

**REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING  
April 29, 2026**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on April 29, 2026.

**Those in attendance were:**

CSD	Tori Manzi, Bob Duke, Taylor Pohlman*	(69.62/ea.)
Islesboro		(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Loren Andrews*, Brad Choyt, Nick Keeney*	(77.82/ea.)
SAD 40	Seth Hall, Julie Swindler, Danny Jackson, Matthew Speno	(77.89/ea.)
SAD 7	Jerry White	( 7.49)
SAD 8	Yvonne Thomas*	(24.58)
St. George	Mike Felton*	(54.68)

Bobby Deetjen, Director; Kristy Hastings, Student Services Coord., Scott Browning, Asst Director; Pat Pearce

\*Attended via Zoom

**Absent –** Amelia Grant

Bob Duke, Chair, opened the regular meeting at 6:07 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 918.44**

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

Seth Hall talked about Pre-Apprenticeships & Apprenticeships.  
Matt Speno read a resignation letter.

**ADJUSTMENTS –** Executive Session added to the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION by White, seconded by Jackson, to approve the minutes of the regular March 25<sup>th</sup> board meeting

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 848.82**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Choyt (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Felton (54.68): Yes</b>	<b>Grant (69.62): Absent</b>	<b>Hall (77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson (77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Keeney (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Manzi (69.61): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Pohlman (69.62): Abstain</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Swindler(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Yes</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

**TEACHER NOMINATIONS FOR PROBATIONARY & CONTINUING CONTRACTS**

MOTION by Speno, seconded by White, to approve the probationary & continuing contract nominations as presented

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 918.44**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Choyt (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Felton (54.68): Yes</b>	<b>Grant (69.62): Absent</b>	<b>Hall (77.89): Yes</b>

Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Yes	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Yes	Speno(77.89): Yes
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

**BOARD APPROVAL OF SKILLSUSA TRIP TO ATLANTA, GA**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Pearce, to approve the SkillsUSA trip to Atlanta, GA

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 918.44**

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Absent	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Yes	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Yes	Speno(77.89): Yes
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE**

**Warrants and Budget**

The committee met and reviewed the warrants for March and April and the March 31<sup>st</sup> financial report.

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Hall, to accept and approve the warrants for March and April and the financial report for March.

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 918.44**

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Absent	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Yes	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Yes	Speno(77.89): Yes
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Manzi, to approve the Admission Standards

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 918.44**

Andrews(77.82): Yes	Choyt (77.82): Yes	Duke(69.62): Yes
Felton (54.68): Yes	Grant (69.62): Absent	Hall (77.89): Yes
Jackson (77.89): Yes	Keeney (77.82): Yes	Manzi (69.61): Yes
Pearce (77.82): Yes	Pohlman (69.62): Yes	Speno(77.89): Yes
Swindler(77.89): Yes	Thomas(24.58): Yes	White(7.49): Yes

MOTION by Pearce, seconded by Hall, to approve first reading of Policies AD – Educational Philosophy/Mission (Revised), ADA – The Cooperative Board’s Mission

Statement (Revised/Renamed), ADF – Commitment to Learning Results and Standards (Revised), BBBD – Cooperative Board Attendance (Revised), BG – Policy Process (Revised), GBCC – Employee Use of Cell Phones (Revised), EBBD – Temperature Standards for Schools (New), JICJ – Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices in School (New Language)

- Choyt asked about the Cell Phone Policy conforming with the recent legislation.
- White asked about the MSMA proposed policy and where the Cell Phone Policy overlapped.

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 918.44**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Choyt (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Felton (54.68): Yes</b>	<b>Grant (69.62): Absent</b>	<b>Hall (77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson (77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Keeney (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Manzi (69.61): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Pohlman (69.62): Yes</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Swindler(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Yes</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

[Pohlman left meeting 6:25 PM]

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Employment [1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(D)]**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Swindler, pursuant to Section 405(6)(D) of Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes, move that the Board enter into executive session to discuss labor negotiations

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 848.82**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Choyt (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Felton (54.68): Yes</b>	<b>Grant (69.62): Absent</b>	<b>Hall (77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson (77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Keeney (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Manzi (69.61): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Pohlman (69.62): Absent</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Swindler(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Yes</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

Enter: 6:26 PM

Exit: 6:32 PM

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Employment [1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A)]**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Swindler, pursuant to Section 405(6)(A) of Title 1 of the Maine Revised Statutes, move that the Board enter into executive session to discuss the Director’s evaluation.

Motion approved

**Total weighted votes: 848.82**

<b>Andrews(77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Choyt (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Duke(69.62): Yes</b>
<b>Felton (54.68): Yes</b>	<b>Grant (69.62): Absent</b>	<b>Hall (77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Jackson (77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Keeney (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Manzi (69.61): Yes</b>
<b>Pearce (77.82): Yes</b>	<b>Pohlman (69.62): Absent</b>	<b>Speno(77.89): Yes</b>
<b>Swindler(77.89): Yes</b>	<b>Thomas(24.58): Yes</b>	<b>White(7.49): Yes</b>

Enter: 6:33 PM  
Exit: 6:43 PM

**DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Bobby informed the Board that:

- Connor Howland – MACTE Student of the Year
- May 14<sup>th</sup> NTHS Induction
- May 28<sup>th</sup> Student Recognition Night
- Carpentry Little Free Libraries
- Apprenticeship Program history at Mid-Coast
  - Harbor Builders
  - HayRunner

**ADJOURNMENT**

Bob declared the meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM

Next Board Meeting: May 27, 2026

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Robert Deetjen, Board Secretary