

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
Approved Minutes
June 15, 2010
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration present: K. Dassau, Superintendent, D. Hodgdon, Assistant Superintendent, B. Gallagher, Interim Business Manager and P. Bell, HR Director.

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

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

1. Consent Agenda: MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** to accept the June 1, 2010 School Board Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** S. Ellsworth **VOTE:** 9.5/0/0/2.2
Motion passes.

2. Student Government Report: There is no report tonight.

3. Public Comments: Brandy Ruth a parent of a 7th grader stated her concerns regarding the process for the Junior Honor Society. R. Thackston explained that he would refer this issue to the Education Committee.

4. Curriculum Report: D. Hodgdon updated the Board on the amount of funds spent from the IDEA ARRA Grant for the Fast Forward Program and a staff member for the EH Program at Mt. Caesar. He reported that he met with the DINI Monitoring Team last week. This team looked at items in the plan and ways to meet the goals. He stated that there has been success but also recognize that there is still work to be done. He will share the observations about the work with the Education Committee. He reported the NHDOE has completed an action plan for math as a companion to a literacy plan released two years ago. The plan will go to each of the principals and the superintendent. The District has used the literacy plan in the past and this completed plan should be helpful in the area of math.

5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

a. Correspondence and Announcements: K. Dassau reported on a successful graduation day.

D. Mousette reported on their recognition night. There were about 60-70 people in attendance. He reported that this summer should be very productive. There is a lot to do.

D. Dahl reported on the 6th grade promotion day. He informed the Board that Troy held a carnival day this afternoon. He said there is a lot to do this summer. It was a very good school year.

B. Tatro reported on the field day at Mt. Caesar. A lot of families attended and all the students received a special tee shirt. They would be holding a celebration to say goodbye to the 3rd graders tomorrow at 10:30 AM. S. Ellsworth commented on the road race at Mt. Caesar. He said it was a great time and congratulations to B. Tatro.

L. Sutton reported on the Middle School Spring Sports Awards. She informed the Board of the 8th grade graduation on Wednesday and the induction of 19 Junior Honor Society Students.

B. Pickering reported on the academic awards and the fact that thousands of dollars in scholarships were given out thanks to many community members. He thanked everyone that made the graduation a success. He reported that this is his last meeting and thanked his fellow principals. He thanked the Board for his past two years. P. Bauries commented she was going to miss him. She asked out of the 154 seniors how many did not receive diplomas. He reported that 7 did not receive their diplomas. He said that there are less than 5 dropouts. The goal in 2012 is zero dropouts. We are very low in regards to the dropout rate compared to two years ago.

b. SAU Interim Business Manager Search Committee: It was reported that the Business Manager Search Committee has recommended a candidate to the Superintendent who would recommend to the SAU Board tomorrow at the SAU Board Meeting.

MOTION: W. Felton. **MOVED** to accept the resignation of Richard Clark as of July 1, 2010. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.7/0/0/ **Motion passes.**

6. BOARD CHAIR REPORT:

1. Facilities Manager Search Committee: R. Thackston reported on the member to the Facilities Manager Search Committee. They are as follows: L. Steadman, W. Wright, E. Stanley, Tony Breen and there is a need for a community member. R. Thackston would try and get a meeting scheduled.

2. Interim Principal Search Committee: This discussion would take place in non-public session.

7. School Board Committee Report:

1. Human Resources Committee: P. Bauries reported that the June 4, 2010 meeting was in regards to the job descriptions for the new Facilities Management Position that the Board approved on June 8, 2010.

2. Finance Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee did meet. At the meeting there were public comments regarding the increase in health care cost, the town assessments and the Fitzwilliam problem. The committee had a discussion on the SAU withdrawal topic. There was a request from T. Walsh for a transfer in Food Service. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to allow a balance transfer in the amount of \$6214.04 from the Food Supplemental Line to Food Service. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie stated that he is opposed to this motion. This transfer is to cover the student's lunch bills. It was stated that this amount will go to the collection agency and try to be recovered. W. Felton commented on the confusion of the motion and stated it should be in writing. **VOTE:** 9.5/1.2/1.1/**Motion passes.** The committee discussed the principal and nurses contracts to be signed by R. Thackston. There was a legal fee update and questions on the \$30,000.00 transfer for two computers. K. Dassau reported they are 2 mobile computer labs. The funds are already in the budget it is not a transfer. B. Pickering reported that there were funds in the new equipment line and the technology line that MC2 did not spend. We pooled it together to meet the needs that NEASC had asked for in the Special Progress Report. This is not a transfer. We have checked off two huge items from NEASC. Science and English will have their own labs. We were not trying to hide anything. J. Carnie commented that it was not in the original budget and the better way would be to come in with a transfer. B. Pickering suggested that it is clear to the other principals regarding procedure. R. Thackston commented that the legal fee expenditures made it to the Finance Committee and he would suggest that the entire Board receive a hard copy in their packets. E. Jacod asked about the letter from our friends of Fitzwilliam. J. Carnie commented that T. Parker feels that Fitzwilliam is hit too hard at the beginning of the year. J. Carnie commented that there is probably a method to figure this out with the help of the Business Manager and Nancy Carlson. R. Thackston reported that there has been no communication with Fitzwilliam. K. Dassau reported that D. Most has been having a conversation with N. Carlson and will have a response. R. Thackston commented that this is not the first letter from T. Parker. W. Wright commented that we need to handle this situation.

