

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
(Approved Minutes) corrected 6/21/2016
June 7, 2016
YMCA Camp Takodah, Craig Dining Hall, Richmond, NH

Members Present: Betty Tatro, Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, James Carnie, Karen Wheeler, Joseph Smith, Phyllis Peterson, Scott Peters, Lisa Steadman, Winston Wright, Nicholas Mosher and Mike Blair. **Absent:** E. Stanley and Bob Mitchell.

Administration present: L. Witte, Superintendent and J. Fortson, Business Manager.

Also present: L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary and T. Blair, Student Representative to the Board.

“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: There were no Public Comments.

M. Blair asked for a moment of silence for the losses over the past weeks.

2. Matters that require Board Action:

a. Extracurricular Activities Committee:

Motion: To apply an additional \$8538.00 from any unencumbered funds from the 2015-2016 budget to the Ice Hockey Team for the 2016-2017 season:
MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to apply an additional \$8538.00 from any encumbered funds from the 2015-2016 budget to the Ice Hockey Team for the 2016-2017 season.
SECOND: J. Smith **DISCUSSION:** It was commented this should go through Finance and the Board should have all information from the Booster Club prior to the vote regarding their bank account. P. Peterson said the AD is working on information regarding the cost per athlete and equity among sports. He will be bringing a report to the committee. J. Carnie would suggest having this go to the Finance Committee with the information prior to the vote. M. Blair said the issue is timing. The funds need to be unencumbered by July 1, 2016. The Finance Committee will be meeting on June 14, 2016. M. Blair said the AD is working on all the sports but will not have that done prior to the vote. B. Tatro said the hockey team pays for their equipment do any other teams. **K. Wheeler arrives.** J. Fortson explained there are other teams that pay for their own equipment or fundraise for their equipment. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to refer this issue to the Finance Committee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 8.766/0/0/4.239. **Motion passes.**

b. Finance/Facilities Committee:

Motion: Budget Transfer to purchase hand held Multi-Use Radios that will communicate with police/fire and To increase school meal prices beginning August 25, 2016: MOTION: C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to approve the budget transfer to purchase hand held Multi-Use Radios that will communicate with police/fire. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie explained the rationale is in the packet. **MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to postpone until the Board has more information. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson said the funds will come out of the principal's equipment line in each school. **VOTE:** 8.761/0/0/4.239. **Motion passes. L. Steadman arrives to the meeting.**

MOTION: J. Smith **MOVED** to increase school meal prices as presented by T. Walsh beginning on August 25, 2016. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie said he will oppose this. Every year there is a deficit. We need to receive the funds owed to the District. **VOTE:** 6.228/2.410/1.121/3.241. **Motion passes.**

c. Policy Committee:

Motion Delete Policy IGAEA: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** to delete Policy IGAEA. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman said this policy is a duplicate of Policy JLCF. **VOTE:** 8.638/0/1.121/3.241. **Motion passes.**

The Board reviewed Policy BCA-School Board Member Ethics, Policy BCA-R Acknowledgement of School Board Ethics, Policy BGB-Policy Adoption and Policy BEDH-Public Participation at Board Meetings for a first read.

d. Other Committee Motions: There were no other motions.

3. Matters for Information & Discussion:

a. Student Government Report: T. Blair reported there is a Band Cookout tonight. All 6th graders participated in step up day and visited the MS. Graduation was a great success. The Senior Awards were last week and the underclassmen were the next day. The HS Track Team won their 4th Championship. Baseball and Softball are participating in playoffs. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to give the HS Championship Track Team the option to purchase Championship jackets or an appropriate alternative. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson would suggest approaching the team to see what they would like. B. Tatro would suggest adding the year to the jackets. **VOTE:** 9.759/0/0/3.241. **Motion passes.**

b. Superintendent's Report:

i. EZH2O Water Bottle Filling Station: L. Witte heard from Gabby regarding the bottle filling station. She reported with the new station at Emerson they have saved 15,386 water bottles. Gabby thanked the Board for the station. J. Fortson reported some of the other schools are an easy fit but some are more involved. It has been on the Facilities agenda to look at the other schools.

ii. Correspondence-L. Witte passed around a post card and a letter from the DI Teams that attended the Global Competition. They thanked the Board for their support. There is no report on how they placed.

L. Witte informed the Board she has a request from a parent of a student who has been working with the guidance counselor and would like to continue working with this guidance counselor through the summer. We have a policy that prohibits teachers from being a paid tutor. L. Witte said the parent will pay for the time of the guidance counselor. J. Smith is concerned with liability. N. Mosher said he does not have a problem but hopes it does not fall on us. C. McDaniel-Thomas said she would like to support this if we can make this work with the counselor. K. Wheeler asked if the student needs these services and she would support this. L. Steadman said we should do a Statement of Understanding. J. Fortson said if the student has an IEP those services will be provided. M. Blair would ask the Superintendent to dig more into the situation, where liability starts and stops and the needs of that child. N. Mosher said he would like to see this work but we need to be careful. L. Steadman would like to empower the Superintendent to provide necessary support to the student as long as there is no liability to the District. J. Carnie would suggest getting in touch with the attorney to look at both sides of this issue and to bring the information back to the Board. Empower the Superintendent to explore various options and to come back to the Board with a recommendation. It was commented do not stall with the discussion with the attorney. N. Mosher said we have a policy and we will have to suspend that policy. J. Smith commented if the child has an anxiety issue, Section 504 could provide counseling paid by the District and with no liability issue. C. McDaniel-Thomas does not believe Section 504 is applicable. She said our school psychologists were maxed out and the guidance counselor may have been providing the services. J. Carnie said it is okay to discuss this issue but it is not on the agenda. We are being pushed into making a decision. It is an administrative decision. It should be left to the Superintendent. Discuss this with the attorney for the next agenda. M. Blair said this is a Board policy issue. He would agree we do not have the information. He is sympathetic to the student but there is the question of liability. The Board would agree to empower the Superintendent to explore options and make appropriate recommendations to the Board at the next Board Meeting.

L. Witte updated the Board on the fundraisers in the District. She will be attending the Annual Commission Conference on June 27, 2016 and then going on vacation. She will return on July 11, 2016.

iii. Safety Manual: The Board received the Safety Manual in their packets. This has been revised and it is on a 3 year review cycle. **MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to accept the Revised Safety Manual as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 9.759/0/0/3.241. **Motion passes.**

c. Business Administrator's Report:

i. Insurance Bids: J. Fortson presented the Board with information regarding the insurance bids. There were 4 companies who showed interest. Primex came in

with the lowest bid. The Town of Swanzy is also using Primex. She is very pleased with Primex. LGC is no longer providing the services. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to accept the bid from Primex to provide Workman's comp, Property Liability, and Unemployment comp. services to the District as proposed by J. Fortson. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **VOTE:** 9.759/0/0/3.241. **Motion passes.**

ii. Encumbrances for End of Year: J. Fortson would like to review what she has on record for items which would use funds from the unencumbered funds balance on June 30, 2016. She did explain there was a large savings in oil this past year. T. Kennett and J. Fortson have discussed the fact there are a lot more out of district kids and the cost has doubled. She cannot report on how many more students may come into the District prior to school. At the next meeting she will ask the Board to encumber funds for Special Ed. She will be bringing this to the Finance Committee first.

d. Board Chair Report:

i. M. Blair showed the Board a pen which Bill Parkman made and gave to each senior at graduation. The pens were made in shop. M. Blair thanked the School Board Members who attended graduation. He would suggest next year the School Board walk in with the administration. The sports teams are doing positive things in the District.

e. Committee Reports:

i. Policy Committee: The Policy Committee met and discussed the weighted vote. The State Board of Education Minutes are in the Board packet to show the decision by the State Board in regards to the weighted vote. J. Carnie stated the weighted vote must be used.

ii. STEAM: B. Tatro said the committee met and are working on the definition of STEAM.

iii. Finance/Facilities Committee: Finance and Facilities is scheduled to meet on June 14, 2016 at 5:00 PM.

iv. Education Committee: The Education Committee will be meeting on June 14, 2016 and will have an executive summary on the Math Goals.

4. Consent Agenda:

a. Approval of the May 4, 2016 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the May 4, 2016 School Board Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman said her comments regarding inclusion were not in the minutes. She asked that they be put in the minutes. **VOTE:** 7.563/0/2.196/3.241. **Motion passes.**

b. Approval of the May 17, 2016 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the May 17, 2016 School Board Meeting Minutes as

amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman asked that her comments about inclusion be in the minutes. **VOTE:** 7.881/0/1.878/3.241. **Motion passes.**

c. Approval of the May 17, 2016 Non-Public School Board Meeting Minutes: **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the 10:03 PM, 10:08 PM and the 10:20 PM May 17, 2016 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 7.881/0/1.878/3.241. **Motion passes.**

d. Approval of the Manifest: **MOTION:** J. Smith **MOVED** to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$3,137,868.13. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson explained the large manifest amount. **VOTE:** 9.759/0/0/3.241. **Motion passes.**

5. Setting Next Meeting's Agenda:

SAU 93 Minutes
Finance/Education
Encumbered Funds
Hockey
May 4, 2016 Non-Public *S. Peters arrives.*

6. Public Comments: There were no Public Comments.

8:30 PM: M. Blair declared a recess.

7. Non-Public Sessions under RSA 91-A:3 II

a. 8:35 PM Resignations/Leave/Other RSA 91-A:3 II(c): MOTION: J. Smith **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c) Matter which, if discussed in public, would likely affect the reputation of any person. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 9.642/0/1.075/2.243. **Motion passes.**

b. 8:45 PM Nominations RSA 91-A:3 II (b): MOTION: J. Smith **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Consideration of the hiring of a public employee. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 10.757/0/0/2.243. **Motion passes.**

8. 8:57 PM Enter into the SAU 93 Board Meeting.

9. 9:18 PM The Board returned to the MRSB Board Meeting.

10. Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II

a. 9:18 PM Discussion of pending or threatened litigation RSA 91-A:3 II (e): MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Discussion of pending or threatened litigation. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie would like to see the information the administration has on this issue. **VOTE:** 10.757/0/0/2.243. **Motion passes.**

11. Public Session of MRSD Board Meeting: MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to seal the June 7, 2016, 9:18 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes indefinitely. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 8.347/1.075/.214/3.364. **Motion passes.**

L. Witte will contact R. Hawkinson and E. Weber regarding the outcome of the Non-Public Session. She will tell them there was no action by the Board. S. Peters would suggest a non-meeting prior to the next Board Meeting. It was suggested to have J. O'Shaughnessey meet with the Board at 6:00 PM on June 21, 2016. The Board instructed J. Fortson to remain status quo on the withholding of insurance payments. B. Tatro asked if the Board is starting to negotiate with the MDEA. L. Steadman said there has been no request for a joint meeting.

12. Adjournment: MOTION: J. Smith **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 10:51 PM. **SECOND:** J. Carnie **VOTE:** 10.757/0/0/2.243. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary