

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Approved Minutes**  
**April 5, 2011**  
**Troy Elementary School, Troy, NH**

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

**Administration present:** D. Hodgdon, Superintendent, K. Craig, Assistant Superintendent, R. Matte, Special Ed. Coordinator and J. Fortson, Business Manager, **Also present:** B. Tatro, D. Mousette, J. Smith, M. Suarez and D. Dahl.

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

**Public Hearing: Per RSA 198:20-b&c, the purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider the acceptance and expenditure of unanticipated funds and transfer of funds.**

**R. Thackston opened the Public Hearing for the acceptance and the expenditure of unanticipated funds:** J. Fortson explained the unanticipated funds are the ED. Jobs Funding. These funds are to be used for education funding, teacher and support staff funding. J. Fortson reviewed the requirements. She asked the School Board to consider accepting the funds this year due to the under budgeting. It is state statute that the Board hold this Public Hearing. The amount of funds the District should expect is \$292,846.85. **R. Thackston closed the Public Hearing.**

**R. Thackston opened the Public Hearing for the transfer of funds:** J. Fortson explained she is asking the Board to transfer \$150,000.00 from the Special Ed. Expendable Trust Fund to the Special Ed. Account to cover the Special Ed. short fall. J. Fortson explained the District is in the red in the amount of \$184,845.00 largely due to overspending in Spec. Ed. She explained a child had moved into the district which was unanticipated and the Spec. Ed. Transportation is short. **R. Thackston closed the Public Hearing.**

**R. Thackston opened the Monadnock School Board Meeting: MOTION:** E. Jacod. **MOVED** to accept the unanticipated revenues from the State of NH in the amount of \$292,846.85. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to transfer \$150,000.00 from the Special Ed. Expendable Trust Fund to the Special Ed. Account. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**

1. **Consent Agenda: MOTION:** J. Labadie **MOVED** to accept the March 15, 2011 Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the three sets of March 15, 2011 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** J. Labadie. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**
2. **Student Government Report:** B. Barlow reported a representative from the Student Government was unable to attend tonight's meeting. He reported B. Barlow, W. Lechliden and E. Stanley attended a Student Government meeting. The students asked great questions and budget questions.
3. **Business Manager's Report:** J. Fortson asked N. Richardson to share some good news to the Board. N. Richardson reported the District has received free computer surplus equipment from Concord. N. Richardson listed the many items the District has received at no cost.

J. Fortson explained she spoke to the Finance Committee and explained the District does not have a deficit at this point. She has been meeting department by department and principal by principal and identifying each item to see if it is a must to have. J. Carnie would like to ask for the worst case scenario if everything is spent. J. Fortson commented the worst case scenario is \$400,000.00 in the negative which she believes will not happen. She believes it will come out even.

#### 4. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

**1. Correspondence and Announcements:** D. Hodgdon reported he has received an email from the Dept. of Ed. congratulating the high school on their test scores. They said amazing things are happening and they commend their efforts.

J. Smith reported Cutler and Mt. Caesar did a great job in the Destination Imagination competition. The High School did a great job and made it to the Globals.

M. Suarez reported the Math Fair at Emerson was very successful.

B. Tatro reported movie night will be on Saturday and it is free for all.

D. Mousette informed the Board the Northern Schools will be holding a Mother and Son dinner. Conferences are Thursday and Friday.

D. Dahl welcomed the Board to Troy Elementary. They will be holding a Family Night Sock Hop next Thursday and they will be holding a Spring Show on April 26, 2011.

**2. Curriculum Report:** K. Craig reported due to the large agenda she would like to report that great work is happening in the District. She would be more than happy to speak to the Board on what is going on in the District.

**3. Other Issues of Importance: MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to provide a bag lunch for the teachers on Teacher Appreciation Day. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**

D. Hodgdon has been asked by Gloria Kuningas to accept her resignation as of June 2012 without the 18 month notice per Section 14 of the contract. **MOTION:** J. Labadie **MOVED** to accept the resignation of Gloria Kuningas as of June 2012 with regrets and thanks. **SECOND:** L. Steadman. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**

**5. Board Chair Report:** R. Thackston informed the Public that he recognizes and appreciates the sports athletes of the District.

**6. School Committee Report:**

**1. Community Relations Committee:** B. Barlow thanked E. Jacod for putting the committee minutes on the web site. M. Blair will take a look at the web site and possibly start a Face Book page. B. Barlow will be scheduling the Select Board Meetings. The next meeting is on April 19, 2011.

**2. Education Committee:** J. Carnie reported the committee met and discussed the curriculum report which was handed out to the Board. The committee also discussed the Athletic Sports Manual. T. Stewart made a presentation regarding fee charges to students for sports to raise revenue for the District. This issue was moved to the Finance Committee. The committee will be discussing the SERESC Report at their next meeting.

**3. Facilities Committee:** E. Stanley reported the committee met on March 22, 2011. The fire and safety items will be completed this month. There will be a waste disposal motion later in the meeting. The committee discussed a grievance on the bid work for year two. D. LaPointe reported the Board agreed to hire Baybutt Construction for year two for the renovations to the MS/HS. The 5% bond which should have been a 10% bond has gone out to bid and Baybutt has come back lower again. The amount is \$29,000.00 plus or minus higher than the original. This issue will go to the Finance and Facilities Committee. The Facilities committee will meet on April 7, 2011 at 5:00 PM.

**4. Finance Committee:** J. Carnie reported the committee met and discussed the waste disposal issue from the Facilities Committee. The committee discussed the Cutler Floor replacement and the cut in the nurse position. They discussed the deficit and how to offset it. The committee discussed Spec. Ed. bussing costs and salaries. The next meeting is on April 14, 2011 at 8:45 PM. There will be three motions to come before the Board tonight.

**5. Policy Committee:** L. Steadman reported the committee met last night. They have several policies to review with the Board. They were passed out. The next meeting is on April 18, 2011 at 6:00 PM.

**6. Budget Committee Rep.:** The committee will meet on April 26, 2011.

**7. Cheshire Career Center:** L. Steadman is trying to get in contact with J. Logan regarding the impact on Monadnock students due to the vocational cuts.

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

## **7. OLD BUSINESS:**

## **8. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Motions from Facilities Committee: MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Committee to accept the Monadnock Disposal bid in the amount of \$27,156.00 annually for three years. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** The Board would like to commend D. LaPointe, J. Fortson and others for this arrangement. This is a 3 year agreement at \$27,156.00 a year. There will be an estimated savings of \$20,000.00 a year. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes**

**MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** on behalf of the Facilities Committee to accept the Monadnock Flooring bid for the Cutler School in the amount of \$2319.00 for the hallway, \$4155.00 for room #1, \$4697.00 for room #2 and \$1025.00 for wax. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/02.4. **Motion passes.**

**2. Motions from Policy Committee: MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy BBB Board Membership-Elections/Appointment as amended. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **DISCUSSION:** Correction to "Vacancies, which occur during the school year, shall be filled by the designee of the respective town's selectmen" **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy BBB- R Monadnock Board Organization as presented. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** Corrections need to be made to this policy. L. Steadman and P. Bauries withdraw their motion. This is sent back to the Policy Committee.

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy DN Equipment and Supplies Sales as amended. **SECOND:** J. Labadie. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented the policy is still allowing the Superintendent to do what we worked to fix. L. Steadman stated the committee wrote the policy to what J. Carnie suggested. J. Carnie said things need to be

approved by the Board. L. Steadman commented the Superintendent should have authority to dispose of items. P. Bauries said items of \$ 1000.00 or more need to be reported before given away. J. Carnie would agree. We still have an investigation. He does not believe we should raise the limits. **L. Steadman and J. Labadie withdraw their motion.** This will go back to the Policy Committee.

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy GBE Employee Rights and Responsibilities as presented. **SECOND:** J. Labadie. **DISCUSSION:** The Board had questions regarding the dress code. The Board decided to send the policy back to the Policy Committee.

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy GDF Support Staff Hiring as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** It was asked if this will conflict with the contracts. L. Steadman said new hours and they do not have a contract. R. Thackston commented if an IEP is needed this issue would go through the proper channels. Hiring without the benefits will save money. This is for a new hire. **VOTE:** 7.6/1.9/3.2/2.4. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy IGDJ Interscholastic Athletics as amended. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** The Board changed #2 as follows: High School Students wishing to participate in the interscholastic athletic program must adhere to the Student-Athlete/Parent Handbook and the academic standards set forth there. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to delete Policy BCA Ethics Policy Statement and Policy BCA-R School Board Member Ethics. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **DISCUSSION:** The Board does not sign the Ethics Policy on an annual basis so the committee suggested removing it. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**

3. **Motions from Finance Committee:** **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to form a legislative committee to report back to the Board on updates and changes to the current laws. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** This committee would update the Board on the current changes. P. Bauries suggested a member from the School Board and the Budget Committee. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4. **Motion passes.**
4. **Motions from Education Committee:** **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Education Committee to accept the new Student-Athlete/Parent Handbook with the changes made to pages 11 and 14 as the final version. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** P. Peterson explained the administration would like to review and make small changes as they go. E. Jacod commented it is unacceptable to have one failure and play sports. M. Blair would agree. R. Thackston asked how you can put a grade on a homeschooler to qualify. J.

Labadie explained. E. Stanley commented we have to be careful the administration has made recommendations. K. Craig commented there has been dialogue, consistency is needed and it is not the right time to make changes. P. Bauries gave an excellent example. She would agree with K. Craig. M. Morrison commented the administration needs flexibility if athletics can get a student interested in school. E. Jacod commented the primary point is to educate the students. The students should not cut it close on their grades. J. Carnie commented this discussion took place in the Education Committee. T. Stewart and K. Margitis did a presentation. M. Blair would recommend acceptance of this eligibility requirement knowing we will address this in the future. Pass this as is and have the committee readdress this in the future. This is for the 2011-2012 School Year. E. Jacod commented we have to prepare these people for life. We are issuing a pass until next time. J. Labadie commented that failure is not an option. We are a Board of Education. The students need to have a passing grade. B. Barlow commented that athletics help with education and leadership. **VOTE: 9.9/2.7/0/2.4. Motion passes.**

- a. **Action on the Manifest MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amount of \$ 2,905,951.48 **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE: 10.5/1.1/0/2.4. Motion passes.**
  5. **Elementary School Principal Search Committee:** K. Craig explained there is a policy on the principal search. This policy will be placed in the Board's packet.
  6. **Other New Business as may come before the Board:** J. Carnie takes over the meeting. **MOTION:** R. Thackston. **MOVED** to instruct the Superintendent to provide a notice of non-renewal for a total of 40 aides and paraprofessionals under their existing collective bargaining agreement. **SECOND:** P. Bauries **DISCUSSION:** R. Thackston explained this will give the Board and the administration time to come together with a recommendation to cover the positions. M. Blair asked where the number 40 came from. R. Thackston explained he calculated and that is the highest minimum number. We need to notice by April 15, 2011. **MOTION:** J. Labadie **MOVED** to table the motion. **SECOND:** There was no second. It was explained the 40 aides include the ones already agreed upon. M. Blair asked if the administration understood the 40 aides being noticed. R. Thackston explained we have not worked out who it would be. They have to work out the mechanics. J. Carnie commented you cannot ask the administration ahead of time. R. Thackston commented they have three weeks to come back to the Board. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to call the question. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE: 9.7/0/2.1/2.4. Motion passes. VOTE: on the motion: 9.7/.81/2.1/2.4. Motion passes. R. Thackston takes over the meeting.**
- MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to add W. Wright to the Education Committee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE: 12.6/0/0/2.4. Motion passes.**

**9. Setting the next agenda:**

**1. Review Policies**

**2. Review Elementary School Principal Search**

- 10. Public Comments:** M. Alexander commented she is confused on the non-renewals of the aides and the paraprofessionals. The association met with D. Hodgdon and met to discuss the needs. We already did the work to get to the necessary number to provide services. The 5.5 hours violates the agreement.

J. LeClair was stunned at what happened with the 40 non-renewals of the aides and paraprofessionals. She has invited people to her classroom to see the effect of the aides. With the cuts you do not know what will happen to those little taxpayers. The Board needs to see what is best for the kids before making a decision.

J. Fortson commented on the athletic policy. Grades are not everything. The Board needs to understand the impact of athletics. Look beyond the grades when looking at this hand book.

M. Blair read a letter from the High School Destination Imagination Team. The group thanked the Board for their previous support. The Destination Imagination Team wrote a poem to the Board.

B. Barlow passed out his public comments to the Board. B. Barlow spoke of the Tax Payers Association, community members, the Deliberative Session, the best administrative team at the SAU and to move the District forward.

- 11. 9:20 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II-Interviewing potential employee: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Interviewing potential employee. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, M. Blair, J. Labadie, J. Carnie, B. Barlow, M. Morrison, P. Bauries, L. Steadman, P. Peterson, E. Stanley and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4 **Motion passes.**

**THE BOARD SEALED THE 9:20 PM NON-PUBLIC MINUTES.**

- 12. 11:00 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II-Public Employee: MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Public Employee. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, M. Blair, J. Labadie, J. Carnie, P. Peterson, E. Stanley, B. Barlow, M. Morrison, P. Bauries, L. Steadman and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 12.6/0/0/2.4 **Motion passes.**

- 13. 11:15 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II Hiring of a Public Employee: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Compensation or Negotiations of a Public Employee. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, M. Blair, J. Labadie, J. Carnie, B. Barlow, M.

Morrison, P. Bauries, L. Steadman, P. Peterson, E. Stanley and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 10.5/0/0/4.5 **Motion passes.**

**14. 11:45 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II-Hiring of a Public Employee: MOTION:** E. Jacod **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Hiring of a Public Employee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** E. Jacod, W. Wright, M. Blair, J. Labadie, J. Carnie, P. Peterson, B. Barlow, M. Morrison, P. Bauries and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 10.5/0/04.5 **Motion passes.**

**15. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 11:55 PM. **SECOND:** P. Bauries **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary