

May 15, 2018

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2018 (corrected)
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration present: L. Witte, Superintendent, J. Rathbun, Director of Curriculum and Assessment and Janel Swanson, Business Administrator.

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:** Deb Gove a teacher at Emerson Elementary thanked the Board for the Staff Appreciation Luncheon.

J. Kuhn thanked the Board for the Staff Appreciation Luncheon as well. He is reporting on the funds raised for the DI trip to Tennessee as asked by the Board. He said the students will have to pay \$400.00 each instead of a larger amount they had paid last year. He also wanted the Board to see the championship jackets they had purchased for the DI champions. He explained the plane tickets have doubled in cost since last year. The team is short about \$2000.00. **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to fund the DI Team going to the Global Competition in Tennessee with \$2000.00. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **VOTE:** 8.787/0/1.121/3.092. **Motion passes.**

1. **Student Representative Report:** There is no Student Government Report.

2. **MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:**

1. **Policy for 2nd Read: IHAM-R: MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to accept Policy IHAM-R as written. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** It was explained this is a sample from the NHSBA and will be used with Policy IHAM. **VOTE:** 9.908/0/0/3.092. **Motion passes. K. Wheeler arrives.**

2. **Benefits Management Firm:** J. Swanson explained they are still working on this due to some delays. It should be on the next Board agenda.

3. **Tabled Motion: Troy and Emerson Principal: MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to appoint L. Stephens as an acting principal of Troy with no salary increase for the 2018-2019 School Year. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** N. Moriarty said

there is no need for any extra money because she will be there no matter what. K. Stone and L. Stephens answered questions from the Board. R. Colbert asked what the difference is between an assistant principal and a principal. K. Stone and L. Stephens explained. K. Stone explained the 2 communities and staff are very different and to go back and forth between the schools is not the best. L. Witte explained the duties that would warrant the additional pay for L. Stephens. B. Tatro said it is not fair to have L. Stephens do the additional duties without additional pay. L. Witte said she would prefer the term “interim principal” for 2018-2019 rather than “acting”. L. Stephens explained she has all the qualifications to be a principal. **VOTE:** 1.075/9.59/0/2.335. **Motion fails. MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to appoint L. Stephens as the 2018-2019 Interim principal at either Troy or Emerson with a salary increase. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 9.59/1.075/0/2.335. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to request a transfer in the amount of up to \$23,000.00 to Food Service for the 2017-2018 School Year. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** It was explained that we are still trying to collect the past due amounts from the students. **VOTE:** 10.665/0/0/2.335. **Motion passes.**

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

1. Board Chair Report:

1. **Graduation-School Board role:** L. Steadman asked who will be present at graduation. She said they will meet and walk out together. She would ask the members to wear their name tags.

2. Operations/Superintendent's Report:

1. **Awards and Scholarships:** J. Swanson has been working with L. Watkins-Barth on the awards, scholarships and has passed out that information. She does believe there are other scholarships not held by the Trustees. She should have all additional information at the next meeting. *S. Peters arrives.* R. Colbert would like to hear from the Trustees after the additional information is available.

2. **School Safety:** N. Richardson explained he was asked by the administration to put together a list of items to make the District more secure. A lot of the items are similar in each school for instance steel doors, bullet resistant windows at the ground level, hand held radio communication, label doors with 4” lettering, barriers around doors among other items. B. Bohannon would like to have a prioritized list in order to possibly put together a warrant article. We are way overdue. L. Witte explained the fire escape at Troy is part of the structural evaluation. N. Richardson would suggest relocating the fire alarms to the rooms in order to keep them out of the hallways. N. Richardson explained he has asked to meet with the surrounding towns, officers and Sheriff's department and some have responded. He said after Sandy Hook everyone had met at the SAU office. **MOTION:** R. Colbert **MOVED** to conduct a meeting of the fire, police include but not limit to the Sheriff's Dept. and ambulance of all of the surrounding towns. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 11.663/0/0/1.337. **Motion passes.** S. Peters said this list is similar to the list from 3 years ago presented to the Safety

Committee which does not exist anymore. Repairs should be in a rotation nature. C. McDaniel-Thomas said the safety issues should be in a 5 or 10 years plan. Some of the items should not have made the list. They should come out of the Maintenance budget. L. Steadman would support proposed items for Article Three. The Board would like to prioritize the list, discuss items for the regular maintenance budget and meet with the town officials. R. Colbert said he does not see a police officer in the schools. N. Richardson would suggest a minimum of an armed officer in each school. R. Colbert asked how secure is the school prior to the opening of the doors. N. Richardson said anytime there is a play or assembly there is not sufficient staff to monitor.

3.Superintendent Evaluation: L. Witte provided the Board with her last year's goals and objectives and the full survey results. Melissa Alexander is taking the initiative to organize End 68 Hours of Hunger. There are students that leave on Friday from school and may not have a meal until they return to school on Monday. This program will allow the students to take home a bag of food over the weekend. There are many volunteers. E. Weber and M. Alexander will be using the SAU room for the program. Fenton Dealership will donate \$10,000.00 to start the program. They will roll out the program to MTC and Cutler. They hope to have student volunteers and expand to the other schools next year. B. Tatro said to extend it over the summer would be great.

4. Support Staff Notification: L. Witte presented the 2018-2019 Support Staff notification to the Board. The staff has not had school assignments yet. **MOTION:** R. Colbert **MOVED** to allow the Special Olympic Team to attend an overnight fieldtrip at UNH on June 1-June 2, 2018. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **VOTE:** 11.663/0/0/1.337. **Motion passes.**

3. Education Report:

1. Performing Arts Spotlight: J. Rathbun explained we have a very vibrant performing arts program. He said he had met with the principals, music teachers and band teachers. The number of students involved in band is the highest it has been. Band Day is on May 20, 2018 and they will be working with the elementary schools. The high school is thriving but not the MS and the elementary schools. We are looking at the schedules to get more time. We want to push to rebuild the elementary school band. The elementary schools are a big conversation. We have only 2 music teachers for 5 schools. How do we get more band time? We need to develop the feeder program. We are discussing plans that will help. We need to look at K-12 working together. B. Bohannon thanked J. Rathbun for his report.

L. Steadman would ask for the next spotlight be on the library. J. Rathbun would like to wait until the District hires the new Library Media Specialist. The next meeting he will focus on health education and wellness. J. Rathbun hopes to have the SAT results. He explained the State has not released the SAT scores. The third graders are wrapping up their NH State Assessments. S. Peters asked about STEAM and the 5 year plan in the 4th year.

2. 6th Grade Promotion Night: The location and times for the 6th grade promotion nights were announced.

4. Committee Reports:

1. Finance/Facilities: MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to accept the bid in the amount of \$36,220.00 for abatement at MTC and Cutler on behalf of the Finance/Facilities Committee and presented previously by D. LaPointe. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 11.663/0/0/1.337. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to accept the bid in the amount not to exceed \$5500.00 for a structural assessment of the Troy School on behalf of the Finance/Facilities Committee and presented previously by D. LaPointe. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 11.663/0/0/1.337. **Motion passes.**

The Finance Committee will meet on June 12, 2018 at 6:30 PM. The members of the Finance Committee are S. Peters, W. Wright, N. Moriarty and K. Wheeler. The Facilities Committee will meet on May 24, 2018 at 5:30 PM. The members of the Facilities Committee are K. Wheeler, R. Colbert, E. Stanley, B. Tatro, W. Wright and N. Moriarty. The individual committees will set their own schedules.

2. CRC: C. McDaniel-Thomas announced the CRC will be meeting on the third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM.

3. Extra-Curricular: The Extra-Curricular Committee had nominated K. Noonan as the Chair. The committee met but there were no motions. The committee will meet on June 7, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

5. Other Matters for Discussion:

1. Swanzey Board Seat: The Swanzey Board Members are asked to come up with a process to select the vacant Swanzey Board Member seat. S. Peters said the RSA states the committee has until the spring to find a member.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of the Manifest: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$ 1,130,847.26. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 9.467/0/2.196/1.337. **Motion passes.**

2. Approval of the May 1, 2018 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to approve the May 1, 2018 School Board Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 8.423/0/3.240/1.337. **Motion passes.**

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5. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

- 1. Benefits Contract**
- 2. SAT results**
- 3. Update on Negotiations**

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: There are no public comments.

7. 8:50 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION: S. Peters **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:** 11.663/0/0/1.337. **Motion passes.**

8. Public Session: Sealed Minutes: MOTION: S. Peters **MOVED** to approve the Sealed Non-Public Meeting Minutes of May 1, 2018 as amended. **SECOND:** B. Tatro.. **VOTE:** 10.665/0/.998/1.337. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to seal the May 15, 2018, 8:50 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes regarding **Issue #2** indefinitely. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 10.542/1.121/0/1.337. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to seal the May 15, 2018, 8:50 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes regarding **Issue #1** until 2034. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 8.346/2.196/1.121.1.337. **Motion passes.**

J. Swanson will bring bids for a number of firms that deal with school audits.

9. Adjournment: MOTION: N. Moriarty **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 9:35 PM. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 11.663/0/0/1.337. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary