

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
(Approved Minutes)
July 19, 2011
Roxbury Town Hall, Roxbury, NH

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

Administration present: D. Hodgdon, Superintendent, K. Craig, Assistant Superintendent, T. Kennett, Director of Student Services and J. Fortson, Business Manager,

Also present: B. Tatro, M. Suarez, J. Smith and J. Butterfield.

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

1.PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- 2. Consent Agenda: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the June 21, 2011 Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 8.742/0/1.058/5.2. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the June 21, 2011 Grievance Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 8.742/0/1.058/5.2. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the June 21, 2011 Nomination Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 8.742/0/1.058/5.2. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the June 21, 2011, 10:00 PM Student Issue Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 8.742/0/1.058/5.2. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the June 21, 2011, 10:14PM Student Issue Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 8.742/0/1.058/5.2. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the June 21, 2011 Negotiations Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 8.742/0/1.058/5.2. **Motion passes.**

- 3. Student Government Report:** There is no report.

4. **Business Manager's Report:** N. Richardson explained that they had underestimated the amount needed for the switching equipment. He is asking for a transfer in the amount of \$28,505.00 from the replacement computer equipment line to the new equipment line. **MOTION:** B. Barlow. **MOVED** to allow the transfer of funds in the amount of \$28,505.00 from the replacement computer equipment line to the new computer equipment line. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 7.559/0/2.241/5.2. **Motion passes.**

J. Fortson passed out information to the Board from T. Walsh requesting a change in the lunch prices. **MOTION:** B. Barlow. **MOVED** accept the changes to the school lunch prices according to the submission by T. Walsh. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 8.617/1.183/0/5.2. **Motion passes.**

The Board received a copy of the proposed SAU 93 Student Registration Form. K. Craig reviewed the form and explained it is prepared as it is in Power School. The Board asked questions about the forms and they were explained. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the SAU 93 Student Registration Form as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 6.726/2.241/.833/5.2. **Motion passes.**

J. Fortson explained she had wanted to inform the Board regarding the outcome of the 2010-2011 school year but the system went down. She had presented to the Finance Committee earlier in the week and had that information. As of last week the District was \$500,000.00 to the good but we still have bills to pay. She would like to use the \$150,000.00 from the Special Ed. which was suppose to cover last year's deficit to be used to cover this year. She would also like to use the ARRA funds next year to cover the retirement increase. J. Fortson explained there will have to be 2 Public Hearings to change the use of the funds. P. Peterson thanked the administration for getting the figures down and not ending in a deficit.

5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

1. Correspondence and Announcements: D. Hodgdon introduced Troy Kennett the new Director of Student Services. He also introduced J. Butterfield at his first official meeting. J. Butterfield commented on a good transition and looking forward to a strong start.

M. Suarez informed the Board summer school is going well. The teams are very busy this summer.

B. Tatro reported Cutler is hosting Mt. Caesar while work is being done.

J. Smith reported Cutler is knee deep in summer school and hosting Mt. Caesar, the MS and the HS.

2. Curriculum Report: T. Kennett thanked the Board for the opportunity as Director of Student Services. He informed the Board in the three weeks he has been with the administration and has spoken to the principals and after reviewing the SERESC Report he has identified areas that need to be improved. He passed out information to Board listing the areas in need of improvement and what he hopes to accomplish during the 2011-2012 school year. He will be meeting with the principals of each school and all of the Special Ed. Staff on a regular basis. ***L. Steadman arrives.***

K. Craig informed the Board Thursday the SAU 93 will look at protocols and systems at the SAU. This should make things work more efficiently.

D. Hodgdon presented a draft of his goals as Superintendent to the Board. He also received a letter from D. Mousette regarding the lock down at the Gilsum school.

MOTION: P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the resignations of D. Kempt, C. Farrer, S. Cabaris, K. Margitis and C. Lessor. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Motion passes.**

3. Other Issues of Importance:

- 6. Board Chair Report:** R. Thackston read a letter from P. Bauries. She thanked the Board and the administration for their support.

7. School Committee Report:

1. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow reported the committee met. He informed the Board M. Blair and N. Moriarty has been discussing the website. He thanked M. Morrison for his work with the Fish and Game and the students. The committee has been discussing the issue of communication to the parents via email. He will be presenting a goal setting schedule. The committee discussed the 50th anniversary of the school.

2. Education Committee: The Ed. Committee has not met.

3. Facilities Committee: L. Steadman asked D. LaPointe to discuss the issue regarding the power issue. D. LaPointe informed the Board that he had reviewed the situation with E. Jacod and asked E. Jacod to report to the Board. E. Jacod explained the power from the pole to the transformer is 50 years old. There is a problem with the feeder conductor that could impact the whole system along with the increase transformer capacity. He commented this issue needs to be addressed. He said there is a need to bring the conductor under the highway and we should take advantage of the weather. The numbers are still being firmed up. D. LaPointe commented he will request bids by the end of the week and they will be large and it will fall into this year's warrant article. E. Jacod commented there are a lot of things that need to be done by the beginning of the school year. This does require attention now. They are not sure of the completion date. D. LaPointe commented the total cost could be

\$200,000.00. E. Jacod commented there may be a need for another meeting because we need to move fast.

4. Finance Committee: The Finance Committee has not met.

5. Policy Committee: L. Steadman reported the committee met last Thursday and has four policies to bring before the Board tonight.

6. Budget Committee Rep.:

7. Negotiations/Human Resource Committee: R. Thackston informed the Board the three unions are juggling dates to set time to meet. He would like to invite the three unions to a meeting with Mike from Kapiloff Insurance on July 28, 2011.

8. Cheshire Career Center: L. Steadman informed the Board Jim Logan of the CCC will attend the next Board Meeting to discuss the budget issues and the enrollment increase from Monadnock.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

9. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Board Discussion on Budget Goals for 2012-2013 FY and interaction with the Budget Committee: R. Thackston informed the Board his hope is to give the Budget Committee a goal of a dollar figure or function of average cost per pupil and let them meet with the administration and do their job. Let them come back in October and see what they have, see where they agree or differ. Are we prepared to let the Budget Committee move forward with no more than 10% more than the State average per pupil cost. W. Felton asked to see what we want for education and have the Budget Committee finance the needs. E. Jacod commented the most workable concept is to bring the cost per pupil down by 10% rather than bringing the per pupil cost to the State average. B. Barlow commented we can anticipate a decline in enrollment and it would be a massive cut. P. Peterson commented on the classes with 8-12 students. She said we need to be efficient. M. Morrison suggested bringing the Business Manager into the process. R. Thackston had his suggestions regarding Gilsum and Sullivan. E. Jacod informed the Board Sullivan would like to exit from the District and they have had discussions with Keene. It is less clear on the part of Gilsum. J. Carnie commented the Finance Committee had spent a lot of time on the budget. The Budget Committee is generally not prepared. It is a big mistake to drop the ball in the lap of the Budget Committee. They are not capable of the educational decisions. There has been progress with the Budget Committee but they are 16 members and they attend 1 or 2 meetings a month. It cannot be done by the Budget Committee. W. Wright commented that

Fitzwilliam is asking if they are getting a fair shake from Monadnock. Do not put this on the Budget Committee. R. Thackston does not want to see the education suffer. We have a declining enrollment. W. Felton suggested maintaining status quo. The number of students is going down it is less expensive. What are we going to give our students to succeed? R. Thackston suggested maintaining as a District and look at expanding the vocational education. J. Fortson suggested starting at the Education Committee regarding the class size and set a directive. B. Barlow commented we need to take a look at education. J. Carnie commented the problem is a financial problem. We do a fairly decent job at education. We have come to crunch time. People will have to make hard decisions. We are not in the health care business. We are not in the benefits business. That is what is killing us. The bottom line is the cost per pupil. The class sizes need to be addressed. The health care benefits are all over the place. N. Moriarty asked the Board to give the Budget Committee a number. He suggested bringing a welding and CAD Program to Monadnock. D. Hodgdon appreciates the discussion. It is a challenge to the administration. If we have a sense of where you want to be that would make it easier. Look at it earlier rather than later. K. Craig commented it would be really helpful at the August meeting to have direction.

2. Motions from Facilities Committee:

- 3 Motions from Policy Committee: MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy GCM Professional Staff Work Loan as amended. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** It was commented this fits nicely with the contracts. **VOTE:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy BEDB Agenda as amended. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to amend the policy's first paragraph as follows: The Superintendent shall prepare all agendas for meetings of the Board. In doing so, the Superintendent shall consult with the Board Chair. Every Board Member has the right to place items on the agenda. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE on amendment:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Amendment passes. MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to amend the policy in the second sentence of the last paragraph as follows: Exceptions may be made with a 2/3 vote of the Board Members present. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE on amendment:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Amendment passes. VOTE on amended motion:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy BEA Regular Board Meetings as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented the 7.5 in the following statement may need to change: A membership of the Board comprising greater than 7.5 votes shall constitute a quorum. **MOTION:** E. Jacod. **MOVED** to amend and remove the last paragraph of the policy. **SECOND:** J. Carnie. **VOTE on amendment:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Amendment passes. VOTE on amended motion:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy KCD Public Gifts/Donations as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson.

DISCUSSION: J. Carnie commented we have received several anonymous donations and this policy does not deal with it. The Board has the right to know who the donors are. How will we deal with this issue? It needs to be addressed. B. Barlow does not agree. People choose to be anonymous. If they are not anonymous they will not donate. What is the issue? R. Thackston commented the donor writes the check the Business Manager could let the Board know in non-public session. **VOTE:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Motion passes.**

4. **Motions from the Education Committee:** **MOTION:** J. Carnie. **MOVED** to accept the MRSD Goals as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 10.898/0/0/4.102. **Motion passes.**

5. **Motions from the Finance Committee:**

a. **Other Motions As Needed:** J. Carnie moved a motion regarding the SRO. B. Barlow informed the Board the motion was not on the agenda. He asked for a vote in which 2/3 of the members is required to pass. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to amend the agenda to include J. Carnie's item. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 68.96 **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** The Monadnock Regional School Board, hereinafter the Board, not consider, authorize or contact for expenditure of any amount for SRO services at MRHS/MS from the Town of Swanzezy or any other similar entity in excess of \$50,000.00 or any pro-rated amount that would amount to more than \$50,000.00 in the 2011-2012 school budget year until on or before December 25, 2011. Further the Board recommends that the Budget Committee not set any amount aside in the 2012-2013 Operating Budget for SRO services at MRHS/MS services and that the SRO program be made a separate warrant article subject to public, scrutiny, debate and vote on the 2012-2013 ballot rather than be included in the 2012-2013 by the Budget Committee and/or the Board. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 7.515/3.383/0/4.102. **Motion passes.**

b. **Action on the Manifest.** **MOTION:** W. Felton **MOVED** the manifest in the amount of \$2,787,913.55. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 9.671/0/0/5.329 **Motion passes.**

6. **Other New Business as may come before the Board:** **MOTION:** B. Barlow **MOVED** to accept the MRSD Goal Review Plan as submitted by the CRC. **SECOND:** M. Morrison. **VOTE:** 9.671/0/0/5.319. **Motion passes.**

10. **Setting the next agenda:**

1. **Pay to Play**

11. Public Comments: W. Lechliden asked about the per pupil cost in 5 years. He said not a radical plan but a plan that would help the administration. R. Thackston commented negotiation will be critical. We can give you one year of direction.

12. 10:00 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II-Nominations:

MOTION: W. Wright **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Nominations. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE** W. Wright, L. Steadman, W. Felton, B. Barlow, M. Morrison, P. Bauries, J. Carnie, E. Jacod and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 8.573/0/0/6.427. (R. Thackston missing from vote)**Motion passes.**

13. 10:14 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II-Student Issue:

MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II Student Issue. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE** W. Wright, L. Steadman, W. Felton, B. Barlow, M. Morrison, P. Bauries, J. Carnie, E. Jacod and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 9.671/0/0/5.329. **Motion passes.**

14. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 10:21 PM. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary