

December 19, 2017

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2017
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

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

Administration present: L. Witte, Superintendent and J. Rathbun, Director of Curriculum and Assessment.

Also present: L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary, Justin Bemis, Student Government Rep. and Talee, Student Government Rep.

“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. Public Comments: A. Bailey explained he told the School Board he would be submitting a petitioned article regarding the formula at 0%-100%. After a lot of consideration, he will not do that. He would rather go with a 50%-50% formula which is fair.

a. Student Representative Report: Talee and Justin explained the student body will be going on Christmas break. They reported they had a Pep Rally. The Dude Be Nice Winners were Tom Pouliot and Mrs. Russell. The Holiday Show was great and well attended. There is a very good feeling in the school.

2. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:

a. Set Snow Dates Under Policy BEA: MOTION: N. Mosher **MOVED** in the event of a snow day on the night there is a Board Meeting the meeting should be scheduled for the following Tuesday. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **DISCUSSION:** B. Tatro commented there are committee meetings already scheduled on Tuesdays. **MOTION:** R. Colbert **MOVED** to amend the motion and schedule the Board Meeting on the next available day. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 9.009/1.115/0/2.876. **Motion passes.**

b. Discussion about Breach of Confidentiality: L. Steadman explained N. Moriarty shared information which was discussed in non-public session with the Sentinel. **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to publicly censure N. Moriarty for violation of confidentiality. **SECOND:** B. Tatro **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman

shared information on the definition of censure, code of ethics and breach of confidentiality. N. Moriarty explained the meeting was not the source of the data. R. Colbert asked what other options are available. L. Steadman said if the Board censures N. Moriarty they will be able to take further action. W. Wright would like time to discuss this and have all the facts. L. Steadman said the lawyer has reviewed the information. N. Moriarty said his information is accurate but meeting is not the sole source of the data. W. Wright will not vote until there is more discussion. **VOTE:** 5.484/4.426/.214/2.876. **Motion passes.** B. Bohannon asked N. Moriarty if he felt what he did was wrong. N. Moriarty said you are not the single source. L. Steadman said if the administration feels we cannot share the information we need to keep it confidential. N. Mosher said L. Steadman is saying the Board when it is L. Steadman pushing the issue. L. Steadman said she has not discussed this with anyone. B. Tatro said the Board took steps and it needs to stop now.

c. Finalize Warrant Articles: L. Witte explained this Board has not identified a proposed budget number. The Budget Committee will identify the default number. N. Mosher suggested taking the administration's proposed budget number and discussing it. The administration's proposed number is \$31,323,181.00 plus the \$970,000.00 for food service and nutrition for a total of \$32,293,181.00. L. Witte discussed the items which were reduced in the proposed budget and the items that were added or increased as discussed at the joint meeting with the Budget Committee. Article One: **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to put forth the administration's proposed budget number in the amount of \$31,323,181.00 plus \$970,000.00 for a total of \$32,293,181.00. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **C. McDaniel-Thomas arrives** **MOTION:** R. Colbert **MOVED** to table the motion until there is more accurate information regarding the previous year's budget numbers. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

Article Two: **MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to forward Article Two MTC renovations in the amount of 1.4 million dollars to the ballot as presented. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** It was commented this work needs to be done. B. Tatro asked if the 1.4 million was a good number. L. Steadman said the Finance and Facilities has recommended this number. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

The Board received the information needed to move Article One to the ballot in the amount of \$32,293,181.00. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

Article Three: **MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to forward Article Three in the amount of \$210,000.00 for maintenance projects to the ballot. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** B. Bohannon questioned the remodeling piece until we decide on the buildings. He questions replacing the Gilsum roof. D. LaPointe said it is not a safety issue but we need to maintain our buildings. It was explained the bathroom remodel at MTC will be beyond ADA compliant. The Gilsum roof is in

the report and we know the wood structures at MTC need to be replaced. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

Article Four Before and After School Expendable Trust had been removed.

