

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
Approved Minutes
March 1, 2011
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

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

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

Also present: B. Tatro, D. Mousette, J. Smith, L. Sutton, M. Suarez, 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 7:10 PM.

1. Consent Agenda: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the February 15, 2011 Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **DISCUSSION:** E. Stanley informed the Board the percentage of students on Free and Reduced Lunch information came from the administration. B. Barlow informed the Board he has not contacted Dan Mitchell as of yet. **VOTE:** 7.3/0/4.4/3.3. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the three sets of February 15, 2011 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 7.3/0/4.4/3.3. **Motion passes.**

2. Public Comments: C. Kahn explained after the last meeting she contacted J. Fortson regarding the average salary of a teacher. J. Fortson explained her calculation to C. Kahn. It was stated the \$74,000.00 is the average cost per teacher but not the average salary.

M. Alexander President of the MESSA was disappointed the information stated during negotiations was released to the public. She commented MESSA will not take part in a public battle with the Board. This event does not set a positive tone for future negotiations. The Support Staff is also feeling financial hardships. She passed out information on the past 3 years regarding the increase in contributions made by the employee to their health insurance. She stated the Support Staff is making huge amounts toward the health insurance.

3. **Student Government Report:**
4. **Business Manager's Report:** J. Fortson would offer her time to the SRO Report.
5. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

1. Correspondence and Announcements: T. Stewart reported the NEASC 5 year report was emailed on Monday. Out of the 59 recommendations the District has completed 50. There are 6 which have been rejected and 3 are still in the works. T. Stewart also reported the High School will be having a CATS Performance on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. P. Peterson asked what 6 were rejected in the NEASC Report. T. Stewart stated the 6 had to do with funding. He will email an explanation on the other 3 recommendations.

D. Mousette informed the Board of Family Movie Night this Friday in Gilsum at 6:30 PM.

2. Curriculum Report: .K. Craig reported she attended a conference with J. Fortson, R. Matte and D. Hodgdon. The conference discussed Best Practices and Improving Student Learning. The administration prepared a handout to the Board regarding the information they obtained at the conference. She explained every state was represented except two and other countries were in attendance as well. They all agree on the need to collaborate and work together. We need to prioritize the curriculum and measure on a constant basis. She asked the Board to review the information handed out. R. Matte reported on a good conference. In every industry they work as a team. In education we need to work together to improve student learning, to give an assessment daily and working as a team is very important. D. Hodgdon would agree with the value of the conference. It focused on the central office work with the administration, teachers and School Board to have a common direction. ***R. Smith arrives.***

3. Other Issues of Importance: D. Hodgdon passed out information to the Board. He explained we are under a time crunch regarding the nominations. Any decisions to reduce staff have to be done at the next meeting. He has thoughts on the Spec. Ed. Dept. He asked the Board where they would like to see the reductions. He explained not every administrator agrees with the cuts that were presented. D. Hodgdon commented he felt the need to present something. R. Thackston explained he would like to send these sheets to the Education and Finance Committees.

6. **Board Chair Report:** R. Thackston commented on how well the Deliberative Session went. He informed the Board that there is a need for another non-public session.

7. School Committee Report:

1. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow informed the Board the Green Sheet is complete and will go to the printers tomorrow. There are 10 short videos discussing the warrant articles. He has an appointment with Dan Mitchell. Things are moving along. The next meeting is on March 1, 2011 at 6:30 PM.

2. Education Committee: P. Bauries reported the committee met on Feb. 17, 2011. K. Craig was in attendance and reported on the literacy and student assessments. P. Bauries reported the committee was informed the District has a 3 year Literacy Plan. K. Craig spoke regarding the fact all committees need to be on the same page.

3. Facilities Committee: L. Steadman reported the committee did not meet.

4. Finance Committee: P. Bauries reported the committee met on Feb. 17, 2011. The committee received a report from J. Fortson. She explained the District is still in a deficit but J. Fortson is going line by line to find potential savings. The committee has asked for an update on the deficit on a monthly basis. The committee has also asked to discuss the SAU salaries. N. Moriarty of the SAU#93 Committee explained the School Board is responsible for the SAU#93 salaries. The committee also asked for an explanation of benefits for the 2 retirements. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2011.

5. Policy Committee: L. Steadman reported there are a few policies coming from the committee soon.

6. Budget Committee Rep.: The committee did not meet.

7. Cheshire Career Center: W. Wright reported E. Jacod joined him at the CCC for a tour and update of the program. He reported Monadnock is heavily involved in the program.

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

9. SAU #93 Committee: The committee has not meet. R. Thackston has scheduled a SAU #93 Board Meeting for March 22. 2011 at 7:00 PM.

10. MRHS 2011 Management Study Committee: R. Thackston reported the committee has met twice. The committee heard from the guidance, the Middle School and the High School. The committee has learned a lot. There is more to discuss.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

1. SRO discussion: Rob O'Connor updated the Board on incidents that have occurred since the beginning of the school year. He reported there were 109 calls for service, 35 cases, a bomb threat and 3 other incidents of a bomb threat nature. He explained the different programs he works with through the school. He attends the Parent Nights. He is involved in internet safety and cell phone issues. He will be attending the Advance School Resource Officers Conference. M. Morrison asked if R. O'Connor worked on the Emergency Management Plan. R. O'Connor said he does.

R. Thackston has been contacted by Chief Busick regarding negotiating a written agreement with the District. R. Thackston explained it is not a money issue. The District does not have an agreement. **MOTION:** L. Steadman. **MOVED** to allow D. Hodgdon and R. Thackston to meet with Chief Busick to prepare an agreement between the SRO and the District for services to the District. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 12.8/0/02.2. **Motion passes.**

2. Student Council: R. Thackston asked if the Board would like to have a member of the Student Government sit on the School Board. L. Steadman explained the Board has a policy on this that states the Student Government member would not be a voting member. **MOTION:** E. Stanley. **MOVED** to allow a member from the Student Government to sit and participate on the School Board as a non-voting member. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 10.8/1.9/0/2.2. **Motion passes.**

3. Setting date for 2 Public Hearings-purpose of moving money/accept funds: J. Fortson will schedule the public hearings for the first meeting in April.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motions from Facilities Committee:

2. Motions from Policy Committee:

3. Motions from Finance Committee:

a. Action on the Manifest MOTION: W. Wright **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amount of \$ 1,101,655.81 **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 12.8/0/0/2.2. **Motion passes.**

4. Other New Business as may come before the Board:

10. Setting the next agenda:

1. Organization of Board

2. Superintendent to open meeting

11. Public Comments:

5 minute recess

12. 8:16 PM Enter into Non-Public Session: MOTION: B. Barlow **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Approval of the Feb. 15, 2011 Sealed Non-Public Meeting Minutes.. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, B. Barlow, R. Smith, M. Morrison, P. Bauries, L. Steadman, W. Felton, S. Ellsworth, P. Peterson, E. Stanley and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 10.6/0/2.1/2.2 **Motion passes.**

13. 8:25 PM Enter into Non-Public Session: MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Negotiations, Litigations and

Compensation of a Public Employee. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, W. Felton, P. Peterson, S. Ellsworth, E. Stanley, B. Barlow, R. Smith, M. Morrison, P. Bauries, L. Steadman and R. Thackston. **Motion passes.**

- 14. Public Session: MOTION:** P. Bauries. **MOVED** to seal the 8:25 PM March 1, 2011 Non-Public Meeting Minutes until March 31, 2012. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 12.8/0/0/2.2. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to unseal the non-public meeting minutes regarding the leadership of this building. **SECOND:** M. Morrison. **DISCUSSION:** R. Smith explained the Principal Search Committee would like to inform the principal candidates on the flier that the position is 7-12. K. Craig commented the committee would like to inform the candidates in the flier. L. Steadman would like to make a motion to notify the 5 candidates without unsealing the non-public minutes. **R. Smith and M. Morrison would withdraw their motion. MOTION:** L. Steadman. **MOVED** to allow the Principal Search Committee to post in the flier the 7-12 principal position without unsealing the minutes. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 12.8/0/0/2.2. Motion passes.

- 15. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** B. Barlow. **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:46 PM. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 12.8/0/02.2. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary