

Approved Minutes
MONADNOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA
August 11, 2009
Monadnock Middle/High School, Swanzey, NH

Present: Jane Fortson, James Carnie, William Felton, Eric Stanley, Ed Jacod, Bruce Barlow, Phyllis Peterson, Winston Wright and Gene White. **Absent:** Robert Smith, Richard Thackston and Tim Aho.

Also Present: K.Dassau, Superintendent, D. Hodgdon, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and E. Wammack, Business Manager. Principals: L. Sutton, J. Smith, B. Tatro and D. Mousette

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

The Keene Sentinel is recording.

PUBLIC HEARING per RSA:20-b:

1. **American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA): MOTION:** B. Barlow **MOVED** to enter into the Public Hearing under RSA:20-b. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 10.053/0/0/4.947. **Motion passes.** D. Hodgdon explained the reason for the funds. He explained that they are to encourage the economy and to bring the IDEA Funds closer to where they should have been. K. Shanks explained where the additional funds would go to such as the Fast Forward computerized reading program, Ready For Kindergarten position and materials, After School programs for Title I Schools, parent training, a social worker and transportation. J. Bischoff explained that the funds would be used for a Train the trainer mentor program and an online network program to train and strengthen the paraprofessionals and for a mental health position at Mt. Caesar for the PUPS Program. N. Moriarty asked about the spending of the \$318,000.00. K. Shanks explained that the \$318,500.00 of the Fast Forward program is for software and training. J. Bischoff explained that the social worker is for assistance with homeless, it is the law. P. Bauries asked about the \$35,000.00 position. J. Bischoff explained that this position is to help keep the out of district costs down. B. Tatro spoke in favor of the PUPS Program. N. Moriarty commented about the increase of positions. B. Tatro explained that she would make every effort to find the funds in the upcoming budget. She feels very strongly about the position. D. Hodgdon explained that the amount of funds that we are expected to receive is pretty close. The figures are accurate. Other funds should also be coming into the District in the future. D. Hodgdon explained that the funds are approved for items requested. The funds need to be expended and then we get reimbursed. J. Carnie asked why the Education Committee did not have this information first. D. Hodgdon explained that the Education Committee met after D. Hodgdon’s committee came together. K. Dassau explained that Fast Forward was discussed with the Education Committee. The Fast Forward Program is for grades K-12. P. Bauries commented on the 6 children in the PUPS Program. B. Tatro explained that is the maximum capacity according to the State of NH. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to close the public hearing. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 10.053/0/0/4.947. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** W. Felton **MOVED** to accept the IDEA Projects outlined in the amount of \$401,500.00. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 8.123/0/2.0/4.947. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** W. Felton. **MOVED** to accept the Title I Projects outlined in the amount of \$347,700.00. **Motion passes.**
2. **Be True To Your School (BeTTY’S): MOTION:** E. Stanley. **MOVED** to enter into a Public Hearing under RSA 20-b. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 10.053/0/0/4.947. **Motion passes.** E. Stanley explained that it was agreed upon that the funds raised and matched would be used for new ceiling tiles in the high school. The amount to be used is \$30,518.32. **MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to close the Public Hearing. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 10.053/0/0/4.947. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Stanley. **MOVED** to accept the BeTTY’S funds in the amount of \$30,518.32. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** It was explained that the matching funds were \$20,000.00. P. Peterson thanked the donor and said how nice it was. **VOTE:** 8.932/0/1.121/4.947. **Motion passes.**

1. **CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the July 21, 2009 School Board Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE:** 10.053/0/0/4.947. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept all three sets of July 21, 2009 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 10.053/0/0/4.947. **Motion passes.**

2. **STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT:** There is no report tonight.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** It was reported that there had been a break in at Mt. Caesar in which laptops were taken. B. Tatro explained that it is an ongoing investigation and that the laptops are password protected.

K. Dassau reported that the switch gear process was very successful. Cheryl Kahn has been awarded the Steven Guberman Award from the National Education Association.

4. **Public Comments:** P. Bauries asked about SERESC. D. Hodgdon explained that they are an independent evaluator on how we are doing with our kids.

N. Moriarty asked about the summer hires. He asked E. Wammack who told him B. Mitchell hired them. N. Moriarty stated that according to B. Mitchell's job description he can not hire. He would suggest that the School Board take a good look at the positions, the hires and the raises.

E. Stanley asked that the Board move to Old Business on the agenda. A member of the Marauders would like to speak. The Board agreed.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Marauder's Contract:** Mr. Hope representative for the Marauder's Football Team was asked what the Marauders do for the Monadnock Community. Mr. Hope listed many items. **MOTION:** E. Stanley. **MOVED** to reconsider the motion of the last meeting regarding the Marauder's contract. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **DISCUSSION:** It was asked why two weeks later and the change of mind by R. Smith who isn't even here. It was publicly stated in the paper. E. Stanley commented that the information given to the Board tonight was not available the night of the vote. It was commented that the whole conversation was on the condition of the fields. E. Stanley asked that monies from the Marauders be used for the maintenance of the fields but not to fund staff. **VOTE:** 8.932/0/1.121/4.947. **Motion passes. MOTION:** E. Stanley. **MOVED** to accept the Marauder's original contract of \$3000.00 and that they do not practice on the Monadnock Practice Fields and to consider the Marauders for future seasons and to receive the future contracts earlier for review and that the funds received from the Marauders be used for maintenance on the fields. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie is concerned that the motion does not explain the practice field's wear and tear. E. Stanley explained that a change in the Marauder's budget would harm their season budget. He said to charge per game next year if that is the will of the Board. Mr. Hope explained that the Marauders figure their budget in November. **VOTE:** 9.244/0/.809/4.947. **Motion passes.**

6. Curriculum Report:

1. **Structured Study Hall Responsibility:** L. Sutton explained the role of the In School Suspension Teacher. She explained that the student would have to do the work that they would normally do in the different classes for that day. It is a social punishment. This is the next step before Out of School Suspension. J. Carnie suggested that the adjustment to Dan Stockwell Jr's contract due to the additional responsibilities on the In School Suspension and monitoring the attendance of grades 7-12. B. Barlow explained that Finance had an issue because there was an increase in salary but not in responsibilities. That issue has been corrected by expanding the responsibilities. J. Carnie commented that some of the

members on Finance had a problem with the usage of the MC2 funds. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to send the issue back to the Finance Committee and then to the full Board. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 7.760/1.179/1.114/4.947. **Motion passes.**

7. New Business:

1. Class Size Information: K. Dassau explained that the information is for the Board to review. B. Pickering is not present to answer the questions but the concerns could be put on the next agenda. E. Jacod spoke regarding the different art classes. The board had questions on the PE Classes. There were questions about the master schedule. P. Peterson asked if a student in 11th grade English could go into the night classes. K. Dassau explained that the night classes are clearly for the drop out students but he would check into the question. E. Jacod said that he is much more sympathetic to the smaller classes in order not to get to the night school position. W. Felton commented that he would rather see a greater number of advanced placement classes with the smaller numbers. J. Fortson explained that the Board would put this on the next agenda. She said that she would be abstaining from the vote due to the fact that her son is in some of the classes. She commented that they need to add more advanced classes.

MOTION: P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the resignation of R. Smith from the Facilities Committee and the resignation of R. Thackston from the Finance Committee. **SECOND:** W. Felton. **VOTE:** 10.053/0/0/4.947. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** to appoint E. Jacod to the Facilities Committee and R. Smith to the CRC. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 9.244/0/.809/4.947. **Motion passes.**

8. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT:

1. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow reported that the Committee would be meeting with the Fitzwilliam Selectmen on Sept. 9, 2009 and the Gilsum Selectmen on Sept. 21, 2009. The Committee would be going out to discuss the 10% budget cuts for 2010-2011. The Committee would be discussing their vision. They would also be receiving \$4500.00 as a donation to promote the good things happening in the District. There would be two after school projects video production and digital imaging. The next meeting is on Sept. 1, 2009 at 6:00 PM.

2. Education Committee: J. Carnie reported that the committee has not met.

3. Facilities Committee: E. Stanley reported that the committee met on July 29, 2009 and discussed the many projects that are being worked on in the District at this time. The committee discussed the snowplowing issue with no action. They discussed the outside bleachers. B. Mitchell would be exploring any certification from the State. The next meeting is on Aug. 13, 2009 at 4:00 PM. J. Carnie commented on the charge to the Facilities by the Board regarding the Maintenance Dept. J. Fortson explained that the Facilities Committee has been working on the documents and they would be discussing it on Thursday. K. Dassau explained that the motion was for the Facilities Committee and the administration to do a study. J. Fortson explained that they would be discussing it on Thursday.

4. Finance Committee: The Finance Committee has not met the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Aug. 24, 2009 at 5:00 PM.

5. Policy Committee: The Policy Committee has not met.

6. Budget Committee Rep.: E. Stanley reported that the Budget Committee met but had a non-meeting. They discussed the 10% cut from the budget. They discussed bonding versus the 5 year plan. N. Moriarty suggested creating a trust for the health insurance and to have the excess go into it for next year. The next meeting is on Sept. 24, 2009 in Fitzwilliam.

7. Cheshire Career Center: K. Dassau explained that the representative from the CCC could make a presentation in either Sept. or Oct.

9. Action on the Manifest: **MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amount of \$ 1,179,761.19 **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 8.932/0/1.121/4.947. **Motion passes.**

10. Superintendent's Report: K.Dassau reported that there is a need for 2 non-public sessions, a nomination session and a grievance session.

11. BOARD CHAIR REPORT: No report.

12. SETTING NEXT MEETING AGENDA

1. Class size
2. Facilities Study
3. D. Stockwell Jr.
4. Hiring Process

MOTION: E. Jacod. **MOVED** that the Board does not conduct their next Board Meeting in Roxbury.

SECOND: W. Felton. **DISCUSSION:** W. Wright would be voting against the motion because it is not fair to the taxpayers of Roxbury. E. Jacod said that the taxpayers do not show up either. They have no representative, they have no school and you can not hear in the building. J. Carnie commented that the Board needs to give them an opportunity. E. Stanley suggested notifying the selectmen of Roxbury and ask them to attend the meeting. K. Dassau commented that in all fairness some Board Members have not showed up for months. W. Felton asked the Board to consider Saturdays. **VOTE:**

3.167/6.886/0/4.947. **Motion fails.**

13. Second Public Comments: N. Moriarty said that he was glad that the Board was going to Roxbury. N. Moriarty commented on CCC versus B. Pickering's tech classes. He commented that small classes are at a minimal cost unless they are protecting a job.

14. 9:45 PM Motion to enter into non-public session under RSA 91 A:3 II(b) Nominations: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91 A:3 (b) Nominations. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE:** E.Stanley, W. Wright, W. Felton, J. Carnie, E.Jacod, B. Barlow, P. Peterson, G. White and J. Fortson. 10.053/0/0/4.947 **Motion passes.**

15. 9:55 PM Motion to enter into non-public session under RSA 91 A:3 II (e) Litigation Grievance:

MOTION: B. Barlow **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91 A:3 (e) Litigation.

SECOND: B. Barlow **VOTE:** E.Stanley, W.Wright, W. Felton, J. Carnie, E.Jacod, B.Barlow, P.Peterson, G. White and J.Fortson. 10.053/0/0/4.947. **Motion passes.**

16. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 PM. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
MRSD Recording Secretary