



School Construction Committee
Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the February 21, 2025 Meeting

The School Construction Committee met via Zoom

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Fern Desjardins (Chair), Paulette Bonneau, and Edmond Morin

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ann Pinnette, School Facilities Manager, Department of Education
Valerie Chiang, School Construction Coordinator, Department of Education
Scott Brown, Director of School Facilities, Department of Education
Emily Cummins, Office Specialist, State Board of Education

Chair Desjardins called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Motioned by Morin, seconded by Bonneau, and voted unanimously by those present to accept the December 20, 2024 minutes as written.

Chair Desjardins introduced the first item on the agenda, *Miscellaneous*. The Committee discussed the Governor's Commission on School Construction, Inventory Report by MEPRI, Status of Site Visits for the MCSC 2024-2025 Rating Cycle, Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility Program funding opportunity, and School Construction Bills in the Legislature.

Chair Desjardins asked Director Brown to provide further information for the Committee regarding the School Building Inventory and the status of the site visits for the current MCSC rating cycle. Mr. Brown stated that the MEPRI Report on school buildings had been completed and was available. He additionally stated that the site visits for the MCSC Rating Cycle are more than halfway completed and that the Proposed Priority List should be ready approximately by July of 2025. Mr. Brown updated the Committees on several legislative bills regarding bonding, bidding, safety, classroom temperature, and a tax revenue bill.

The Committee also discussed the upcoming June 30, 2025 application deadline for the Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility Program and identified the importance of SAUs knowing where a school ranks on the MCSC program's Final Priority List and how knowing could result in some SAUs reconsideration to apply to both programs. After further discussion the Committee agreed to have Chair Desjardins write to Commissioner Makin to ask that she consider moving the Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility Program application deadline from June 30, 2025 to December 19, 2025.

Chair Desjardins adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

The next committee meeting will be on Friday, March 21, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.