Article Five Special Education Expendable Trust amount has been changed to \$1.00. **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to forward Article Five Special Education Expendable Trust in the amount of \$1.00 to the ballot. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** L. Witte said there was concern at Finance and Facilities regarding the dollar amount. The amount in the article comes from surplus. There is about \$360,000.00 in the account currently. The \$1.00 is a place holder and this amount could be amended at the Deliberative Session. N. Moriarty said keeping it open allows us to add to it if needed. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

Article Six: Specialists Contract: **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to forward Article Six, Specialists Contract to the ballot as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

Article Seven: MDEA Contract: **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to forward Article Seven, MDEA Contract to the ballot as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** N. Moriarty will not vote because of the insurance pool not being settled. **VOTE:** 9.9571/1.075/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

Article Ten: To listen to opinions of a purely advisory nature with regards to the conduct of school affairs for the ensuing year. **MOTION:** B. Mitchell **MOVED** to forward Article Ten to the ballot as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

a. Board Chair Report: L. Steadman explained K. Wheeler and S. Peters were not able to be here tonight.

b. Superintendent's Report:

i. 2018 NHSBA Delegate Assembly: The NHSBA Delegate Assembly information is in the packet.

L. Witte explained the Band will be going to Florida on December 28, 2018 to the National Music Festival with the appropriate number of chaperons. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to approve the Band trip to Florida for the National Music Festival on December 28, 2018. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

L. Witte reported David Jack from District Municipal Resources is an experienced Business administrator and will be helping one day a week in the Business Office and

the other days remotely. She will continue to oversee the central office with a competent staff.

c. Business Administrator's Report:

- i. There is no report.

d. Committee Reports:

i. Finance Committee: The Finance Committee worked on the warrant articles.

ii. Policy Committee: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy ILDA-Non-Instructional Questionnaires, surveys and research as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** The major change is that parents have to opt in instead of opting out of the survey or questionnaire or research. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy JICC Communicable Diseases as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel Thomas explained the major changes proposed and the work the committee did with input from the nurses. **VOTE:** 9.055/2.190/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

L. Witte explained L. Steadman looked at the lack of policies regarding playgrounds in the District. Information was put together with input from the principals and L. Witte then proposed a draft. If this is approved, we must post the age appropriate information for each playground. **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy ECAD-Playground Policy as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

iii. Review of Professional Services Contracted by the District:

MOTION: C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to refer the review of professional services contracted by the District to Finance. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

iv. Continued Discussion on Troy/Emerson Reconfiguration:

1. Response from Dave LaPointe on timeline: D. LaPointe had explained there is very little to do at the two schools for the reconfiguration. There would be a need to change some fixtures in the bathrooms. The timeline could be the next school year.

2. 2017 Building Assessments: L. Witte passed out information on the short term, mid-term and long term fix on the individual buildings according to the evaluation and assessments. N. Mosher explained he read through a few of the reports and he does not believe the public will. It is a good idea to have this information. L. Steadman suggested reading the evaluation and assessment information to determine if the reconfiguration is appropriate. L. Steadman would suggest a committee group discuss the pros and cons regarding the reconfiguration. N.

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Mosher commented bussing will be a big part of this reconfiguration. B. Bohannon would like to request D. LaPointe be in attendance at the next meeting. It would be good to see the value of maintaining the schools or the cost of a middle school. He would like to see a comparison and the figures for the next meeting. This will be on the next agenda.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Approval of the Manifest: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$ 1,258,479.58. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

b. Approval of the December 5, 2017 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION: W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the December 5, 2017 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the December 5, 2017 School Board Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

5. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

1. Troy and Emerson consolidation
2. Approve sealed minutes

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** T. Matson commented the Gilsum roof is estimated at \$66,400.00 to repair and the Troy slate roof is at a similar cost. If the Board was to go ahead with the reconfiguration they should consider repairing the Troy roof.

The Board will recess.

7. **8:30 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (e) Discussion on pending or threatened (in writing) litigation against the Town or Town Officials, Board Members or employees: **SECOND:** B. Tatro **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

8. **9:00 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** B. Mitchell **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 unless such person requests an open meeting; however, this cannot be used to protect a person who is a member of your Board, Committee or Subcommittee: **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.** *R. Colbert leaves the meeting.*

9. **9:30 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Matters which, if discussed in public, would

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likely affect adversely the reputation of any person unless such person requests an open meeting; however, this cannot be used to protect a person who is a member of your Board, Committee or Subcommittee. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

- 10. Public Session: MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to seal the December 19, 2017, 8:30 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes for 10 years. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **VOTE:** 10.124/0/0/2.876. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to seal the December 19, 2017, 9:00 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes indefinitely and to review at the end of the school year. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 10.124/0/0/2.876. **Motion passes.**

- 11. Adjournment: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 9:15 PM. **SECOND:** N. Moriarty **VOTE:** 10.124/0/0/2.876. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary