

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
Approved Minutes
March 2, 2010
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Bruce Barlow, Gene White, Ed Jacod, Winston Wright, Eric Stanley, Richard Thackston, Patricia Bauries, Lisa Carpenter, Phyllis Peterson, James Carnie and Robert Smith. **Absent:** Tim Aho, William Felton and unassigned seats from Roxbury and Surry.

Administration present: K. Dassau, Superintendent, D. Hodgdon, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and P. Bell, HR Director.

Also present: B. Tatro, K. Craig, D. Mousette, L. Sutton, D. Dahl and B. Pickering.

W. Wright opened the public meeting at 6:00 PM

“The goal of the Monadnock Regional Board is to improve student achievement.”

6:05 PM MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91 A: 3 II (a) and (e). **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

The Board returned to public session at 7:20 PM.

1. Consent Agenda: MOTION: R. Thackston **MOVED** to accept the February 16, 2010 School Board Meeting Minutes as submitted. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE:** 7.660/0/4.435/2.905. **Motion passes.** The Board would be voting on the February 16, 2010 Non-public Minutes in non-public session tonight.

2. Student Government Report: R. Skrocki reported that the committee met today during 7th period. They were brainstorming on what they could do to get the facts out about the proposed budget. They would be moving their meetings to the library in order to get more students involved. They hope to get a representative from each club to attend the meetings to report and take information back to their clubs. R. Skrocki thanked G. White for his years of contribution to the schools.

3. Correspondence and Announcements: B. Pickering reported on the Learning Fair that was going on in the MS/HS tonight. There was a great teacher turn out and the students had a lot of positive projects.

K. Dassau reported that Cutler students raised \$550.00 for Haiti.

K. Craig congratulated the Emerson/Troy Boys Basketball Team on their championship. The Emerson PTCO provides after school activities to students free of charge. The first and second grades did a service learning project and raised over \$1000.00 for Haiti.

Emerson had received a grant for fresh fruits and vegetables. The children are trying new things.

B. Tatro reported that the Mt. Caesar PTO would be holding a candidates night. B. Tatro reported that the I Love To Read Week is integrated with wild life.

L. Sutton reported that on Sunday from 6:30-8:30 there would be a free Monadnock Family Skate Night sponsored by the Middle School. The National Junior Honor Society is collecting pennies for patients. The middle school would be sponsoring a wellness day program in March.

D. Dahl reported on March 27, 2010 they would be holding the 11th annual curriculum fair each class would have a particular theme.

D. Mousette reported that they held a meet the candidates meeting. He reported on the SERASC meeting in which 20 people attended. The meeting was very enlightening.

4. Public Comments: N. Moriarty commented that he was told a position at Mt. Caesar was going away due to lack of funds. He would ask the Board to fund the \$2800.00 to keep the position.

A. Gross commented on the commitment of G. White to the students throughout the schools. He thanked him for his service to the district.

C. Kahn asked if the Finance Committee might think about not having their meetings during working hours.

K. Cota thanked the Board for their work. She commented that the Board is the Board of Education. She commented that she takes offense to issues done by Board Members regarding the Business Manager Search Committee. She commented on the non-meeting minutes that are being sealed. She asked why for the non-meetings. She would like to know under the Right to Know how many meetings with the attorney and the cost. Why can't these issues be in public session.

5. Curriculum Report: D. Hodgdon passed out a brochure he made to the Board explaining the workshop that would be held on March 19, 2010 for the teachers. The Literacy and Reading workshop is offsite and paid for by Title II A funds. This workshop is very valuable to the staff. D. Hodgdon also reported the SERASC Study is moving along. He reported that he would be having a conference call with the study committee and then reporting and updating the Ed. Committee.

6. New Business: J. Carnie commented on information being sent home with students regarding candidates running for public office. He said that it is against policy and he would like to see a report made to the Board on what disciplinary action is going to be taken by the administration against the person or persons responsible. He said that the public is concerned about this issue. K. Dassau commented if the administration discussed the disciplinary action it would put the Board in a position if there were a

grievance. J. Carnie commented that the situation needs to be addressed. He asked how the administration is going to address this issue. R. Thackston commented to fix this situation so it does not happen again. K. Dassau explained a similar situation happened 6 or 7 years ago. A flier went home from Mt. Caesar with the children. This new issue is a case of a teacher who sent home a flier with two students. The teacher was spoken to and apologized. All fliers going home with students are to be approved by the principal. He reported that the teacher in question has already given the Board her resignation prior to this issue.

MOTION: R. Thackston **MOVED** to consider the proposal made by N. Moriarty made during Public Comments to be placed on the agenda. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **VOTE:** 12.095/0/0/2.905. **Motion passes.** B. Tatro explained that this decision to bring in Kathy Simons who has a different tool set was a decision made by the administration. B. Barlow commented that this is the decision of B. Tatro. P. Bauries and P. Peterson agreed. N. Moriarty commented if the Title I funds are not spent it goes away.

7. Old Business:

1. SAU Business Administration Search: It was suggested to add P. Bauries to the Business Search Committee to replace B. Barlow. W. Wright did not realize that there was a vacancy on the committee. R. Thackston commented that it was not worth the Board's time to know who is on the committee not knowing the status of the Business Search Committee situation. W. Wright explained that this issue would be placed on the agenda until the issue is resolved.

8. School Board Committee Report:

1. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow reported that the green sheets containing the warrant information have been mailed out. The mailing was \$500.00 less than last year's mailing. He reported the Monadnock Tax Payers Association would not have a yellow sheet this year. The committee decided not to do the videos. Last year they were not viewed by many people. He has submitted a letter to the Keene Sentinel regarding the upcoming vote. The committee met with the Fitzwilliam Selectmen. The Selectmen thanked the Board for the work on the budget. B. Barlow commented on the number of students on free or reduced lunch. The committee would be expanding their communication relations. The next meeting is on March 16, 2010 at 6:00 PM.

2. Education Committee: J. Carnie reported that the committee did not meet. The next meeting is on March 4, 2010.

3. Facilities Committee: E. Jacod reported the domestic hot water project has been completed and a small amount of asbestos was dealt with by professionals. He commended the Maintenance Dept. for their excellent planning. The preferred controls for the gym air handler project are products of Control Technologies Corporation. In order to receive three bids they may have to get two from out of state. B. Mitchell will ask for assistance on the specifications for the job from Control Technologies. B. Mitchell discussed the Gilsum courtyard with SIRS Architecture of Marlborough. They suggest an architectural design. B. Mitchell would get three different requests for proposal for design for the committee to review. There is a concern that the proposal be at a reasonable cost.

4. Finance Committee: J. Carnie reported that the committee did not meet. The next meeting is on March 4, 2010. J. Carnie would request a break down of the most recent legal fees.

5. Policy Committee: The committee has not met.

6. Budget Committee: No report.

7. Cheshire Career Center: W. Wright reported that the committee met on Feb. 17, 2010. Information was passed out to the committee on the programs at the CCC. J. Logan and the students presented an excellent video on the programs.

8. Northern Schools: L. Carpenter reported that the committee met on Feb. 11, 2010. They are compiling the ideas and goals into a draft with recommendations completing it by March 18, 2010 to be presented to the Board.

9. Action on the manifest: MOTION: R. Smith. **MOVED** the Board accept the manifest in the amount \$1,679,193.86 **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 11.074/0/1.021/2.905. **Motion passes.**

10. Superintendent's Report: K. Dassau reported that the next Board Meeting would be an organizational meeting and that he would open the meeting for the nominations of Chair.

11. Board Chair Report: W. Wright thanked the Board for the opportunity to lead this group. He said that he would not be running for Chair again.

12. Setting the next agenda:

1. Information to public through students.

2. Business Manager Search Committee Issue

13. Public Comments: C. Dreyfuss thanked G. White for his time, energy and commitment to the Board. She asked if the green flier presented by the CRC was approved by the Board. The answer was no. She suggested that the Board not reprimand for something they also do. She also thanked E. Jacod. She suggested keeping the leadership team on the Maintenance Dept. It would be stupid to get rid of any part of this team. Continue to maintain the buildings.

N. Moriarty agreed with C. Dreyfuss the CRC should have had approval from the Board on the green fliers. N. Moriarty said that he can not believe that there is not an incident report used at the schools. He asked that the Policy Committee review this issue.

14. 8:35 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91 A: 3 II (e) Litigation. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **VOTE:** 12.095/0/0/2.905. **Motion passes.**

15. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: B. Barlow **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 12.095/0/0/2.905. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis

Recording secretary