

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
Approved Minutes
October 5, 2010
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Winston Wright, Ed Jacod, Eric Stanley, Richard Thackston, Lisa Steadman, Bruce Barlow, Scott Ellsworth, Robert Smith, Phyllis Peterson, Pat Bauries, Mike Morrison and James Carnie. **Absent:** William Felton 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, D. Dahl, T. Stewart and K. Craig.

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

1. Consent Agenda:

2. Public Comments: N. Moriarty asked the Board to reconsider or revote on the individual insurance payments information. He asked that the information be released to the Budget Committee. He commented that errors are caught by the Budget Committee.

3. Business Manager’s Report: J. Fortson passed out additional information to the Board to be placed in their budget binders.

4. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

1. Correspondence and Announcements: D. Hodgdon reported J. Smith hosted a CSI Swanzey program and presentation at Cutler. Next week they will also be hosting a pumpkin carving night and all are welcome.

D. Dahl reported the PTO is hosting a pumpkin carving in Troy on Thursday and all are welcome.

B. Tatro reported the Open House at Mt. Caesar was well attended. They are also hosting a pumpkin carving and everyone is welcome.

L. Sutton reported the middle school will do pumpkin carving during the school day. They have also begun the NECAP Testing. The students are putting in a great effort.

T. Stewart reported the high school would be focusing on the NECAP Testing next week. The students will be given breakfast and snack on the days of the testing.

D. Mousette reported the students in Sullivan are taking the MAPS and the students in Gilsum will take them next week. The Northern Schools will be hosting pumpkin carving on Thursday and all are welcome.

K. Craig reported on the Emerson Annual Harvest night. It was a free fun family night. Emerson students will be painting pumpkins and all are welcome. Emerson has started their testing.

2. Curriculum Report: K. Craig reported on a lot of great work going on in the district. October 11, 2010 will be the first District Curriculum Workshop focusing on the SERESC report. The math mentors have been meeting once a month. They understand that writing in math is a weak point and they are working on that.

3. SAU Update: D. Hodgdon reported the SAU staff has begun dialogue on the potential closure of the office and the needs after June 31, 2011. The next SAU Board Meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2010 at MRHS.

4. Other Issues of Importance: It was reported that Roxbury was not represented at the Deliberative Session. D. Hodgdon reported he has been in contact with the Secretary of State and they have said there is no problem but hope Roxbury will open their polls on October 26, 2010. Regardless the District is all set for the vote. They are moving forward.

D. Hodgdon passed out a hard copy of the enrollment figures. He said the Board should be cautious with the numbers. They are checking and rechecking the numbers. The official number is due to the State on October 15, 2010. The breakdown of the students will be given to the Selectmen of the individual towns.

D. Hodgdon reported there is a need for two public sessions.

Student Government Report: Megan Butterfield, president of the Student Government reported the committee has met 3 times and they are discussing when they would like to meet possibly in the morning before school or at lunch. The committee would like to talk to other schools to see how they run their organization. They would like to have more students involved. They would also like to have a Husky Student of the Month.

5. BOARD CHAIR REPORT:

1. Chair Report: D. Mousette informed the Chair he would have a copy of the MAPS presentation before or at the negotiating meeting.

R. Thackston reported he had a conversation with Dr. Crisafolli earlier this week. They discussed the misconception that on June 31, 2011 the SAU will go away. There will be an audit and we will probably need a line. We will not have to fund the line but we will need one.

2. Goal Setting Follow-Up: R. Thackston reported on an excellent meeting. He said there was a strong feeling that the Board needs to connect with the Select Boards. He suggested a dinner hosted by the Board for the Select Boards. The Board will have a presentation and get feedback.

3. Date Board will hold meeting in Roxbury: R. Thackston reported the Board might meet in Roxbury for the February meeting. He commented that Roxbury cannot block the vote on October 26, 2010. R. Thackston commented that the Board will take action to open the polls. The District Moderator would appoint someone to open the polls. D. Hodgdon explained that there is one more meeting before the vote. We are following up with the State, if needed. We will be getting a clear answer on what to do. The District Clerk is in contact with the people in Roxbury to ensure that the vote goes forward as planned.

6. School Board Committee Report:

1. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow reported the CRC did not meet. The SAU Withdrawal information flier is at the printers. They will be mailed mid next week. A letter was submitted to the Keene Sentinel regarding the SAU Withdrawal. B. Barlow reported on the goal setting this past Saturday. He said it went well and thanked all that attended. He said that it takes a village to raise a child. The community needs to get involved and the students need to get involved in the community. The committee will be meeting with the Gilsum Selectmen on October 11, 2010. Their next scheduled meeting is on October 19, 2010.

2. Education Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee met and discussed the core standards, NEASC, NECAP Testing, a literacy plan and employee evaluations. The principals are completing the supervisor process with regards to the regular school administration. They discussed the green house and what can be done. They will see if there is a grant available for the agriculture program.

3. Facilities Committee: L. Steadman reported the committee met this evening. They will be bringing motions later in the meeting and will meet again next Tuesday at 5:00 PM.

4. Finance Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee met last Thursday. They had an involved discussion regarding full day kindergarten. J. Fortson gave a report and discussed the SAU withdrawal, sick days and vacation days. There is a motion to come later tonight.

5. Policy Committee: W. Wright reported the committee will be meeting on October 12, 2010 at 6:30 PM.

6. Budget Committee Rep.: E. Stanley reported that the Budget Committee met on September 27, 2010.

7. Cheshire Career Center: W. Wright reported there is a breakfast meeting on October 14, 2010 at 7:30 AM. All are welcome.

8. Negotiations/Human Resource Committee: P. Bauries reported the committee met last Thursday. She will bring proposed housekeeping changes regarding the Monadnock Support Staff. She would be asking for a non-meeting tonight.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Town of Swanzey-Generator: E. Stanley reported Mr. Bohannon would be attending the next Facilities Meeting to discuss the generator. E. Jacod asked for a clear definition of what capacity is needed.

2. Motion on Insurance Disclosure: R. Thackston reported he forwarded the insurance disclosure issue to Attorney Hoppock and he provided a suggested motion. He said that it is “arguably legal” he would prefer a scatter gram. **MOTION:** M. Morrison **MOVED** that the Business Manger compile the list of names of all employees of the District together with the District’s actual costs it incurs for each employee’s health insurance cost paid by the District for each named employee, on the conditions that this information be held by the Board’s negotiating team members in the strictest confidence and that the information not be disclosed to any third party, especially including members of the Union’s bargaining team and that when negotiations are concluded that the information be returned to the Business Manager and that no Board Member shall make additional copies of the information that is the subject of this motion. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** B. Barlow asked if the Budget Committee could have a copy. R. Thackston explained that is a separate issue. E. Jacod would suggest a scatter gram. S. Ellsworth asked why the names are needed. P. Bauries explained that there were three people that have insurance but were not listed. It is checks and balances. She said that she needs all the facts and figures. P. Peterson commented that is why we are paying the Business Manager and the administration. The Board is about policy. E. Stanley commented three years ago we had the names and errors were found and corrected. R. Thackston explained that we need to get the Budget Committee the answers without getting into the politics of this. J. Carnie commented that we need to be careful on what we are giving out. The Budget Committee needs the information to do the work. He is more in favor of giving out the information due to past errors and the large settlement. J. Carnie said he will vote in favor of the motion. R. Thackston commented that 4 years ago we did not have HIPA Laws. C. Kahn commented that the Union and the Board usually have the same information as the negotiating committee. R. Thackston stated with this motion you cannot get the same information. B. Barlow agrees with P. Peterson. The Business Manager and the administration are making great strides. This is not the job of the negotiating committee. He would agree with the attorney. This risk is too high. Go with the scatter gram. W. Wright commented that he would abstain. E. Stanley asked if it was okay for the Budget Committee to have this information in confidentiality but not the School Board. R. Thackston would ask someone to table this motion until he speaks again to the attorney. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to

table this motion until the next meeting. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **VOTE:** 12.9/0/0/2.1. **Motion passes.**

8. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion from Facilities Committee: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Committee to accept the rack price plus \$.20 proposed by Cheshire Oil for fuel. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman reported the City of Keene proposal delayed them. They were too late. The City of Keene let them down. **VOTE:** 12.9/0/0/2.1. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman. **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Committee to accept the bid from Baybutt Construction in the amount of \$16,776.00 for the doors. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson explained that she would go through the articles to see what is available. J. Carnie asked about the lower bid. E. Stanley explained Baybutt is on the other projects. E. Stanley explained the lower bid is \$300.00 difference. R. Thackston explained this is an emergency repair out of the project. S. Ellsworth commented there is a recommendation from D. LaPointe. L. Steadman explained the funds might be in the emergency fund. R. Thackston said to go with the Facilities and D. LaPointe's recommendations. **VOTE:** 11.7/1.2/0/2.1 **Motion passes.**

2. Motion from Finance Committee: MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to recommend that the Full Day Kindergarten be funded through a Special Warrant Article. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **DISCUSSION:** It was explained this gives the voters a clear choice. P. Peterson said that she would vote against this because we are extending a program. Do you need to put it on a special article? R. Thackston explained if there is a default budget and this passes we get it. J. Carnie explained that this is a cleaner way to deal with the problems. It is a proposal for all day kindergarten. K. Craig commented that in the vote it stated all day kindergarten would be funded. It is changing. It is not what the people heard when they attended the meeting. P. Peterson commented that it was clear to the parents and the committee. You are back peddling now. You talk about perception. J. Carnie said that this is clean and up front and is how the Finance Committee said it should be. B. Barlow said the new budget should not include full day kindergarten. J. Carnie said you cannot have it in both places. **VOTE:** 12.9/0/0/2.1. **Motion passes.**

- a. **Action on the Manifest MOTION:** R. Smith **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amount of \$1,422,048.21 **SECOND:** P. Bauries
VOTE: 11/0/1.1/2.1 **Motion passes.**

9. Setting the next agenda:

- 1. Student Government**
- 2. Insurance Motion (tabled)**
- 3. New Goal School Board**
- 4. Club and Organization Fair (SG)**
- 5. NH Fish and Game Motion discussion**

10. Public Comments: A lady in the audience asked if the Board anticipated the budget being higher or lower than the default. She does not want to see full day kindergarten put out there because you want the budget to pass. R. Thackston explained that you need to put it as a separate warrant article.

N. Moriarty commented this is the way to fund full day kindergarten.

The board took a 5 minute recess.

11. 8:58 PM Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II © Student Issue: MOTION: R. Smith **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 8:58PM under RSA 91-A:3 11 © Student Issue. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE: Roll call vote:** R. Smith, W. Wright, R. Thackston, L. Steadman, E. Stanley, B. Barlow, S. Ellsworth, M. Morrison, P. Peterson, P. Bauries, E. Jacod and J. Carnie. 12.9/0/0/2.1 **Motion passes.**

12. 9:30 PM Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Negotiations: MOTION: P. Bauries. **MOVED** to enter into non-public session at 9:30 PM under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Negotiations. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE: Roll call vote:** R. Smith, W. Wright, R. Thackston, L. Steadman, E. Stanley, B. Barlow, S. Ellsworth, M. Morrison, P. Peterson, P. Bauries, E. Jacod and J. Carnie. 12.9/0/0/2.1. **Motion passes.**

13. Return to Public Session: MOTION: R. Smith. **MOVED** to seal all October 5, 2010 non-public minutes until March 31, 2011. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 12.9/0/0/2.1. **Motion passes.**

14. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: B. Barlow **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 PM. **SECOND:** R. Smith **VOTE:** 12.9/0/0/2.1. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary