins) that given the information the Board received, it was in CT's best interest to disapprove a transfer. The transfer was disapproved.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Submit expense account vouchers to Emily Cummins for March, April and May 1-8, 2024 at the earliest convenience.
- The next regular State Board meeting will be held on Friday, June 21, 2024, 1:00 PM at the Burton Cross State Office Building and virtually via Zoom. The retreat scheduled for June 13 is postponed to September 12, 2024.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 PM.

Fern Desjardins, Chair  
Maine State Board of Education