

May 12, 2026 Meeting summary

In attendance:

MSAD 58 Negotiations Sub-Committee: Laura Columbia (Superintendent), Jessie Stinchfield, Mary Lecours, Brad Orbeton, Danielle Vachon-Chair, Jennifer Pooler (Business Manager)
Kingfield School Options Committee Negotiations Team: Martha Witham, Kim Jordan, Mathias Ringle, Kathy Houston

Note: The Kingfield committee had asked to meet in Executive Session. MSAD 58 denied the request.

Agenda Items:

1. Reviewed Engagement Agreements outlined on the agenda.
2. Questions

The Kingfield committee asked the MSAD 58 committee what they would be willing to offer Kingfield as an option to stay in the district. More specifically - How could we work together to get a guarantee to keep our school open and adjust cost sharing so we are paying a more fair proportion? They replied that they hadn't had time to consider an answer. Jennifer Pooler asked why we hadn't asked this years ago. Kim replied that the Selectboard was told by a DOE representative two years ago that any change in cost sharing would require other towns to agree to pay more and would require legislation and was not likely to happen. The committee stated a response to this question would give Kingfield community members another option to vote on.

We also asked when MSAD 58 expected to know what the final reconfiguration options would be. We were told MSAD 58 is trying to work with an architect to get an unbiased opinion. The architect's bids are due Friday. They stated this would be discussed further with the entire school board, at the next board meeting.

3. Negotiation of Individual Items: The table below reflects what was discussed. Note items percentages are based on the proportional percentage Kingfield currently pays to MSAD 58.

Items/Topic	Our Request	MSAD 58 Response	Reasons	Final Decision
Accept our 9-12 students for tuition	Pay 103% of state rate	Accept students, pay 105% of state rate	What Eustis paid when they first withdrew Currently Eustis pays the state rate	

Equipment (furniture, curriculums, maintenance, kitchen, etc...)	Enough for 100ish students	Agree		This is tentatively agreed upon
Buses	3 buses, a mini bus and a tractor	2 buses	Told we can use an EUT bus. However, we have no authority over the EUT and EUT has not made any decisions. We do not have the authority to negotiate with the EUT.	
Laura Columbia's contract	Pay 20% of her contract and "get" 20% of her time	Pay 40% of her contract and get 0% of her time	We will need a 20% Superintendent. MSAD 58 feels the district made a commitment to Laura and we are responsible for keeping our end of the commitment.	
Outstanding debt	We pay approximately 40% of the outstanding debt	Agree	This is the proportional percentage we are currently required to pay from the ED 279	

Items to be Discussed at the next Negotiations Meeting May 26th at 6:45 pm at MTA:

<u>Item/Topic</u>	<u>Our Request</u>	<u>MSAD 58 Response</u>	<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Final Decision</u>
Undesignated Fund Balance				
Reserve Accounts				
Kingfield School				
Mount Abram - other?				