3. Facilities Committee: L. Steadman reported that the committee met and went outside to look at the new bleachers. She said that they are very proud and came in under budget. The quality is superior. There is structural steel sticking out but would be fixed and under budget. A. Schmit reported that the lead testing is complete and the summer work will move ahead. L. Steadman reported that the bids came in today for the 2 used vehicle. The Mauraders are playing in Keene so there is no need for a contract. The Emerson tile work will begin in three days. The actual number for the Syd's Carpet and Tile bid was \$18,832.00 and by far the lowest bid. A blind student may attend the school and the brail signage would need to be done. She thanked the Board for allowing the Maintenance Dept. to stay intact through the summer. It was suggested that the use of the Wilcox Building be on the next agenda. P. Bauries asked if summer help had been hired. L. Steadman reported that summer help was cut from the budget. They have none.

4. Policy Committee: W. Wright reported that the committee is lacking a quorum and we have a lot of work that needs to get done. The list of policy issues asked for by the Board would be in the next Board packet.

5. Community Relations Committee: E. Jacod reported that the committee did not meet.

6. Education Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee met on June 3, 2010 and prepared a series of commendations and thanks in the packet. The committee discussed an issue brought up by K. Craig regarding the number of students from Richmond to Emerson and if 20 students was an automatic number. The committee said 20 was not an automatic and some sort of flexibility could be resolved. The committee felt that a policy was needed regarding school of choice for Richmond and maybe Roxbury. The Education Committee would draft a policy and bring it to the Policy Committee and then to the Board.

7. Budget Committee Rep.: The next Budget Committee Meeting is scheduled for August.

8. Cheshire Career Center: There is no report. There was a meeting in May.

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

R. Thackston will be signing the letters of commendation and thanks and placing them in the Board packets.

10. SAU Withdrawal Committee: It was reported that the committee met and there is a Public Hearing scheduled on June 23, 2010 at 7:00 PM at Mt. Caesar.

The Full Day Kindergarten Study Committee will meet on July 17, 2010.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

9. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Treasure-Nancy Carlson-N. Carlson was not able to attend tonight's meeting.

2. SAU Issues: J. Carnie asked if the issue regarding the changes in the procedures Manual discussed at the last SAU Meeting were going to be brought forward. R. Thackston commented that we would need a motion on how to deal with the Procedures Manual. W. Felton asked for as much rationale on the changes to the Procedure Manual in writing. R. Thackston commented that he does not believe that we will resolve the policy issues. There is a process that will need to be made.

3. Other Business as the Board may wish to hear: J. Carnie reported that there is no need for the Education and Finance Committee to meet. They were going to discuss SERASC but the report is not out yet.

R. Thackston would like to pass the Junior Honor Society inquiry to the Education Committee to take a look at the policy and the process. They would like to have L. Sutton in attendance.

10. Action on the manifest: MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** the Board accept the manifest in the amount of \$1,580,253.21. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 9.6/0/2.1 **Motion passes.**

11. Setting the next agenda:

R. Thackston asked the Board if they wish to have any items on the next agenda to email him prior to the July 13, 2010 meeting.

12. Public Comments: Dr. Kaplan stated that IPG came up with options but did not make a recommendation. He suggested that the Board conduct their June Board Meeting at the high school in order to see the Senior Projects. He said they are very impressive and it would be good public relations for the Board.

W. Lechlinder informed the Board that Fairpoint helped place the art work on the chimney at Mt. Caesar.

13. Non-Public Session: MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 8:50 PM under RSA 91-A:3 11 (a) hiring of a public employee. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **VOTE:** 11.7/0/0/. **Motion passes.**

14. Non-Public Session: MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 9:00 PM under RSA 91-A: 3 II (e) Litigation: **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 11.7/0/0/ **Motion passes.**

15. Non-Public Session: MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 9:10 PM under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) hiring of a public employee. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 11.7/0/0/ **Motion passes.**

16. Non-Public Session: MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 9:20 PM under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) setting compensation. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 11.7/0/0/ **Motion passes.**

17. Non-Public Session: MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 9:30 PM under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) and (b) hiring of a public employee and setting compensation. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 11.7/0/0/ **Motion passes.**

18. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: E. Stanley **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 PM. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary