

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**(Non-Approved Minutes)**  
**February 7, 2012**  
**Mt. Caesar Elementary School, Swanzey, NH**

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

**Administration present:** D. Hodgdon, Superintendent, K. Craig, Assistant Superintendent and J. Fortson, Business Manager,

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

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

**1. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** B. Tatro welcomed everyone to Mt. Caesar Elementary School.

M. Blair informed the Board of the Cutler Girl’s Basketball tournament on Sunday.

**2. Consent Agenda: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the January 17, 2012 Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 9.435/0/3.214/2.350. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the January 17, 2012 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 8.742/0.693/3.214/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**3. Student Government Report:** Jill the Student Government President explained tomorrow they will conduct a survey for the students regarding the mid-term scheduling. The student government does not understand the budget and would like a Board Member to attend a meeting to explain. She asked if the members would be allowed to speak at the Deliberative Session. R. Thackston explained to be allowed to speak a student would need a vote of the voters present. J. Fortson commented she would be willing to attend the meeting to discuss the budget. P. Bauries asked that the members inform the Board when the meetings are scheduled.

**4. BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:** J. Fortson explained she would like the Board to make a motion to allow R. Thackston to sign off the A 24 F to send to the State. **MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to allow R. Thackston to sign off the A 24 F form to send to the State. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.956/0.693/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

**1. Correspondence and Announcements:** B. Tatro informed the Board everyone is doing their job but there is a lot of sickness in the school.

D. Mousette explained the Northern Schools are in the middle of MAPS Testing. They will hold a Father Daughter Dance on Friday. One hundred day is on Monday and Valentine's Day on Tuesday.

J. Smith explained Cutler is almost done with the MAPS Testing. The Cutler Boys and Girls will be in basketball tournaments this weekend. The school held a spelling bee and a 4<sup>th</sup> grader has won. Beth Audette's class is doing a project with Swanze Open Space and Conservation. On Friday there will be an activity night from after school to 6:00 PM. Ten methods students will be at Cutler.

M. Suarez informed the Board that Emerson is done with the MAPS Testing. A 5<sup>th</sup> grader from Emerson has won the spelling bee. Small Keys to Literacy groups met with the trainers to see the progress being made. M. Suarez said she received an email from the trainers and they said they were very impressed with the staff.

J. Butterfield reported the students have finished the second quarter. The dessert with the principal will come to a close and the second round will start in March. Charlie Posten made the front page of the Sentinel for all his accomplishments. The school is very proud. Once again the school is offering FAFSA night. There will be help for the parents to fill out the forms. The MAPS and the NECAP Testing is complete. The staff will be analyzing the information. Students from Monadnock participated in the Monadnock Valley Music Festival in Keene. Singing in the Rain is underway with rehearsals. The basketball season is winding down. Six students received the NHIAA Scholar athletic award. The staff will be focusing on teaming when doing the scheduling. There will be a Keys to Literacy training in February and March. J. Butterfield informed the Board a student from Monadnock who attends the CCC drove his bike to Keene to attend the CCC when Monadnock had a day off. J. Butterfield informed the Board that Free Keene Association had come to Monadnock MS/HS on a few occasions. They are promoting their agenda, passing out information to the students and videotaping. The police have been called on 3 occasions but the group is usually gone when the police arrive. E. Stanley asked where the SRO is. J. Butterfield commented that he is disabled because he is on crutches but he is very active in getting the police there. J. Butterfield commented that the group is baiting the staff to physically remove them. He said the students are upset because of the way the group is treating him.

**3. Curriculum Report:** K. Craig passed out information on differentiated instruction. She would ask the Board to read it and any questions for the next meeting. The Keys to Literacy team meet on a regular basis. There is an on line course for all the teachers and a follow up with lesson plans. The trainers will be returning to see the teachers in action. There are teachers that are training to be coaches when the trainers leave. This is paid for by a Title II grant. The NECAP information was sent to the Board and also published in the paper. It is a mixed bag.

There are great things happening in the high school. There is an improvement from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Every school has a reason to be excellent. The chart provided shows that we need to make changes to the Special Ed.

**4. Other Issues of Importance:** D. Hodgdon provided a draft of the calendar for the 2012-2013 school year. The Unions and the administration are looking at the draft and hopefully they will vote at the next meeting. The number of early release days has been reduced and a teacher's workshop has been added. This calendar is very close to Keene except Monadnock starts earlier. The school time is based on the number of hours not so much the number of days.

D. Hodgdon emailed his accomplishments on what he has overseen and what needs to be accomplished to the Board.

**MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to accept the retirement of Pat Forsyth as of June 30, 2013. **SECOND:** S. Ellsworth. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented this would be an exception to the contract. This request should have been done one month earlier per the contract. He asked if it had been discussed with the Association. D. Hodgdon said no. P. Bauries read the Association contract and it states they should notify 18 months prior to retirement and the Board may waive it. **MOTION:** J. Carnie. **MOVED** to amend the motion to add at the discretion of the Board and does not represent past practice. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **VOTE on amendment:** 11.956/.693/0/2.350. **Motion passes.** **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

There is a need for a few non-public sessions.

- 6. BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** R. Thackston informed the Board MESSA would like to meet with the Negotiation Team.

R. Thackston reported he received a phone call from the moderator in Roxbury regarding the tax situation. He feels the 50/50 is unfair. He wants to know if there is anything the Board can do. Roxbury is paying an average per pupil cost of \$26,000.00. The moderator commented they do not have a member on the Board because they feel the vote is not worth it. Roxbury may choose to go in the same direction as Sullivan. R. Thackston commented it was a positive discussion. J. Fortson also received a phone call from the moderator. She said he wanted the Special Ed. numbers. She said she would not be able to give the numbers because they would know who the students were.

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Recommendation on Principal Search:** R. Thackston explained he has asked members to be on the principal search committee for Troy and Fitzwilliam. **MOTION:** P. Bauries. **MOVED** to accept the Troy and Fitzwilliam Principal Search Committee as presented by R. Thackston. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**2. Finance Committee on \$50,000.00 for efficiency study:** J. Carnie explained the Finance and Education Committee has tabled the motion and have asked E. Stanley to come back to the committees and explain what the efficiency study is exactly. They have also asked J. Fortson to come back and discuss the finances, where the funds will come from. The committees will make a recommendation in April. E. Stanley agreed and asked if he has permission to approach the companies to receive information. R. Thackston agreed and said no vote was required.

**3. Other Old Business as may come before the board:** R. Thackston would like to turn the meeting over to J. Carnie so he could have a discussion with MESSA in order to iron out issues. L. Alexander commented that the Union is not ready. They would like to talk to Michelle. R. Thackston explained the Union rep. disagrees with the Board's interpretation of the raises. If the issue is not resolved the warrant may have to come off the ballot and go back to negotiations. J. Carnie commented we need to have information before we get on the floor. He said if they are not accepting what we gave them we cannot say we support. R. Thackston commented that he does not want it to pass and then go to litigation. R. Thackston would propose a meeting prior to the Deliberative Session. He would like to post a meeting prior to the Deliberative Session for 9:00 AM.

## **8. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1. Community Relations Committee:** This committee did not meet.

**2. Education Committee:** J. Carnie reported the committee met on January 30, 2012. They discussed the efficiency group, the Fast Forward Program, the Mt. Caesar configuration and there will be 4 motions later in the meeting.

**3. Facilities Committee:** This committee did not meet. They will meet on Feb. 14, 2012 at 5:00 PM.

**4. Finance Committee:** J. Carnie reported the committee met and discussed the efficiency group, the SAU #38 surplus, the wellness program and there will be a motion regarding the SAU employees in non-public session. The SAU #38 surplus will have to be discussed. J. Fortson explained there is a former SAU #38 employee who is on unemployment we own him. J. Carnie commented the issue regarding the SAU #93 employee compensation should be discussed in non-public.

**5. Policy Committee:** L. Steadman informed the Board the committee will be bringing 3 motions later tonight with 3 more in two weeks. The next meeting is on February 21, 2012 at 5:00 PM.

**6. Budget Committee Rep.:** The Budget Committee did not meet.

**7. Negotiations/Human Resources Committee:** P. Bauries informed the Board the committee has a scheduled meeting with the principals on Feb. 16, 2012 at 9:00 AM.

**8. Cheshire Career Center:** L. Steadman reported the CCC will hold their annual dinner on Feb. 15, 2012. The students will be cooking.

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Motions from Facilities Committee:** There are no motions.

**2. Motions from Policy Committee: MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to approve Policy KI Public Solicitation as presented by the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Labadie has concerns about the policy. L. Steadman asked to let the motion pass and then the committee will look at the policy again. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to approve Policy JICIA Internet Usage as amended by the Policy Committee to meet the changes in the law. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to approve Policy EBCB Safety Drills as amended and presented by the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**3. Motions from the Education Committee: MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Education Committee the continuation of a full time Principal at Troy Elementary School with the 40% adjustment coming from the operational budget. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **DISCUSSION:** Rationale was presented by the committee. **VOTE:** 11.592/1.058/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Education Committee to approve the Northern Schools Principal positions with the 2012-2013 school year be managed with Teaching Principals, with the Assistant Superintendent overseeing the operation, and to re. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** Rationale was presented by the committee. J. Labadie is very reluctant with teaching principals. It is a huge transition from a full time principal. P. Peterson commented that D. Mousette supports this and it will be reviewed after a year. J. Carnie explained that is why the motion states 2012-2013 school year. E. Jacod commented there needs to be a plan to check the process. It is appropriate to indicate specific milestones. R. Thackston explained after Sullivan votes in March and the Board reorganizes it will be appropriate to look at this issue at the July meeting. E. Jacod suggested looking at this issue again in Dec. and R. Thackston suggested possibly the October meeting. P. Bauries informed the Board the Education Committee will have this issue on the agenda each month. **VOTE:** 11.956/.693/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Education Committee to approve the Fast ForWord program expand to District wide in all elementary schools for kindergarten through second grade as a core program, with full implementation in the fall of 2012. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** Rationale was presented by the

committee. K. Craig explained the program is available to K-12 now. The District would get the biggest bang for their buck if the focused on the K-2, early intervention. This is still available to all. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Education Committee the reconfiguration of the third grade from Mt. Caesar to Cutler School, and to bring the class of pre-kindergarten from Cutler school to Mt. Caesar. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** Rationale was presented by the committee. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Education Committee to charge the Facilities Committee with providing a listing and cost of bringing the Wilcox school to code for utilizing the space. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson explained that D. LaPointe is already doing the work. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**4. Motions from the Finance Committee:** There are no motions.

**a. Action on the Manifest:** **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** the manifest in the amount of \$3,143,206.19. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**10. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:**

- 1. SAU #38 Meeting**
- 2. SAU #93 Meeting**

**11. Public Comments:** W. Felton thanked J. Carnie and P. Bauries for the written motions and rationale.

**The Chair called for a 10 minute recess.**

**12. 9:10 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Compensation of a Public Employee:** **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Compensation of a Public Employee. **SECOND:** P. Bauries **VOTE** W. Wright, S. Ellsworth, W. Felton, J. Labadie, P. Bauries, P. Peterson, J. Carnie, M. Blair, L. Steadman, E. Stanley, E. Jacod and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**13. 9:30 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II © Parent Request:** **MOTION:** E. Jacod **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II © Parent Request. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE** W. Wright, S. Ellsworth, W. Felton, J. Labadie, P. Bauries, P. Peterson, J. Carnie, M. Blair, L. Steadman, E. Stanley, E. Jacod and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**14. 9:40 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Litigation:** **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Litigation. **SECOND:** P. Bauries **VOTE** W. Wright, S. Ellsworth, W. Felton, J.

Labadie, P. Bauries, P. Peterson, J. Carnie, M. Blair, L. Steadman, E. Stanley, E. Jacod and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

**15. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 9:50 PM. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 12.650/0/0/2.350. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary