

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
Approved Minutes
November 2, 2010
Sullivan Elementary School, Sullivan, NH

Members Present: Ed Jacod, Eric Stanley, Richard Thackston, Bruce Barlow, Robert Smith, Phyllis Peterson, Pat Bauries, Scott Ellsworth, Mike Morrison and James Carnie.

Absent: William Felton, Winston Wright, Lisa Steadman and unassigned seats from Roxbury and Sullivan.

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

Also present: B. Tatro, L. Sutton, D. Mousette, T. Stewart and K. Craig.

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

1. Consent Agenda: MOTION: P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the October 19, 2010 Public and Non-Public School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 9.6/0/1.1/4.4. **Motion passes.**

2. Public Comments: Alice Garrapy welcomed the School Board to Sullivan.

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

4. Business Manager’s Report: J. Fortson explained she had received a letter from the Dept. of Revenue regarding the deficit. She also has the proposed warrant article language. She explained the towns have the information needed to set their tax rates. J. Fortson explained the SAU Withdrawal is not on a separate warrant it is now in the proposed budget on one line item. She passed out the RSA regarding this issue.

5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

1. Correspondence and Announcements: D. Mousette welcomed the Board to Sullivan. He thanked his staff for the refreshments.

T. Stewart reported on the sports teams. He reported that the auditions for CATS are going on now for the performance in March. Things are good. T. Stewart informed the Board that the individual sports teams will hold their own banquet and award presentations.

L. Sutton reported the middle school has an Outdoor Club. Thirty students climbed Mt. Monadnock. It was a great turn out. Wednesday Night is the sports awards for the middle school.

B. Tatro, D. Dahl and K. Craig reported their schools will hold their Parent Teacher Conferences this week.

D. Hodgdon reported the Dept. of Transportation will be a meeting on November 10, 2010 regarding the intersection on Rt. 12 and Lake Street. They are looking for input from the citizens and public officials.

2. Curriculum Report: K. Craig passed out information to the Board. She explained the District is in need of improvement in Math. This is the 4th year and we are in corrective action. She mentioned the members on the committee working on the plan and thanked them. She reviewed the information passed out and the common core standards. She explained this cannot be accomplished by the children in a half a day. She would encourage everyone to spread the word about full day kindergarten.

3. SAU Update: D. Hodgdon reported the vote on the SAU Withdrawal was successful. The process went very smoothly. He thanked the members of the SAU Withdrawal Committee and the CRC. He explained that the State DOE will give Monadnock the SAU #93. Hinsdale is #92. He informed the Board the State would like to have the names of the Superintendent, Assistant, Business Manager and Spec. Ed. Director. The structure of the SAU is up to the Board. He would recommend the Board set up a committee to work on policy and procedures while moving along with the process for the new SAU. The Board needs to think about the administrators and have this in place by January. There is a lot of anxiety in the SAU. D. Hodgdon would recommend the Board act as soon as possible to address what needs to be done in order for the new SAU to be running on July 1, 2011.

MOTION: P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the retirement of Laurie Martin as of June 30, 2012. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 10.6/0/0/4.4. **Motion passes.**

4. Other Issues of Importance: D. Hodgdon reported he made the request to QED regarding the items and they were all returned except one item. The item is getting repaired. The cost of the repair will be the responsibility of the District.

D. Hodgdon reported he would be sending a cover letter along with the report cards regarding the Goals and a Corrective Action Notification Letter.

D. Hodgdon reported the SERESC Spec. Ed. Study will begin tomorrow.

There is a need for a non-public session.

6. BOARD CHAIR REPORT: R. Thackston commented on a letter written by David Bell to the Sentinel. He said he did not agree with it. He will be writing a letter in response to the Sentinel.

W. Felton is in California with his daughter. He is okay.

MOTION: B. Barlow. **MOVED** to appoint D. Hodgdon as the Superintendent of SAU #93, compensation and benefits to be discussed at a later time. **SECOND:** P.

Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie suggested setting up a committee to look at the other issues regarding the new SAU. **VOTE:** 10.6/0/0/4.4. **Motion passes.** J. Carnie suggested some of the members from the SAU Withdrawal Committee serving on the Organizational Committee for the SAU #93. R. Thackston suggested 7 members to serve. He would suggest at least 3 Board Members, the Superintendent, an administrator and 2 SAU Withdrawal Committee Members. **MOTION:** B. Barlow. **MOVED** the formation of the committee to consist of 3 School Board Members, 1 administrator, the Superintendent and 2 committee members from the SAU Withdrawal Committee. **SECOND:** J. Carnie. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries asked for a **friendly amendment** and add 2 Budget Committee Members. R. Thackston commented the Budget Committee Members might not want to serve. E. Jacod asked for a friendly amendment to bring the number from 7 to 9 members. P. Bauries would like to see 2 Budget Committee Members from the SAU Withdrawal Committee, the Business Manager, the Superintendent, 3 School Board Members and 2 Committee Members. J. Carnie stated the attendance at the SAU Withdrawal Committee meetings was good. He commented on the short period of time and said 7 members would be best. R. Thackston commented that there are community members who are knowledgeable to serve. The vote is for the nine members to serve. **VOTE:** 10.6/0/0/4.4. **Motion passes.** The School Board Members willing to serve are J. Carnie, E. Stanley and B. Barlow. The Board will ask W. Martel and W. Lechluder if they would like to serve.

2. SAU Meeting: The Board was informed that C. Duquette is requesting to unseal a set of non-public minutes at the SAU Board Meeting tomorrow.

7. School Board Committee Report:

1. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow reported the last minute orange post cards worked well with getting the vote passed. He would thank the District and the voters for the passing of the vote. He reported the Monadnock Shopper will run a quarterly column written by Dr. Hodgdon. Cheshire TV will run a twenty minute spot every 4 weeks called "What's on Top?" Dr. Hodgdon did an interview on Cheshire TV. The CRC has asked other District's to compete regarding the Board's Goal. There has been a donation from a local anonymous donor towards a possible high school greenhouse.

2. Education Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee met last week. The committee discussed the supervisor process, evaluations and social promotions. They discussed with T. Stewart the Spec. Ed. staff and the emotionally handicapped. J. Carnie reported K. Craig passed out information on RTI.

3. Facilities Committee: M. Morrison reported the committee met on October 26, 2010. At the meeting D. LaPointe invited KBA to discuss signage, which would include brail. WV Engineering discussed the wiring. The Gilsum Courtyard was discussed and the work will begin. They discussed the drawings for Mt. Caesar's fire and sprinkler system. The Wilcox building is shut down for the winter. The kitchen emergency lights are working. The next meeting is on Nov. 8, 2010 at 5:15 PM. R.

Thackston stated he has heard positive comments from business people regarding D. LaPointe.

4. Finance Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee met last week. He reported the Business Manager updated the committee on the MS25. The committee was informed of an \$184,000.00 deficit. A motion to cover the amount will follow later in the meeting. There was a discussion regarding the SAU 38's surplus. They discussed how to divide it. They discussed the usage of the IT staff in the SAU regarding Monadnock at 50% and Winchester at 50% and Winchester paying 16% of the budget. They discussed the proposed budget and trying to reduce the budget. They discussed addressing the student teacher ratio and compare it to the other districts. The next meeting is on November 4, 2010.

5. Policy Committee: The Policy Committee did not have a quorum.

6. Budget Committee Rep.: The Budget Committee will be meeting on Nov. 23, 2010 at 7:00 PM at Mt. Caesar.

7. Cheshire Career Center:

8. Negotiations/Human Resource Committee: P. Bauries reported the committee met last Thursday with a counter proposal for the Support Staff and they talked about scheduling meetings. The process is moving along. The next meeting is on Nov. 9, 2010. R. Thackston reported MAPS will be meeting with the committee prior to the SAU Board Meeting.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Letter from QED: Dr. Hodgdon said there is still a question on the apple computers. He will follow up on this issue.

MOTION: B. Barlow. **MOVED** to authorize the payment of \$150.00 to QED to pay for the repair of the computer. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 8.5/2.1/0/4.4. **Motion passes.**

9. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion from Facilities Committee:

2. Motion from Policy Committee:

3. Motion from Finance Committee: **MOTION:** J. Carnie. **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance committee to take \$150,000.00 from the Special Education Trust Fund to offset the \$184,845.00 deficit. The remaining deficit of \$34,845.00 to be included in the next year's budget. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson explained the Spec. Ed. Trust Fund has about \$162,000.00 in it. **VOTE:** 10.6/0/0/4.4. **Motion passes.**

Action on the Manifest MOTION: S. Ellsworth **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amount of \$1,128,488.36 **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:**10.6/0/0/4.4. **Motion passes.**

4. School Board Budget Items: E. Stanley asked if the Board would be forming a Principal Search Committee. R. Thackston commented he and Dr. Hodgdon are discussing the issue and feel it should start in January. R. Thackston gave the rationale on why to wait. He commented the SAU is important to get started.

The Board was asked to look at the line items under the School Board Account. J. Fortson listed the items under this account and there really no areas to change.

5. Paraprofessional Issues: J. Fortson explained there were paraprofessional cuts in the budget but due to the needs of the children's IEPs they were hired back.

10. Setting the next agenda:

11. Public Comments: Dr. Kaplan informed the Board that 90% of the people that voted wished to leave the SAU not 90% of the voters.

D. Mousette invited the Board to Gilsum for the annual Veterans Day program. Monadnock staff and alumni will be in attendance. He also invited the Board to the Community Turkey Dinner hosted and sponsored by the Northern Schools staff, Access and the PTG.

J. Fortson congratulated L. Steadman on the birth of her son Noah.

12. 9:20 PM Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Negotiations: MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 9:20PM under RSA 91-A:3 11 (e) Negotiations. **SECOND:** M. Morrison. **VOTE: Roll call vote:** R. Smith, R. Thackston, S. Ellsworth, E. Stanley, B. Barlow, M. Morrison, P. Peterson, P. Bauries, E. Jacod and J. Carnie. 10.6/0/0/4.4 **Motion passes.**

13. 10:40 PM Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Litigation: MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 10:40 PM under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Litigation. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE: Roll call vote:** R. Smith, R. Thackston, S. Ellsworth, E. Stanley, B. Barlow, M. Morrison, P. Peterson, P. Bauries, E. Jacod and J. Carnie.10.6/0/0/4.4.. **Motion passes.**

14. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 PM. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE:** 10.6/0/0/4.4. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary