

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
Approved Minutes
July 13, 2010
Mt. Caesar Elementary School, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration present: D. Hodgdon, Superintendent and Jane Fortson, Business Manager.

Also present: B. Tatro, L. Sutton, J. Smith and K. Craig.

“The goal of the Monadnock Regional Board is to provide a *World Class Public Education* for every child.”

1. Consent Agenda: MOTION: E. Stanley **MOVED** to accept the June 8, 2010 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Felton **VOTE:** 9.5/0/2.2/3.3 **Motion passes. MOTION:** E. Stanley. **MOVED** to accept the June 15, 2010 Public and Non-public School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Felton. **VOTE:** 10.6/0/1.1/3.3. **Motion passes.**

2. Public Comments: N. Moriarty commented to the Board that there should be corrective action regarding the previous computer system issue.

3. Business Manager’s Report: D. Hodgdon welcomed J. Fortson as the new Business Manager. He reported that she has been working very hard in the short time she has been in the position. J. Fortson passed out a draft of the Budget Schedule. She explained that it is only a draft. She reported that she has been in touch with the Fitzwilliam Selectmen and their Business Manager and would be bringing a report to the Board at the next meeting.

4. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

a. Correspondence and Announcements: D. Hodgdon passed out information that D. Mousette sent to the parents of his students regarding the results of the Northern Schools Study Committee.

D. Hodgdon reported that J. Lundahl has received a letter from Governor Lynch for all the work done at Mt. Caesar.

B. Tatro reported that she has eight teachers doing the Response Intervention over the summer. She also reported that summer school is going well.

K. Craig reported that summer school is going well at Emerson. Everyone is learning and having fun. She also reported that all the classrooms have been retiled. The custodians have done a great job getting the work done before summer school. She commented on the fact that there are more than 20 students in first grade but it is okay.

D. Hodgdon sent a letter to the honor roll students congratulating them on their honor roll accomplishments.

2. Curriculum Report: D. Hodgdon reported on the recommendations and commendations given by SERASC. There should be a draft by the end of the week. D. Hodgdon has invited SERASC to the next Board Meeting. He would anticipate a follow up study.

3. Superintendent's Report: D. Hodgdon commented on his goals that were in the packets. He said that he is working on an entry plan in collaboration with the Board focusing on the students and visibility in the schools and the community. He would welcome input to make the goals reality.

D. Hodgdon would suggest that the board do their long term goal setting in order to move ahead and find direction.

D. Hodgdon thanked the Board for their support and kind words during his first week as superintendent. He said there is a need for a non-public session.

5. BOARD CHAIR REPORT:

1. Chair Report: R. Thackston informed the Board the Kindergarten Study Committee has completed their first meeting. P. Peterson was elected chair and B. Tatro was elected secretary. The committee is very enthusiastic. There would be a full report in late Sept. or early October.

The Manager, Supervisory and Principals Union would like to begin negotiating with the District. R. Thackston would like to pass this to P. Bauries and the Negotiations/Human Resources Committee. R. Thackston reported that he met with D. Mousette to have a game plan. The Union feels that at this time there is no need for counsel. They are comfortable negotiating with the School Board.

2. Goal Setting: R. Thackston commented that the Goal Setting has to be done. He would suggest a September date. Public input is welcome and the meeting is open to everyone.

6. School Board Committee Report:

1. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow reported the committee did not have a quorum. They would be meeting before the next Board Meeting. B. Barlow reported he has taken pictures of the work being done at the high school.

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

3. Facilities Committee: L. Steadman reported that the summer work is underway. There has been a lot of asbestos removed. It was discovered there are doors that are filled with asbestos and they need to be taken care of. The committee will continue discussing the possible use of the Wilcox building. The committee discussed Mt. Caesar and the fact that some of the classrooms are not safe. They will continue to discuss and come up with ideas. L. Steadman informed the Board that she would be presenting 3 motions on behalf of the Facilities Committee. The next meeting is on July 20, 2010 at 5:00 PM.

4. Finance Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee has not met.

5. Policy Committee: W. Wright reported the Policy Committee would be meeting on July 15, 2010 at 6:30 PM. They would be discussing the policies forwarded by the Board as well as the junior high honor society issue.

6. Budget Committee Rep.: E. Stanley reported the Budget Committee has not met.

7. Cheshire Career Center: W. Wright reported he has contacted the CCC and has received no response. R. Thackston asked that W. Wright try again before the next meeting.

8. Negotiations/Human Resource Committee: P. Bauries reported that the committee did not meet but is looking to schedule a meeting to speak with the Support Staff Union.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Kindergarten Study Committee: It was reported that the committee met. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Other New Business as may come before the Board: Facilities Committee's motions: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Committee to combine with the City of Keene and give B. Mitchell authority to purchase oil for the District. **SECOND:** S. Ellsworth. **DISCUSSION:** B. Mitchell explained how the oil is being purchased now. R. Thackston explained the more you buy the better the cost. **VOTE:** 13.9/0/0/1.074. **Motion passes.**

L. Steadman explained the wheel chair lift to the stage in the auditorium issue. It was explained that it is a NEASC request. There are two options a movable lift or a permanent lift. The committee is not absolutely sure that this is required due to the fact that this is an existing building. **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Committee to recommend the delay of installation of the lift for a future project year due to the uncertainty of the requirements. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **DISCUSSION:** The Board asked the cost of the different options. L. Steadman explained that this project would not be completed before the beginning of school

even if it was approved. N. Moriarty asked about the funds set aside for this project. L. Steadman explained that the funds would go into other summer projects. E. Stanley commented that it would require cutting the end of the stage which is concrete and it would be a big issue that may not be needed. **VOTE:** 13.9/0/0/1.074. **Motion passes.**

L. Steadman explained the sinks in the Wood and Print Metal Shop are draining into inappropriate places. This issue needs to be fixed by August 20, 2010. **MOTION:** L. Steadman. **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Committee to allow KBA to add the sinks in the Wood and Print Metal Shop to this year's scope of work. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **DISCUSSION:** It was explained that Baybutt is doing the work this summer and have hired Pinney to do the plumbing and heating issues. B. Mitchell explained that this is similar to the filter used in the chem. labs. It is disposed of by an appropriate hauler. **VOTE:** 13.9/0/0/1.074. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** to offer KAB an opportunity to bid on the next 3 years of the 5 year plan. **SECOND:** M. Morrison. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries asked why the 3 years. W. Felton explained that the committee has provided rationale in the packets and there are a number of factors. It is wise to continue with KBA. We are fairly satisfied and think they will be able to help. They are handy to have around and take care of items that arise. R. Smith said that he would not support this. He believes there are local people that could do the job. E. Jacod commented on the excellent results they have received from KBA and cost wise. Changing vendors would increase costs. The proposal makes good sense. L. Steadman and M. Morrison agree to the friendly amendment as follows: To solicit a proposal from KBA for the next three years of the five year plan. W. Felton explained that the district needs to stay on track and finish the issues regarding the accreditation. P. Bauries asked if the architectural fees are part of the 5 million. J. Carnie stated that he can not agree with the motion. There is no 5 year plan. The amount should be done on a one year basis. The public has never voted on a five year plan. It is wrong to mislead them. He said they may be the best but we need to put this out to bid one year at a time. B. Mitchell explained that architectural fees do not count in the 5 million but are reimbursed. We need to spend 5 million. E. Stanley agrees with J. Carnie but he does not believe that another company would get up to speed like KBA for the cost. He would suggest the Board go with KBA. L. Steadman asked J. Carnie if he would like the motion reworded. J. Carnie said if the public can vote and if it is a year at a time he would support it. R. Thackston commented the motion is to solicit a proposal from KBA that the Board can review and the Facilities Committee can take the School Board's concerns and forward them to KBA. **MOTION:** 10.6/2.1/1.2/1.074. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to allow the Monadnock Mauraders the use of the field for the Seth Clark Memorial Game free of charge for that one game. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** The locker rooms are under construction and may or may not be an issue. **VOTE:** 13.9/0/0/1.074. **Motion passes.**

9. Action on the manifest: MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** the Board accept the manifest in the amount of \$ 3,272,596.00. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13.9/0/0/1.074 **Motion passes.**

10. Setting the next agenda:

- 1. Computer failure issue**
- 2. Kindergarten Committee**
- 3. SERASC**
- 4. Employment Audit**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2010.

11. Public Comments:

12. Non-Public Session: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 8:21 PM under RSA 91-A:3 11 (b) hiring of a public employee. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE: Roll call vote:** R. Smith, P. Peterson, W. Felton, W. Wright, R. Thackston, L. Steadman, M. Morrison, E. Stanley, B. Barlow, P. Bauries, E. Jacod, S. Ellsworth and J. Carnie. 13.9/0/0/1.074. **Motion passes.**

13. Return to Public Session: R. Thackston informed Steve Perrin that the Board voted unanimously to hire him as the new Monadnock High School Principal. He congratulated Steve Perrin.

14. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: E. Stanley **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 PM. **SECOND:** S. Ellsworth. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

15. The Board entered into consultation with the Board Attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary