

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
Approved Minutes
May 18, 2010
Cutler Elementary School, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration present: K. Dassau, Superintendent, D. Hodgdon, Assistant Superintendent and P. Bell, HR Director.

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

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

1. Consent Agenda: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the May 4, 2010 and May 11, 2010 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Bauries **VOTE:** 11.8/0/0/3.2. **Motion passes.**

2. Student Government Report: R. Skrocki reported that the Student Government did not meet today but the committee has been doing a lot of catch up. They also have been working with the administration on ways to improve the Advisory Committee. The Colonial Theater has asked for a member of the committee to join their Youth Advisory Committee this summer. R. Skrocki reported that this is his last meeting and he thanked the Board for the opportunity. W. Felton asked about the video taping the School board Meetings. R. Skrocki said he would mention it to the new committee for next year.

3. Public Comments: John Rounds of IPG presented the health insurance information to the Board along with a binder of information. It was explained that the Support Staff Union and the Teachers Union voted against the information that was presented to them by IPG. **M. Morrison arrives.** They explained that there would be a savings of over \$500,000.00 to the District. R. Thackston suggested the Board review the information.

N. Moriarty hoped the staff would go along with the IPG presentation that could save the District over \$500,000.00. He thanked the staff and the administration for an excellent year. He would hope that the Board would support the expanding of the night school. He would like to know what services the District received by Kaestle Boos for \$65,000.00. He would suggest bidding locally next time.

C. Kahn spoke on behalf of the teachers and thanked the Board for lunch on Teacher Appreciation Day. She would ask that the Education and Finance Committees meet later in the day in order for the people that work could attend.

4. Curriculum Report: D. Hodgdon reported that he had attended a DINI Meeting. During the meeting they reviewed the District's status and corrective action. He explained that this is the fourth year of not making AYP in math. The District did get off this list in reading. He explained that there would be a DINI monitoring team and asked anyone from the Board who is interested to contact him. He received information on a sense of what the State expects us to do.

5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

a. Correspondence and Announcements: J. Smith welcomed the Board to Cutler School. He explained to the Board how happy he is to be principal at Cutler. The school has received a painting as a thank you for raising funds for the oxen. The children are also doing a leukemia fundraiser.

B. Pickering thanked the tech staff for their work on correcting the computer issue. They worked many extra hours. He also reported on a successful prom. KSC reported the students were well behaved. June 1, 2010 and June 3, 2010 the seniors would be presenting their senior projects. The Board is invited to attend.

L. Sutton reported that 66 middle school students are on the AHT tour and all is going well.

L. Sutton also reported that the students participated in field day activities on the early release day. She would like to thank the Students Government and others for their help. It was a great time.

R. Skrocki reported that the Student Government election is on May 28, 2010 and all are welcome to attend.

b. Permanent Principal Search Committee: S. Oerman reported the committee went over what has to occur in the search and they wrote the advertisement to be placed in the paper. Their next meeting is on May 19, 2010 at 4:00 PM.

c. SAU Business Manager Search Committee: It was reported that the committee would be meeting on June 2, 2010 and June 3, 2010. There are four applications.

K. Dassau reported that the Marauders Contract is up for review. R. Thackston would send the contract to the Facilities Committee.

J. Smith thanked the Board for the Teacher Appreciation lunch on behalf of the support staff.

6. BOARD CHAIR REPORT: R. Thackston passed out his report to the Board. He reported on the Interim Principal Search Committee status and the reorganization of the agenda. He would ask that the Board suspend the 48 hour prior written notice on the items under "Old Business" in order to get these urgent items through. He asked

the Board to support his proposal to change the goal of the Board. He reported that the goal setting meeting has been postponed.

7. School Board Committee Report:

1. Human Resources Committee:

a. Recommendation on Facilities Dept. Re-organization: P. Buries reported the committee was asked to reorganize the Maintenance Dept. from a vote on April 6, 2010. The committee came up with a few suggestions. They suggested making the 4 management positions into 3 positions. The committee decided to bring a proposal tonight to the Board regarding 2 of the positions.

2. Finance Committee: J. Carnie reported that the committee discussed the SAU Withdrawal, the Superintendent's contract, the automatic renewal in the contracts and the Stockwell Settlement. J. Carnie explained that N. Morarity asked what the District received in services from Kaestle Boos for the \$65,000.00. He explained that the Education Committee and the Finance Committee have been meeting at the same time for a year and it has worked. At that time they are able to get input from B. Pickering and B. Gallagher. The attendance of the committee School Board Members at that time is at 100%. *L. Steadman arrives.*

3. Facilities Committee: E. Stanley reported on the bleachers and the new fence is on target. They discussed the issue of a multi-purpose room at Mt. Caesar. They also discussed the third year of the five year plan. The Capital Improvement Plan is on the next agenda. L. Steadman reported that there would be a proposal for the summer work asbestos removal. L. Steadman reported on the Emerson drainage issue. B. Mitchell reported that the Emerson drainage issue has cost the District \$23,050.00 thus far. Any additional monies needed would come out of the warrant article.

4. Policy Committee: W. Wright reported that the committee has not met and would be meeting on May 27, 2010 at 6:00 PM.

5. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow reported that the committee was unable to have a quorum. They would be meeting on June 1, 2010 at 6:30 PM.

6. Education Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee met last Thursday. They discussed SERASC and the evaluation issue. They had a NEASC report update from B. Pickering regarding the March 18, 2010 letter. They discussed the Science NECAP testing and the Adult Diploma Program. They would be asking the Board to expand the program. A motion will follow later.

7. Budget Committee Rep.: E. Stanley reported that the Budget Committee would be meeting in Gilsum on May 25, 2010. The Budget Committee would ask the Board to consider a joint meeting in August. R. Thackston would like to talk to W. Lechliden about this issue. The committee discussed the Stockwell Settlement and where the money is coming from. The committee suggested putting photos of the work that would be done over the summer on the web site.

8. Cheshire Career Center: W. Wright reported that there is no report.

9. Negotiations Committee: P. Bauries reported that the committee has not met and have not heard from the Support Staff Union. They are still discussing the options regarding legal representation at the negotiations.

10. SAU Withdrawal Committee: E. Stanley reported that the committee met and would be meeting tomorrow night. The committee is on schedule.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Motion on Facilities Dept. Re-organization: MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** to suspend the 48 hour written prior notice requirement. **SECOND:** R. Smith. **VOTE:** 13.1/0/0.8/1.1. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to reinstate the 2 job descriptions as submitted tonight and consolidate the two. **SECOND:** M. Morrison. **DISCUSSION:** The salary is not determined. The salary at the interview would be at the same compensation level. W. Felton said that this is the wrong way to do things. This is a morale problem. He would like to see a good rationale. E. Jacod and L. Steadman will vote for the motion but wish the Board went down a different road. J. Carnie is in favor of the proposal and would hope that the Board agrees. L. Sutton commented on the fact that W. Goodman's duties would increase and asked if the Board is going to hire another custodian. R. Thackston commented that there has not been any discussion at this time. E. Jacod explained that the Board voted before to cut two additional custodian positions. W. Goodman commented that they do not know what the problem is. R. Thackston commented one step at a time. **VOTE:** 12.9/1.1/0/1.1. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to adopt the Board's new goal as presented by R. Thackston which is as follows: "The Goal of Monadnock Regional School District is to provide a World Class Public Education for every child". **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 12.8/0/1.2/1.1. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** to have the Human Resource Dept. offer the 2 positions in the Maintenance Dept. to the gentlemen that recently held them and to negotiate with them over the terms of employment subject to Board approval. **SECOND:** M. Morrison. **VOTE:** 12.9/0/1.1/1.1. **Motion passes.**

2. Board Goal: J. Carnie commented that the new Board goal is not measurable. He said that he is not against it but did not believe that the Board achieved the last goal.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Other Business as the Board may wish to hear: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Dept. to hire A-Best Abatement, Inc. to do as much asbestos abatement work this summer as they can within the budget. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** A. Schmit explained the project and what would be covered. **VOTE:** 13.9/0/0/1.1. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: J. Carnie. **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Dept. to take \$150,000.00 from the 2009-2010 savings account to complete the Stockwell Settlement.

SECOND: P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13.9/0/0/1.1. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Education Committee to approve the request to apply for a NH DOE Grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 to help with scholarships for students. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.9/0/0/2.1. **Motion passes. (W. Felton missing from vote)**

10. Action on the manifest: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** the Board accept the manifest in the amount of \$2,149,043.30. **SECOND:** M. Morrison. **VOTE:** 13.9/0/0/1.1. **Motion passes.**

12. Setting the next agenda:

- 1. Kaestle Boos services**
- 2. Full Day Kindergarten**
- 3. Capital Improvement**
- 4. Emergency Lighting Update**

13. Public Comments: N. Moriarty commented about corrective action on the computers. He also asked the Board not to hold their meetings at Cutler due to the fact that you can not hear.

Dr. Kaplan asked what the Board wants from the person that is to implement the new Board Goal. He asked what the definition of World Class Education is. R. Thackston suggested attending the goal setting meeting.

14. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: M. Morrison **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary