

March 6, 2018

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)  
School Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 6, 2018**

**Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

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

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

**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. Public Comments:** E. Stanley informed the Board J. Adams has won the State Championship in wrestling in his division. He mentioned the District usually buys championship jackets for the students. The Board will discuss this later in the meeting.

E. Stanley asked who will make the call if there is bad weather on voting day. L. Witte explained the individual towns that hold the poling will make the decision.

- a. Student Representative Report:** J. Rathbun explained Talee and Justin are not able to attend the meeting tonight. J. Rathbun said Fiddler on the Roof will be performed by the students this weekend. The students in the Honors Biology class will be giving a presentation at KSC at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited.

- 2. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:**

- 3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:**

- a. Board Chair Report:**

- i. School Board Self-Assessment:** L. Steadman said she has not received many self assessments from the Board Members. She will wait for the next meeting. She also would like to recognize P. Peterson for her 12 years of service to the District. L. Steadman would also like to recognize B. Mitchell for his 3 years of service to the District.

- b. Superintendent’s Report:**

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**i. March 1, 2018 Walk Out:** The Board will discuss the March Walk Out in support of the students in the Parkland Tragedy. This is appropriate to discuss in non-public.

L. Witte passed out the 2019-2020 MRSD Calendar Draft to the Board. She explained she has sent a copy to the Bargaining Units for feedback. This calendar is very similar to KHS. L. Spencer has been very involved in this process.

L. Witte will be traveling to Concord to testify on HB 193. She explained the proposed changes will have less impact to the State and more to the Districts.

L. Witte passed out information from the NHSBA and letters from students who want to hold the Fiddler on the Roof performance even if school is canceled due to the snow storm. E. Stanley would like L. Witte to consider waiting until 2:00 PM to see how the road conditions are before canceling the performance. L. Spencer has already discussed rescheduling dates for the show. B. Bohannon commented you need to think of the maintenance crew who need to get things cleaned up. E. Stanley said the show cannot be changed because of the orchestra.

**ii. Infrastructure and Safety Grants Update:** Cutler has received the grant funds for the cameras. The District is still waiting to hear about Gilsum, MTC and the MSHS. The grant is an 80-20 match. The 20% would be able to come from unallocated funds.

L. Witte passed out a fundraiser update to the Board.

**c. Committee Reports:**

**i. Cheshire Career Center-Status of sending agreement and state Funding-J. Rathbun:** J. Rathbun explained we are at a place to renew our agreement. It was a 20-year agreement. We have hammered the contract out. The State has to approve the plan. We have had meetings and soon it will be ready for us to sign. J. Rathbun explained he spoke to the Keene Superintendent and they will be forming a committee to look at everything in the Career Center, the operations of the Career Center and Monadnock will be a part of the process.

**ii. Policy Committee:** L. Steadman explained the Policy Committee has presented a packet of policies as a first read to the Board. The Board will take action at the next Board Meeting.

**iii. Community Relations Committee:** C. McDaniel-Thomas explained the committee met tonight. They discussed the next steps for the round table feedback process. There will be gathering feedback from parents, students and staff, after the information is collected the turnaround for the results will be fast. It is done electronically. The committee discussed moving the meeting place in order for the public to feel more welcome. The administration is working on the Strategic Plan.

**d. Other Matters of Discussion:**

**i. Address necessity for discussing school safety in non-public-N.**

**Richardson:** L. Witte explained school safety cannot be addressed in public session. The RSA says the District cannot discuss it in public.

**ii. Update on status of capped pipes in machine trades Room-D.**

**LaPointe:** D. LaPointe said there is no hazard in regards to the pipes. The district has not used them for 40 years. It is not a safety issue. All of the gas lines were checked about a year and a half ago. They are okay.

**iii. Discuss copying approved District documentation to a custodian for preservation:** l. Steadman explained this was N. Moriarty's agenda item and he is not here tonight. The Board will discuss this at the next Board meeting.

**iv. Other items as needed:** Fiddler on the Roof Performance. N. Mosher commented L. Witte should be able to make the determination regarding the performance. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to allow the Superintendent to make a decision contrary to Policy EBCE School Closings regarding the performance. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman said this motion is only for this performance. W. Wright asked what amount of money would be lost. If the students lost money the School Board will help. L. Witte said if it is canceled it will be rescheduled. K. Wheeler is concerned for the students driving to the performance. E. Stanley said to wait, look at the roads and then decide. L. Witte said the safety of the staff and students has to be considered. The policy works the way it should. B. Mitchell asked L. Witte if she is uncomfortable with having the authority to make the decision. L. Witte said she appreciates the question. She is uncomfortable and would like to stick with the policy. B. Mitchell will not support the motion. N. Mosher and P. Peterson withdraw their motion. L. Witte hopes it is only a school delay. C. McDaniel-Thomas suggested taking the funds from the Student Account. L. Witte said there are sufficient funds in that account. E. Stanley said the orchestra cannot be rescheduled. L. Witte has the authority to withdraw the funds from the account.

**MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** to authorize the School District to purchase a championship jacket for J. Adams who won the State Championship in Wrestling for his division. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 10.927/0/0/2.073. **Motion passes.**

**4. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**a. Approval of the Manifest: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$ 1,968,010.92. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 10.927/0/0/2.073. **Motion passes.**

**b. Approval of the February 20, 2018 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the February 20, 2018 School Board

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Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **VOTE:** 8.684/0/2.243/2.073.  
**Motion passes.**

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

- 1. School District Calendar**
- 2. Board Elections**
- 3. Committee Assignments**
- 4. Custodian of Minutes**
- 5. Discussion on Academic Performance**
- 6. Monthly guest speaker**

The Education Committee will decide on the guest speaker to present to the Board monthly.

N. Mosher would like a section on the agenda for Education.

- 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no Public Comments.
- 7. 8:10 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (f) Consideration of matters related to the preparation for, and or carrying out of, emergency functions intended to thwart deliberate acts intended to cause widespread property damage, personal injury and loss of life. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler **VOTE:** 10.927/0/0/2.073. **Motion passes.**
- 8. Public Session: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to seal the March 6, 2018, 8:10 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell **VOTE:** 10.927/0/0/2.073. **Motion passes.**
- 9. 9:06 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** N. Mosher **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:** 10.927/0/0/2.073. **Motion passes.**
- 10. Public Session: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to seal the March 6, 2018, 9:06 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes until there is a signed contract in place. **SECOND:** R. Colbert **VOTE:** 10.927/0/0/2.073. **Motion passes.**
- 11. Adjournment: MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 9:35 PM. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 10.927/0/0/2.073. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary