

April 3, 2018

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2018 (corrected)
Emerson Elementary, Fitzwilliam, NH

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

Administration present: J. Rathbun, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, 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: No public comments.

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

2. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:

1. Apportionment-Policy DBF Advisory Committee to the Board: Discussed in the conversation with Monadnock Funding.

2. Committee Assignment Confirmation: MOTION: N. Mosher **MOVED** to approve the committee assignments as presented and to add K. Noonan to the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 8.514/0/0/4.486. **Motion passes. (E. Stanley and B. Karush arrive)**

3. Custodial Care of Sealed District Documentation: MOTION: N. Moriarty **MOVED** to have one copy stamped (on each page) “Master”, dated and initialed, by the SAU 93 chair (on each page); hereafter called “Master”. Have the Town of Swanzey Trustees store the master (s) in date sequence. Only SAU 93 Clerk can retrieve a Master at the request of the SAU 93 School Board. Given the SAU 93 clerk is an employee of the SAU 93, the SAU 93 School Board will appoint an alternate person to retrieve the Master from the Swanzey Trustees. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **DISCUSSION:** It was asked if the Swanzey Trustees had agreed to store the documents. N. Mosher would agree with the concept but all parties must agree. N. Moriarty said he will contact the Swanzey Trustees. R. Colbert also supports this motion. S. Peters would like to review the NHSBA policy and review the Board policy if any. **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** as a friendly amendment to send this issue to Policy and put it in the next ten policies being discussed. **SECOND:** W. Wright.

DISCUSSION: N. Moriarty and K. Wheeler would agree. **VOTE:** 10.756/0/0/2.244.
Motion passes.

3. Presentation to the Board:

1. Monadnock Funding Group: Ben Drugg and Robert Young of the Monadnock Funding Group passed out information to the Board. They read their mission statement and their statement of intention. They submitted a timeline and had voted to be a non-official advisory committee. A flow chart was also provided. The group discussed legal counsel and R. Colbert asked who that would be. B. Drugg said at this time they do not have legal counsel. They did say they would get their own legal counsel and possibly have the Board's legal counsel also review the information. It was suggested to have the petitioned article go to Finance/Facilities but L. Steadman said that does not need to happen. B. Drugg said it would be beneficial to have free advice from the Board's legal counsel early enough in the process. R. Young said it may be beneficial to get the Budget Committee on board. J. Swanson commented she is not sure about using the Board's legal counsel because this is an advisory committee. They are asking for feedback from the Board. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to allow the Monadnock Funding Group the flexibility without RSA 91 A and to be a non-official advisory committee. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **DISCUSSION:** (C. McDaniel-Thomas arrives) L. Steadman said there is no reason why we cannot sanction down the road. B. Bohannon said we have a certain responsibility. He is okay with leaving it as an advisory now. **There was no vote on this motion.**

5. 3/27 Motion on Consolidated K-8 School: The Board is revisiting the tabled motion from March 27, 2018 **MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to instruct L. Witte and D. LaPointe to acquire an engineering firm to submit a proposal for a K-8 structure. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **DISCUSSION:** R. Colbert asked for a friendly amendment to request that a potential energy savings accompany the proposal. B. Bohannon would agree to the friendly amendment. B. Bohannon said the NESDEC Report and D. LaPointe said there are too many buildings in the district. D. LaPointe is also concerned with the environmental issues in Troy. K. Wheeler was told that W. Lechliden was running the 3/27 meeting, did not realize the Board would be voting on motions and she was not able to attend the meeting. K. Wheeler said the motion was out of order. **MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to amend and to ask the administration to request a RFP for one, K-6 school on the MTC site also to ask the Superintendent to do a RFP to hire the appropriate firm to prove or disapprove D. LaPointe's concerns at the Troy School. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **DISCUSSION:** It was commented that a RFP has a cost and the environmental study has a cost. D. LaPointe had said the ability to expand on Troy could be effective by what is under the building. It is the old Troy Factory site. B. Bohannon said the school would house all students at MTC and Culter and to design it for future expansion. N. Moriarty said you need to have the work done at the Finance Committee level. B. Bohannon said the man from Trane explained there is a guarantee savings and they would back a bond. N. Mosher said this needs to be discussed more and it should not go to committee before we have the cost. R. Colbert said there are so many components. We are not the first District in

this situation. Let's focus on the components and hire someone. J. Swanson commented on a similar project. They asked for the RFP and then had the number. It was commented closing Cutler and moving everyone to MTC will take community involvement. R. Colbert said we have had the conversation. K. Wheeler said towns will be liable for the life of a bond if they withdraw from the District at anytime. K. Noonan said the cost to repair Culter is not as significant as Troy. This was stated in the Turner Reports. C. McDaniel-Thomas said the campus will be in turmoil with construction going on. E. Stanley said D. LaPointe knows the process and he knows what needs to be done. R. Colbert commented the enrollment is declining, people are begging for tax relief and in order to get new taxpayers we need to improve our physical plant. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to add a friendly amendment to close Cutler, move the students to an addition at MTC and combine Emerson and Troy. **B. Bohannon declined the friendly amendment.** B. Bohannon said there was an uproar from Troy and Fitzwilliam recently about consolidating. N. Mosher would like to table the motion. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to table this motion until the next meeting. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 10.762/2.236/0/0. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** R. Colbert **MOVED** to request a RFP for an environmental study and soil analysis on the ground of the Troy School. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **DISCUSSION:** It was asked if a study had ever been done before. W. Wright said there have been a lot of studies for Troy Mills. W. Wright would suggest asking the State. E. Stanley said he does not believe we should go down that road. We need to put a price tag on that. K. Wheeler said we do not have the cost. S. Peters said Policy DJE requires the bidding process for purchases over a certain price. We have not budgeted for this. We need a direction. K. Wheeler would like to table this motion and get more information from L. Witte and J. Swanson. J. Swanson said the project she was involved in the RFP did not cost anything. She does not see the harm of a RFP. B. Bohannon said he changed his motion due to the concerns of the Troy School. B. Bohannon would like to call for a vote. E. Stanley said usually a committee would take up this issue, discuss it in committee and bring the motion to the Board. K. Wheeler said the Board will need a 2/3 vote. **VOTE:** 7.809/3.311/1.878/0. **Motion passes.**

6. Gate Receipts Policy/Procedure: K. Wheeler explained she had received an email from T. Cote asking to allow the Hockey Team to utilize the gate receipts. K. Wheeler read the email. It says that this is the only team that has to pay part of the cost to play. N. Mosher would like to see the spread sheet T. Cote has been working on. B. Bohannon said we have not seen the AD, he will not support this. E. Stanley said Hockey does not need to come to the Board. K. Wheeler asked if the Board will be approached by other teams if we do this. B. Tatro said we need to research a policy. **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to allow the Hockey Team to keep the gate receipts from their games and to form a procedure agreed upon by the Business Administrator. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** N. Moriarty would like to know about the other teams. N. Moriarty would add a friendly amendment and to limit this motion to the 2017-2018 season. W. Wright would agree. **VOTE:** 9.421/3.577/0/0. **Motion passes.** E. Stanley would like this on the next agenda to look at the hockey team paying as all the other teams do.

7. Annual Board Goal Setting: L. Steadman asked the Board to choose three or four goals. She would suggest Funding Formula, Capital Improvement Plan, School Safety or Reasonable contracts. **MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to choose Student Performance, Capital Improvement Plan and School Safety as the three Board Goals for this year. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman asked what it means to focus on Student Performance. She asked if it would be J. Rathbun reporting at each meeting. C. McDaniel-Thomas said she is uncomfortable with chopping off the Funding Formula from the list. She said she feels as if it is our job. S. Peters said we are setting aside the contracts but it will be the job of the Board. R. Colbert said he would like to see a discussion on limiting the agenda. L. Steadman said these three topics will be on the agenda monthly. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/1.121/0. **Motion passes.** R. Colbert is worried about the size of the agenda.

4. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

1. Board Chair Report: L. Steadman said this Board does not follow Roberts Rules of Order all the time and she is okay with that. Policy says the Board does not have to follow Roberts Rules of Order. N. Moriarty said it is the will of the Board to decide if it is okay to follow or not follow Roberts Rules of Order. W. Wright said a Board Member can challenge the Chair. N. Mosher would personally like to follow Roberts Rules of Order and the Chair has the ability to interpret.

2. Education Report:

1. Student Performance Data Conversation: J. Rathbun had placed information in the board packets a cheat sheet with vocabulary words, data on the students who are on grade level reading. He will ask the Board for a list of topics they would like to hear about and he will place that information in future Board packets and take questions at the next meeting.

2. Elementary Literacy: J. Rathbun placed the Elementary Literacy Plan in the Board packets. He explained there is not a text book it is based on a balanced literacy plan. They use a lot of formative assessments. The results are quick and often. J. Rathbun reviewed the data results. He said there is a new test this year. B. Bohannon asked if the teachers have time to address each student in regards to their test results and their needs. J. Rathbun explained we have WIN Time for students K-12. The time available is a 45 minute block. The Literacy Plan has so many pieces the teachers are finding it difficult fitting all of the pieces into one day. **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to ask the Education Committee and J. Rathbun to review the class size policy. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** S. Peters said the policy does not address class size if it is right on the edge and it does not address students with unique needs. **VOTE:** 11.877/0/1.123/0. **Motion passes.**

3. Title I Highlights, Initiatives and Areas of Concern: J. Rathbun explained Title One is one of the oldest federally funded grants. The funds can only be used to supplement identified students. Title One does pay for some of the salaries of Title One staff. The grant is monitored by the State and the way the funds are used has to be approved by the State. We have a really good standing. Title One supports Ready for

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Kindergarten which is a parent support program. We have the flexibility to expand the program but it is an obstacle to get parents to attend.

3. Operations Reports:

1. Superintendent Report:

1. Welcome Business Administrator Janel Swanson: The Board welcomed J. Swanson as the new Business Administrator. J. Rathbun passed out information on the upcoming field trips. He also passed out information on the number of people who voted in March in the past 4 years and this present year.

2. K9 Activity Update: As part of a routine exercise the K9 went through the MS/HS and did not detect anything.

3. Update on Fiddler on the Roof Cancellation Impact: J. Rathbun reported the performance lost \$2759.00 as a result of the snow day on the opening day of the musical. The group does have a balance of \$8500.00 in their fund for future performances. There is no recommendation from the administration. **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve a balance transfer in the amount of \$2759.00 from the Activity Account to the Show Account to cover the shortage as a result of the snow day on the opening day of Fiddler on the Roof. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

4. Current Organizational Chart: The Organizational Chart was placed in the Board packets. The chart has been made simpler. It does let you know who oversees who. The Board gave suggestions and asked to revisit the chart again

4. Committee Reports:

1. Policy-Policies for 1st read (EHB, IHBA-R, IHBA, IHBA-R, IGE, IHAM Revisit Tobacco Policies (GBED, ACD) and JICH: S. Peters said most of the policies were adopted from the NHSBA recommendations. At the last meeting the Board requested the committee look at the Tobacco policies again which they did. Policy JICH is Drug and Alcohol Use by Students. **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy GBED Tobacco Free Workplace/No Smoking, Policy ADC Tobacco-Free Schools and Policy JICH Drug and Alcohol Use by Students as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. N. Mosher said he would like the public to know that he supports people trying to stop smoking with the help of certain items discussed in the policies.

2. Negotiations: S. Peters said he would like to set up a non-meeting. The Negotiations committee will be meeting prior to the summer to set something up. The MDEA has sent a letter of intent.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

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1. Approval of the Manifest: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$ 1,807,273.73. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler **VOTE:** 9.810/0/3.188/0. **Motion passes.**

2. Approval of the March 6, 2018 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION: W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the March 6, 2018 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **VOTE:** 9.810/0/3.188/0. **Motion passes.**

3. Approval of the March 20, 2018 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION: B. Bohannon **MOVED** to approve the March 20, 2018 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 11.885/0/1.115/0. **Motion passes.**

4. Approval of the March 27, 2018 School Board/Budget Committee Meeting Minutes: The Board will vote on these minutes at the next meeting.

6. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

- 1. Capital Improvement Plan**
- 2. Environmental Study Quotes**
- 3. T. Cote Sports Spreadsheet (in packet in advance)**
- 4. Hockey support as other sports**
- 5. Education Report J. Rathbun**
- 6. Committees**
- 7. Organizational Chart**
- 8. Approve 3/27 Minutes**

- 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** J. Deris a parent from Fitzwilliam whose child went to Emerson explained her straight A student was not doing very well at a private school. She said there is something seriously wrong with the system. Not a lot of focus on the bright side.

Deb Goev said there needs to be input and a study on how to reconfigure the schools. We need to think about how we will fund these projects. You could do a warrant each year but what happens when one of the years it does not pass. We need the environmental study. We need to look at the safety of the students and the staff.

A. Hopkins thanked B. Bohannon and R. Colbert for bringing up the school issues more in depth. The talk is way overdue. The School Board should deal with the formula. You are the leaders and you need to lead. Outreach to the towns and maybe you could sell a bond. Let the Budget Committee be a part of negotiations. The Budget Committee would like the contracts in December.

- 8. 10:20 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** B. Bohannon **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

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body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. **SECOND:** B. Tatro **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

9. **10:30 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Consideration of the hiring of any person as a public employee. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**
10. **Adjournment: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 10:50 PM. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler **VOTE:** 11.885/0/0/1.115. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary