

May 16, 2017

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2017**

Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Phyllis Peterson, Scott Peters, Winston Wright, Nicholas Mosher, Mike Blair, L. Steadman, James Carnie, Bob Mitchell, Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, Robert Colbert and Betty Tatro.

Absent: Eric Stanley and Karen Wheeler.

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: There were no Public Comments.

2. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION

a. Finance:

i. Approve budget transfers as presented: J. Fortson explained three transfers that were presented to the Finance Committee and brought to the full Board for approval. The three transfers are as follows: a transfer in the amount of \$29,872.00 from the 1100 account to be divided between Emerson and Troy for Lori Stevens, a transfer in the amount of \$54,000.00 from the preschool line to the Special Ed. teacher account and to transfer \$67,000.00 divided evenly to Emerson and Troy from the MS/HS. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to three transfers presented by J. Fortson and approved by the Finance Committee. **SECOND:** N. Mosher **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

ii. Approve the appropriation of up to \$23,435.84 from the Food Service Supplemental account: **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to appropriate up to \$23,956.90 from the Food Service Supplement account to cover the delinquent lunch payments. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** The seniors are not in that balance. T. Walsh explained this is a balance from students who have not paid. Hopefully, the balance will be less but he needs it now. He said last year \$3811.00 was sent to collection. We do not hold back privileges but that is the reason for the large amount at the MSHS. R. Colbert said he does not have an issue giving free lunch but he is uncomfortable with this huge debt. He will vote no. There are 36 students who owe \$11,000.00 and 23 are high school students. **VOTE:** 10/1.121/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

b. Policy:

i. Policies for 2nd read:

1. BCA-Board Member Code of Ethics: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy BCA-Board Member Code of Ethics as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

2. BDA-Board Organizational Meeting: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy BDA-Board Organizational Meeting as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman explained the changes. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

3. JQ-Student Fees, Fines and Charges: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy JQ-Student Fees, Fines and Charges as presented. **SECOND:** S. Peters. **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher has concerns with a 6th grader for instance who will be penalized if he breaks a chrome book. L. Steadman explained the policy. M. Blair explained the policy states "it may recover". N. Mosher has a problem with students not being allowed to participate if the student cannot pay. S. Peters said the policy does not say the student is not able to participate. The building administrator will decide. N. Mosher said there is too much leeway for the administrator, very open. L. Steadman said we need to trust the administration. P. Peterson said the administrators know their students. They know if it is an accident. R. Colbert asked if it would make sense to have an appeal process. J. Rathbun said each school looked at this policy and it was not black and white. It was explained when a student breaks something over and over we will take something but it never got to that point. **VOTE:** P. Peterson-yes, W. Wright-yes, N. Mosher-no, N. Moriarty-yes, M. Blair-yes, C. McDaniel-Thomas-yes, B. Mitchell-yes, R. Colbert-yes, B. Tatro-yes, S. Peters-yes and L. Steadman-yes. 10.908/.214/0/1.878 **Motion passes.**

L. Steadman informed the Board the Policy Committee will meet on May 23, 2017 and discuss The Head Lie Policy, Bullying Policy and other items.

c. Community Relations

i. Board Retreat: MOTION: S. Peters **MOVED** on behalf of the CRC to empower the CRC to plan a joint retreat with the select boards, time to be determined this summer. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **DISCUSSION:** S. Peters explained the retreat will be something like the previous joint meeting in October. The meeting will have the similar format. B. Mitchell is highly support of this effort. N. Mosher said his selectmen said the previous discussion was valuable. R. Colbert would suggest specific big items not a discussion on everything. P. Peterson would suggest making a list of accomplishments. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

a. Student Representative Report: The student representatives are preparing for their Senior Projects. There is a schedule for the Senior Projects and all are welcome.

b. Superintendent's Report: L. Witte passed out a calendar of events for the Board. June 3, 2017 is graduation. If Board Members are going to attend graduation they will need to let M. Blair and L. Sutton know. The Board should arrive at 9:30 AM. Thursday is Evening Division Graduation. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to approve the Special Olympic field trip to UNH on June2-June 3. This is an overnight trip. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

L. Witte reported she has had notification from the DRA and they would urge the District to have a vote to ratify the elections. She would suggest going ahead and schedule the vote so it is all above board. M. Blair will add it to the next agenda. It has to be posted 72 hours in advance. It is a simple ratification of the election and articles. Roxbury was the only town to have postponed the vote.

c. Business Administrator's Report:

i. Pre-School Playground: L. Witte reported J. Fortson will be gathering folks to look at the preschool equipment. The notifications are going out.

ii. Bus Bids: L. Witte reported the bus bids came in and there was only one bid from First Student. L. Witte passed out the information. The bid does not include Special Education bussing. The Special Education bid is a separate bid and there should be more. She would ask the Board to hold off on voting until the next meeting.

iii. ACES 93 Grant: L. Witte informed the Board that ACES 93 did not receive the grant for Troy, Cutler or MTC. There was also confusion on the amount of funding. We did not make the cut. She will try to get clarification on what is available. We are still looking to see how to fund the program but we are not sure how it will look like. We can use the funds from the 2018 budget. L. Witte did say the summer program is okay. R. Colbert said the voters voted this down. It is a hard lesson, their vote matters but we are still finding this. We are saying voting doesn't matter. It was explained they did not vote down the program they voted down the Expendable Trust. P. Peterson said people who receive the program need to go to the poles.

L. Witte has asked First Student for additional information on the late bus issue and they have not responded yet.

d. Board Chair Report: M. Blair explained he has received numerous thank you notes from the staff regarding the staff appreciation luncheon. It was well received. M. Blair would ask all committees to review and work on their committee charters. It is a guide for the work on the committees. L. Witte would like to thank T. Walsh and his staff for the luncheons. It was mentioned that Gap Mtn. Lions Club would like to help with the playgrounds.

e. Committee Reports:

i. Education

1. NEASC Upcoming Visit: B. Tatro reported D. Cole and L. Spencer informed the committee of the upcoming NEASC visit in Sept. They would like to report on the upcoming visit to the full Board in August. The Endicott Survey was explained and Title One and the Southwest Center at KSC will fund the upcoming 2-day STEAM training with Y. Spicer from the Boston Museum of Science.

2. Assessment Information: J. Rathbun had provided the PSAT results in the packets. N. Mosher said he was shocked at the results. J. Rathbun said it is offered to the 11th graders but mandatory to the 9th and 10th graders. N. Mosher commented on the fact only 1 out of 3 made the benchmark for Math and English. He asked if this is being addressed. J. Rathbun said he and L. Spencer have met regarding the PSAT scores and they are also looking at other data. The spring 9th and 10th PSAT scores showed good scores in English. The administration is meeting tomorrow to discuss the scores. N. Mosher asked about intervention for these children. J. Rathbun said guidance

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meet with the children. We need to look at the curriculum not only the individual child. R. Colbert said this is alarming. When the administration comes up with a plan he would like to have the plan. P. Peterson said some students do not take tests well. J. Rathbun said we are meeting tomorrow and will discuss these issues. L. Steadman said we had a lot of students take the test and possibly if not mandatory would not have taken the it. B. Tatro said there is a Ferry Beach Digital Presentation in the Annex on June 8, 2017 at 11:00 AM.

ii. Finance: P. Peterson said the committee discussed late buses, the drop off spots and the fact the District cannot be liable. The members had a long conversation on the late bus issue.

iii. Community Relations: S. Peters reported the committee met and discussed the Strategic Plan, Mission and Vision being worked on by the administration. They discussed the Strategic Communication Plan.

iv. Long-range Advisory Committee: M. Blair reported this is an advisory committee and with 15 people in attendance with a majority of the people from Gilsum and Swanzey. There were no representatives from Richmond or Roxbury. He would like to encourage people to attend. The next meeting is on Thursday May 25, 2017. B. Tatro would like to encourage Board Members to attend.

v. Negotiations: L. Steadman informed the Board the Team has received a request from the Specialists of the Monadnock District to start negotiations. The proposed date is May 30, 2017. They are still looking for a request from the MDEA. L. Witte just informed the Board they do have the request from the MDEA. N. Moriarty thought we were going to have a meeting with the Budget Committee to discuss negotiations.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Approval of the Manifest: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$ 1,337,944.60. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.818. **Motion passes.**

b. Approval of the May 2, 2017 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the May 2, 2017 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

5. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

- 1. Charter CRC**
- 2. Late Buses**
- 3. Ratify Vote**

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

L. Witte has the feedback from the Board regarding her evaluation process and will pass it out to the Board during non-public. She explained that is the process. She explained she is the only employee the Board evaluates.

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It was mentioned the NHSBA is hosting a workshop on May 24, 2017 on Superintendent Evaluations. All are welcome.

N. Mosher would like to hear from J. Rathbun on what we are going to do regarding the students who did not do well on the test. J. Rathbun said theses are old tests from October. He is not sure how much he can report on. The results came in December but due to the snow Board Meetings were canceled. M. Blair suggested J. Rathbun work through the Education Committee regarding the scores and the process.

M. Blair called a 10 minute recess.

- 7. 8:20 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** P. Peterson **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 you board, Committee or Subcommittee. **SECOND:** R. Colbert **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**
 - 8. 8:23 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Consideration for hiring a public employee. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**
 - 9. Public Session:** N. Mosher asked the qualifications for a RN Nurse. L. Witte explained the new hire nurses need to have a minimum of a B.A., those already on staff are grandfathered.
 - 10. 8:29 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Dismissal, promotion or setting compensation for a public employee. **SECOND:** N. Mosher **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**
 - 11. Public Session; MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to seal the 8:29 PM, May 16, 2017 Non-Public Board Meeting Minutes until July 1, 2017. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**
- N. Mosher would like to have an update from F. DeTurris or N. Richardson.
- 12. Adjournment: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 9:21 PM. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary