

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Approved Minutes**  
**January 20, 2011**  
**Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Ed Jacod, Scott Ellsworth, Bruce Barlow, Robert Smith, Phyllis Peterson, Pat Bauries, Winston Wright, Richard Thackston, Eric Stanley, Mike Morrison and James Carnie. **Absent:** William Felton, Lisa Steadman and unassigned seats from Roxbury and Sullivan.

**Administration present:** K. Craig, Assistant Superintendent, R. Matte, Special Ed. Director and J. Fortson, Business Manager,

**Also present:** B. Tatro, L. Sutton, D. Mousette, D. Dahl and T. Stewart.

“The goal of the Monadnock Regional Board is to be the Best School District in the State.”

R. Thackston opened the meeting at 7:15 PM.

**1.Consent Agenda: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the January 4, 2011

Public Meeting Minutes and 2 sets of January 4, 2011 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**2. Public Comments:** N. Moriarty thanked the School Board Members who attended the Public Hearing. He explained he is not speaking as of member of the SAU #93 start up committee and he is not discussing personalities. He questioned the process in which the Superintendent, Director of Student Services and the Business Manager were hired at the Sullivan Meeting on Nov. 2, 2010. He commented no one interviewed the candidates for the 4 top slots in the SAU. The Business Manager has gone through any review process. He would ask the Board to reconsider their actions and do it right.

**3. Student Government Report:** T. Stewart reported the committee did not meet. They will be meeting this week and will notify E. Stanley and B. Barlow of the time.

**4. Business Manager’s Report:** J. Fortson stated that the new SAU #93 budget for 2011-2012 will be \$1,202,852.00. Monadnock’s share of the SAU #38 budget for 2010-2011 is \$1,261,301.00. The Monadnock taxpayers will save with the establishment of SAU #93.

J. Fortson passed out a packet of information to the Board.

**5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: MOTION:** R. Smith **MOVED** to accept the retirement of Bonnie Blast, a special ed. teacher at the high school as of June 30,

2012 and John Magineese, of the Troy Maintenance Dept. as of July 31, 2012.

**SECOND:** E. Stanley. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**1. Correspondence and Announcements:** B. Tatro informed the Board that Reuben Duncan from Marlborough School wrote a letter thanking the Mt. Caesar staff for allowing staff to visit the school and receive information regarding the PLC and RTI. They were inspired and will put a similar model in Marlborough.

L. Sutton reported on the evacuation last week. She reported T. Stewart and she have sent a letter to parents. The Safety Committee has taken input to refine the plan. They have received a positive response. C. Boyle helped to refine the Reverse 911. There is a Middle School parent advisory meeting next week.

D. Mousette reported SERESC went to the Northern Schools to interview teachers. They were impressed with the RTIs and PLCs. Next week they will be holding a Math Learning Night. D. Mousette congratulated W. Wright for 40 years of service as a dispatcher for mutual aid.

T. Stewart reported on the Monadnock Valley Music Festival. He said there were 200 students participating. They were marvelous.

K. Craig assured that every school has a safety plan and it is updated yearly. The Reverse 911 goes out to every student. We had some numbers but not all. They realized the system has not been used to the full potential. She reported SERESC will be going to Emerson and Troy. She would thank B. Barlow for facilitating the Goal Setting Meeting.

**2. Curriculum Report:** K. Craig passed out extra copies of a book she had given to the Literacy Group to the Board. She would encourage the Board to read the book. She reported all teachers are teachers of reading and writing. She reported B. Barlow is a member of the Literacy Committee. The committee's participants are teachers from different levels. Data is being gathered to impact the plan.

**6. Board Chair Report:** R. Thackston reminded the Board of the Select/Board Dinner on Jan. 28, 2011 at 6:30 PM.

R. Thackston passed out a letter of intent to the Board. It is a proposal at the SAU to offer some level of comfort. It is not a contract or compensation package but a letter to say we want to keep you for next year. It is saying the Board agrees with the administration and we give permission to pass out the letters to certain individuals.

R. Thackston explained that D. Hodgdon is not able to attend the meetings due to personal circumstances. R. Thackston commented the Board was aware of the situation with his wife when they offered him the job as the superintendent. He is fulfilling his position at this time.

R. Thackston informed the Board there is a need for non-public sessions a student issue and negotiations.

**7. School Committee Report:**

**1. Community Relations Committee:** B. Barlow reported the committee did not meet. B. Barlow reported he was interviewed by the Manchester Union Leader regarding the bomb threat. The reporter asked B. Barlow the wrong questions. The story never ran in the paper. The Select/Board Dinner is on Jan. 28, 2011. The MS Girls Basketball Team won against Winchester.

**2. Education Committee:** The committee did not have a quorum. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 3, 2011.

**3. Facilities Committee:** E. Stanley reported the SAU roof is complete. They are still waiting on the roof heating system in Gilsum. There will be a motion later to purchase the electricity from another provider.

**4. Finance Committee:** J. Carnie reported the committee did not have a quorum this morning but did meet last Thursday. The committee will bring 6 or 7 motions later in the meeting. The next meeting will be on Feb. 3, 2011.

**5. Policy Committee:** W. Wright reported the committee met and has placed several policies in the Board's packets. The next meeting will be on Jan. 25, 2011 at 5:30 PM.

**6. Budget Committee Rep.:** The Budget Committee set the proposed 2011-2012 budget in the amount of \$32,910,000.00. He informed the Board the Budget Committee supported all the Warrant Articles except Article Eight which was \$1.2 million dollars for a multi-purpose room at Mt. Caesar.

**7. Cheshire Career Center:** W. Wright reported there is a CCC breakfast scheduled for tomorrow at 7:30 AM.

**8. Negotiations/Human Resource Committee:** P. Bauries reported the committee did not meet.

**9. SAU #93 Committee:** N. Moriarty reported the committee discussed the budget. They suggested the spring meeting of the SAU #93 be scheduled for April instead of May to have it earlier. The committee suggested strengthening the Theft Policy. They suggested seniority for the SAU employees and to eliminate non-accountable travel.

**10. Principal Search:** It was reported the Principal Search Committee has met twice. The committee has passed out a questionnaire to the Board. E. Stanley has asked that the Board return the questionnaire to him tonight. The committee meets every Wednesday.

**8. OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Old Business as may come before the Board:**

## **9. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Motions from Facilities Committee:** D. LaPointe explained the Facilities Committee would like to recommend to the Board to use Glacial Energy for the Districts energy needs. D. LaPointe explained there would be an estimated savings in 6 months of \$12,834.00. **MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Committee to use Glacial Energy for the District's energy needs on a month to month basis. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**2. Motions from Policy Committee:** **MOTION:** W. Wright. **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Bomb Threats Policy EBCC as amended. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Support Staff Hiring Policy GDF as presented. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** W. Wright. **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept School Assembly Programs Policy KFB as presented. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**Policy BBB Board Membership-Elections/Appointment:** W. Wright explained there were some changes made to the Policy as recommended by J. Carnie. J. Carnie still had concerns with the Policy. R. Thackston recommended having this policy go back to the Policy Committee and have the Board vote at the next Board Meeting.

January 19-January 28, 2011 is the sign up time for the School Board and budget Committee positions.

It was asked by J. Carnie to the Business Manager to bring the new census figures in order for the weighted vote to reflect the new census numbers.

**3. Motions from Finance Committee:** J. Carnie stated to the full Board that the Finance Committee opposes the Petitioned Warrant Article for the All Purpose Room at Mt. Caesar in the amount of 1.2 million dollars at this time.

**MOTION:** J. Carnie. **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to purchase 25 helmets at \$280.00 instead of reconditioning them as required each year, at a cost of \$50.00 each. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie. **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to form a committee in the future to discuss alternative ways to offer Health Care and Dental to our employees. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to have the Facilities Committee look into cost savings in the area of Custodial and Maintenance

Dept. functions for the next budget cycle of 2012-2013. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee that all new hires as Paraprofessionals be for 5 ½ hours per day and that the committee look at reducing all non-contractual stipends up to 25%. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** M. Morrison commented on the concerns of the Spec. Ed. Dept. If we go this route it may impact the quality of people we hire. J. Carnie explained it is for the new hires it does not mean the 7 hours or longer. The intent is if there has to be a hirer for longer to go before the Board. R. Thackston is concerned the motion does not say what you mean. He would suggest a more detailed motion. **J. Carnie and R. Smith withdraw their motion.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to accept, support the recommended proposed budget number arrived by the Budget Committee in the amount of 32,910,000.00. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries commended the School Board and the Budget Committee for working together to make this doable for the school and good for the tax payers. The efforts are greatly appreciated. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**a. Action on the Manifest MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amount of \$ 625,142.22 **SECOND:** S. Ellsworth **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**4. 2011-2012 Warrant Articles: MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to support Warrant Article One, the proposed budget in the amount of \$32,910,000.00 and the default budget in the amount of \$34,941,251.00. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** R. Smith. **MOVED** to support Warrant Article Two, District wide all-day kindergarten, as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 9.6/0/2.2/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** R. Smith **MOVED** to support Warrant Article Three, Renovations to the MRMS/HS as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** R. Smith. **MOVED** to support Warrant Article Four, Mt. Caesar sprinkler/alarm system as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** R. Smith. **MOVED** to support Warrant Article Five, **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to support Warrant Article Six, Special Ed. Expendable Trust Fund in the amount of \$50,000.00. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 10.6/0/1.2/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to support Warrant Article Seven, deficit in the amount of \$34,845.00. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 10.6/0/1.2/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** R. Smith. **MOVED** not to support Warrant Article Eight, 1.2 million dollars for a multi-purpose room at Mt. Caesar. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **VOTE:** 8.6/2.1/1.1/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** R. Smith **MOVED** to support Warrant Article Nine, boundary line clarity. **SECOND:** J. Carnie. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

5. **Other New Business as may come before the Board:** **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to have R. Smith be placed on the Finance Committee. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

R. Thackston explained since the creation of SAU #93 in order for K. Craig to function with her duties the Board elected her to her new position. We have to take a position at the SAU #38. We need to give her authority. We need the support of the Monadnock Board to back K. Craig up. R. Thackston said that Winchester has said K. Craig was improperly hired by this School District. R. Thackston explained she is an employee of the Monadnock School Board. R. Thackston would suggest the Board attend the SAU Meeting on Feb. 8, 2011 and support K. Craig.

**MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to allow the distribution of the letter of intent from D. Hodgdon to employees at the SAU#38. **SECOND:** B. Barlow.

**DISCUSSION:** R. Thackston explained the goal of the letter is to inform the employees that we want to hire you but we do not have a salary or benefits package. E. Jacod commented any earned benefits prior should be brought forward. R. Thackston explained this letter is a letter of intent. The Board made corrections to the letter. The letter will include "This is not a contract of employment", "This is a letter of intent" and after the words SAU 38 agreement the following will be added" including the grandfathering of all earned time benefits as described in the SAU Policy and Procedures Manual." **VOTE:** 8.4/0/2.3/4.4. **Motion passes. (E. Stanley missing from vote).**

R. Smith passed out a letter from W. Felton to the Board regarding the cuts for next year.

## **10. Setting the next agenda:**

**11. Public Comments:** J. Fortson thanked N. Richardson for the work he did on one of the oldest computers in the District, hers.

**The Board will take a 5 minute recess.**

J. Carnie explained he went to the SAU building and asked to see the Dec. 2, 2009 sealed non-public minutes and was denied. He wants to see the minutes prior to the next Board Meeting.

**12. 9:00 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II Student issue:**  
**MOTION:** R. Smith **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Student Issue. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, P. Peterson, P. Bauries, M. Morrison, S. Ellsworth, E. Stanley, J. Carnie, R. Thackston and R. Smith. 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**13. 9:20 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Compensation of an employee and negotiations:** **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Compensation of an employee and negotiations. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, P. Peterson, P. Bauries, M. Morrison, S. Ellsworth, E. Stanley, J. Carnie, R. Thackston and R. Smith. 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

**14. 9:40 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Compensation of an employee and negotiations:** **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Student Issue. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, P. Peterson, P. Bauries, M. Morrison, S. Ellsworth, E. Stanley, J. Carnie, R. Thackston and R. Smith. 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes. The administration and the secretary were asked to leave they did not enter into this non-public session.**

**15. Motion to adjourn:** There was no motion to adjourn the School Board asked the administration and the secretary to leave the meeting at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary