

**Monadnock Regional School District  
(MRS D) School Board Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2018  
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Winston Wright, Kristen Noonan, Nicholas Mosher, Rob Colbert, Brian Bohannon, Lisa Steadman, Karen Buono, Betty Tatro, Scott Peters. Karen Wheeler, Eric Stanley and Neil Moriarty.  
**Absent:** Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas.

**Administration Present:** L. Witte, Superintendent and J. Rathbun, Director of Curriculum and Development.

**Also Present:** L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary

**“We collaborate not just to teach, but also to engage and educate every student in our district in an environment that is challenging, caring and safe, while fostering life-long learning.”**

1. **Call to Order:** L. Steadman opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

1. **Student Government:** There were no Student Government rep. present.

2. **Public Comments:** Robert Young of Fitzwilliam explained he had received the latest information from L. Witte needed for the Funding Formula spreadsheet. He updated the spreadsheet and presented it to the Board. He explained to keep things simple propose the formula at 69%-31%. Both sides would be unhappy by the same amount. He explained other scenarios and commented it is critical for the Board to take a stand. **R. Colbert arrives.** It is dangerous to go with the 50%-50%. That would be a horrible solution for the District. He would urge the Board to take an affirmative position, oppose the 50%-50% and adopt the 60%-40% with a cap.

J. Rathbun explained the schools will be rotating and staff from the different schools will be reporting to the Board on what is going on in the schools. M. Buonomano from Emerson informed the Board on what is going on in her first grade class. She explained the activities in the classroom. The students read the book “The Peace Book” and then partnered with the 5th and 6th grade students to work on art and writing together. This is a very engaging activity. **K. Wheeler arrives.** She explained how she gets the families involved in their student’s education. She would like to invite the Board to her classroom and observe what is going on. Her biggest challenge is the amount of students in her room. She did explain she is fortunate that this year she has 21 students and extra hands to help.

3. **MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION**

1. **Finance Motions on Warrant Article:** K. Wheeler explained the committee reviewed the articles with the administration and would like the Board to reconsider adding Article Seven from

the 2017 Ballot onto the 2019 Ballot. The committee discussed the order of the warrant articles. They are proposed as follows: Article 1-the Budget, Article 2-Renovations (1 million), Article 3-Health and Safety, Article 4-ACES (if needed), Article 5-Special Education Expendable Trust, Article 6-contract, Article 7-contract, Article 8-advisory nature and Article 9-reports. **MOTION:** K. Wheeler **MOVED** to accept the order of the proposed 2019 ballot draft as previously discussed. **SECOND:** N. Moriarty. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** K. Wheeler **MOVED** that any discussion regarding the Funding Formula discussion, any additional warrant article discussion or placement to go back to the Finance Committee for discussion than back to the full Board. **SECOND:** N. Moriarty. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**2. Facilities Motion on Building Appraisals:** **MOTION:** K. Wheeler **MOVED** up to \$75,000.00 for a feasibility study and appraisals for the District Buildings. **SECOND:** N. Moriarty. **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher asked the administration's position. L. Witte explained it was discussed and J. Swanson had explained when she was at SAU 29 they had done a study and said the \$75,000.00 was enough. K. Wheeler would also propose the study be part of the proposed budget. N. Mosher is afraid if this is passed it will misplace something else. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to challenge the Chair. He said the HR Position discussion was supposed to be on tonight's agenda. (L. Steadman said it is on the November 20, 2018 agenda.) **VOTE:** 5.403/6.474/0/1.123. **Motion fails.** The HR Position will be discussed at the November 20, 2018 Meeting.

**3. Policies for Second Read:**

**1. JICD-Student Discipline and Due Process:** **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to update Policy JICD with the NHSBA sample with the edits recommended by the administration. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**2. JICD-R-MOU for administering JICD with local law enforcement:** **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to update Policy JICD-R with the current NHSBA template. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**3. JIC-Student Conduct:** **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to update Policy JIC with the NHSBA sample as written. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 11.663/0/.214/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**4. JRA-Student Records and Access-FERPA:** **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to update Policy JRA with the NHSBA sample as written. **SECOND:** K. Noonan **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**5. KEB-Complaints about School Personnel:** **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to adopt Policy KEB with the NHSBA sample as written. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to amend the motion and strike in the fourth paragraph the words "through the clerk". **SECOND:** K. Wheeler **VOTE on amendment:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Amendment passes.** **VOTE on amended motion:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**6. KE-Public Complaints:** **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to adopt Policy KE with the NHSBA sample as written. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to amend the motion and add "unless heard in Public Comments at a regularly scheduled meeting" to the end of the second sentence in the second paragraph. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE on the amendment:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Amendment passes.** **VOTE on amended motion:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

L. Witte explained Hockey is not on the agenda because the Finance Committee did not have all the information needed.

**4. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:**

**1. Board Chair Report:**

**1. Monadnock District Funding Formula:** L. Steadman explained the Board will be discussing the Funding Formula in Non-Public Session.

L. Steadman commented on the NHSBA Training Session the Board held. She was disappointed in the attendance of the Board Members. She asked the Board to check their emails daily.

**2. Operations/Superintendent's Report:**

**1. Lions Eye Exams:** L. Witte explained annually the Lions Club is able to provide eye exams screening to the primary grades in the Monadnock District. At MTC there were 238 exams and 15 were referred to an Eye Doctor for further screening. At Gilsum there were 33 exams and 5 were referred to an Eye Doctor for further screening. At Emerson and Troy there were 361 exams and 24 were referred to an Eye Doctor for further screening. L. Witte does not have the amount of what it would cost the District without this free screening provided by the Lions Club. Thank You Lions Club.

**3. Other Matters for Discussion:**

**1. School Safety Preparedness Taskforce Report-Facilities Chapter:** L. Steadman explained the book was emailed to the Board Members. We are looking to see if we are doing the items recommended and our goal is to focus on safety and facilities. We will review every chapter to see if we are doing the recommendations. We are using the grant funds to complete the most important items recommended. There have been about 20 emergency drills done so far this year at the different schools. The drill scheduled for a Saturday in October had been canceled. R. Colbert asked about a panic button at the entryway. L. Witte said she would look into it. N. Moriarty asked about the badges of the employees. L. Witte explained when an employee leaves the badges are disabled and taken away. N. Moriarty said #58 needs to be worked on. K. Noonan and K. Wheeler are happy with the way the drills have been being run. J. Rathbun explained the badges are replaced each year because it is part of the photography package. R. Colbert asked what happens when a staff member does not wear their badge. L. Witte explained the principal needs to know. E. Stanley asked about door jams. J. Rathbun explained the administration is addressing it now.

**2. Field Trip Approval: MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the 2019 Senior Class Trip to Orlando from May 16, 2019-May 19, 2019. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 10.756/0/1.121/1.123. **Motion passes. MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the World Language Class Trip to Canada on February 7, 2019-February 9, 2019. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**3. Policies for a First Read:** The following policies were presented to the Board for a first read: IHAH-World Language in Elementary/Middle School, Policy IHBG-Participation in School Activities by Home Educated and Charter School Pupils, Policy IKFC-Alternative Diploma for Students

with Significant Cognitive Disabilities, Policy JIA-Student Due Process Rights, Policy DKA-Payroll Procedures, Policy DIH-Fraud Prevention and Fiscal Management, Policy AC-Non-Discrimination and Policy ADB-Drug-Free Workplace & Drug-Free Schools.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**1. October 16, 2018 Minutes: MOTION:** K. Buono **MOVED** to approve the October 16, 2018 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro **VOTE:** 10.756/0/1.121/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**2. Non-Public Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the 10:25 PM October 16, 2018 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** S. Peters. **VOTE:** 10.756/0/1.121/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**3. Non-Public Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to approve the 10:30 PM October 16, 2018 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 9.681/0/2.196/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**4. Manifest: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** the manifest for 2018-2019 in the amount of \$2,905,972.74. **SECOND:** K. Buono. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**6. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:**

- 1. Cutler**
- 2. Mental Health Chapter**
- 3. Guidance Counselors**
- 4. HR Position**
- 5. Hockey**
- 6. Policies for 2nd read**
- 7. Auditors presentation FY 17**
- 8. Funding Formula**
- 9. Warrant Articles**
- 10. Preparedness Task Force**

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** It was asked why there was no Student Government Rep. attending the Board Meetings.

L. Steadman explained there will be no discussion after non-public session. She would advise members of the public to review the minutes.

**8. 8:40 PM Non-Public Sessions under RSA 91-A:3,II ( c ): MOTION:** K. Wheeler **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3,II ( c )Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely

affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 9.467/0/1.289/2.244. **Motion passes.**

**9. Return to Public Session: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to seal the November 7, 2018, 8:40 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes until the MS-25 has been filed. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** S. Peters and W. Wright accepted a friendly amendment to seal only the discussion regarding the MS-25. **VOTE:** 5.347/6.530/0/1.123. **Motion fails.**

**10. 9:16 PM Non-Public Sessions under RSA 91-A:3,II ( c ): MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3,II (l) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 9.467/0/1.289/2.244. **Motion passes.**

**11. ADJOURNMENT: MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 PM. **SECOND:** K. Buono. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/0/1.123. **Motion passes.**

**12. Non-Meeting with Counsel immediately after the adjournment of the Board Meeting.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Laura L. Aivaliotis**  
**Recording Secretary**