

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
(Approved Minutes)
October 18, 2011
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

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

“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 October 4, 2011 Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 11.956/0/1.058/1.986. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the October 4, 2011 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **VOTE:** 8.573/0/6.193/.235. **Motion passes.**

- 3. Student Government Report:** J. Butterfield asked the Board to hear a presentation from Mr. Caron’s School to Career Class instead of the Student Government Report. He explained one goal is to improve the school’s culture. This presentation is student driven. Four students made the presentation. The students are asking the Board to shadow the students for a day to see what they do on a daily basis and then take time for question and answers to and from the Board. The dates the students would like to do this are on December 13, 14 and 15. The students involved are juniors and seniors. E. Stanley commented this is a great idea and should be done on a regular basis. M. Blair said this is a great idea and should be done at all grade levels. Mr. Caron was thanked for initiating this effort.

It was reported the meeting with Principal Butterfield in Swanzey had a lot of emotion. There were 35 members from the football Team and they handled and conducted themselves very well.

- 4. Business Manager’s Report:** J. Fortson explained the auditors have been at the SAU last week and have wrapped things up today. There were very few

adjustments. J. Fortson mentioned the Board and Budget Committee can pick up their budgets for the all day work session on Saturday November 5, 2011 on October 28, 2011. She will be getting the numbers to the State for the tax rate next week.

5. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- 1. Correspondence and Announcements:** Superintendent Hodgdon explained the principals had an all afternoon activity on professional development this afternoon and that is why some are not in attendance.

J. Butterfield explained there was good conversation at the Principal's dessert in Gilsum. There was feedback and some concerns which were good to hear. He reported on a workshop day Keys to Literacy Skills. They had a presenter who talked about maintaining professional boundaries. He said it was a good workshop. The Superintendent of Corrections will be speaking during Red Ribbon Week. The juniors and seniors had an assembly for the NECAP Testing and to celebrate the senior's scores as juniors. They commended scholar Calvin Fortson in front of his peers.

B. Tatro informed the Board Mt. Caesar has completed their MAP Testing. It has taken 5 weeks due to the one lab for 300 students. The students will have pumpkin carving for the Pumpkin Fest. She reported during workshop day she worked with the Kindergarten teachers. They are looking at the common core. The kindergarten teachers are hardworking and productive. The Preschool teachers also joined the process.

K. Craig reported for Cutler. They have completed the NECAP Testing. They will have a field trip with the interactive video capabilities. Cutler will have pumpkin carving on October 19, 2011.

K. Craig reported Emerson has completed the NECAP Testing. Grades K-5 will visit the Fire Station for Fire Prevention Day and the Fire Dept will visit grades 5-6. Harvest Night was well attended.

D. Mousette sent his best wishes. Reported NECAP Testing has completed. They will be pumpkin carving for the Pumpkin Fest.

- 2. Curriculum Report:** K. Craig reported on the Keys to Literacy Workshop. It is run by an organization out of Massachusetts and funded by a grant. They will be working with all the teachers K-12. During the half day on Dec. 5, 2011 there will be guided practice and a visit in April to see follow up. The group will work with all teachers, dept. chairs and principals. They are always available along with internet resources.

- 3. Other Issues of Importance:** D. Hodgdon reported the SAU #93 administrators have been meeting to focus on the budget.

D. Hodgdon reported on the incident report on the web site. It is available to parents and students to file complaints.

D. Hodgdon will report at the next meeting on his goals. What has been completed or not.

6. Board Chair Report:

7. School Committee Report:

1. Community Relations Committee: B. Barlow informed the Board the committee met tonight. Gilsum dessert was a terrific meeting. There are many cool things happening in the District and we cannot get the information out fast enough. The NH Conservancy has accepted the grant. The MS Green Monster has begun building the raised beds. The Harris Center work is continuing. R. Thackston and B. Barlow will meet with the Commissioner of Education on Nov. 3, 2011 to discuss including the MPR in the renovation project at the MS/HS.

2. Education Committee Report: J. Carnie reported the committee met last Thursday. They discussed goals 2 and 3. They discussed innovating Special Ed. students with regular ed. students. They discussed SERESC. They discussed the Camp Takodah proposal made by T. Kennett. They discussed the before and after program at Gilsum and Troy. The program is partially funded. Troy has a total of 92 students and Gilsum has 78 students. This program is opened to all students. They will be applying for a grant to continue the program. The program was well received by the Education Committee. J. Butterfield discussed putting homework assignments on line.

3. Facilities Committee: E. Stanley reported the committee met on October 11, 2011. The final test for the Mt. Caesar alarm system will be on November 11, 2011. Year Two of the renovation project will be complete on October 23, 2011. N. Richardson is working with the committee on Year Three of the renovations project regarding the communications aspect. The grandstands are in. The next meeting is on Nov. 8, 2011 at 5:00 PM. The committee will discuss the oil warrant and the health and safety warrant.

4. Finance Committee: J. Carnie reported the committee met on Thursday. There was an update on the ongoing QED situation. It has not been resolved by the Board. The committee discussed the budget proposal by the Budget Committee regarding the 4 % cut and to ask the administration to show where the cuts will be made. The actual amount proposed by the Budget Committee is \$31,777,000.00 which is a 2.3 million dollar reduction. The committee also discussed the \$918,000.00. The administration is grateful for the time to see where the reductions will be proposed. The committee discussed the Student Services error with Winchester and Fall Mtn. Fall Mtn. has

been resolved but not the Winchester issue. The committee discussed the River Valley issue. The Student Services staff benefits were discussed. There will be a motion from the Finance Committee later. E. Stanley asked if the Board could have an update on the teacher paraprofessional swap. J. Carnie commented the committee has had a discussion in the terms of the cost. J. Fortson reported there is about a \$220,000.00 to \$240,000.00 savings. The purpose was to provide certified staff. W. Felton asked about the River Valley situation. J. Fortson explained River Valley Community College asked to have the recording secretary certify that the October 4, 2011 School Board Meeting Minutes have not been tampered with before the approval. K. Craig commented it is too early to discuss the teacher paraprofessional swap, possibly mid-year.

5. Policy Committee: L. Steadman reported there are 6 policies to come before the Board tonight. The next meeting is on October 25, 2011.

6. Budget Committee Rep.: The next meeting is on November 5, 2011.

7. Negotiations/Human Resource Committee: P. Bauries reported the negotiations with the 3 Unions are ongoing. They are meeting on a regular basis. They are discussed the health care cost for the employees. J. Carnie commented he would like to discuss the negotiations during non-public session.

8. CCC: L. Steadman reported the 1st Advisory breakfast is scheduled for October 28, 2011.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Literacy District Wide: Information was passed out to the Board on the District Wide Literacy goal. K. Craig updated the Board on how the District is meeting this goal. She reported the assessment of K-10 is done 3 times a year. The administration is looking for consistency. It is not fully implemented. The data team is doing fine work. The MS students have intervention and extra support during a development period. There are also 30 minutes at the elementary level for reading intervention. All students receive 90 minutes of daily literacy, 60 minutes of core instruction and 30 minutes of extension. The leadership is looking for consistency district wide. SERESC will be meeting with the administration on October 25, 2011. DINI is focusing on literacy. K. Craig explained it is a huge challenge to let the parents know what is going on and how it is working. K. Craig commented we need to engage the parents in this issue not only share. She explained at the elementary level they use the data to look at the deficiencies and then those get the extension. J. Labadie suggested allowing the students to create a web site to let the parents know what is going on and to let the students get involved. M. Blair commented he has been asked to look at the website. We have a problem with access to the internet. We need to be creative for those that do not have the internet. K. Craig would agree. We need to engage parents and get kids involved.

2. Special Education: T. Kennett reported on the Aimes Web. It is a tracking system. There are 240 seats and 16 training manuals. The Aimes Math based program aligns with the core standards. They have purchased 200 seats for the MS/HS. The Math Dept. will control the Special Ed. interventions. They have purchased 70 seats for the math facts at the elementary level. They will then collect data to see the best bang for the buck. The evaluation committee is meeting on October 26, 2011.

2. Other Old Business as may come before the Board:

W. Felton commented he would like to see reports in writing. He commented there would be more questions if it was in writing. R. Thackston explained the committee meetings are too close to the Board Meeting in order to get in the packets on time. W. Felton commented the more in writing the faster the meeting would go.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motions from Facilities Committee:

2. Motions from Policy Committee: L. Steadman explained Policy EDC is a combination of various policies into one standard practice. It is in line with what is being used by the administrators and parents are aware of it. **MOTION:** J. Carnie. **MOVED** to accept Policy EDC Employee and Student Acceptable Computer and Intranet/Internet Use as presented by the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 14.765/0/0/.235. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** P. Peterson. **MOVED** to remove policies EGA-R and EHAA. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 14.765/0/0/.235. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman. **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy GCO Evaluation of Professional Staff as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13.582/0/1.183/.235. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy IHAM Health Education and Exemption from instruction as presented. **SECOND:** S. Ellsworth. **VOTE:** 14.765/0/0/.235. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy JFAB Admission and tuition of non-resident students as presented. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 14.765/0/0/.235. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy JICJ Procedures for handling authorized communication devices as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 14.072/0/1.693/.235. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to replace Policies JICJ, JICJ-R and JICJ-RII. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13.078/0/1.058/.235. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy JLI Safety Program as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 14.765/0/0/.235. **Motion passes.**

3. Motions from the Education Committee: MOTION:

- 4. Motions from the Finance Committee:** J. Carnie explained the committee had a discussion on the DOE 25 always being late and prepared a motion. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance committee to recommend to the full Board that a letter be sent out to the NHSBA to ask all district auditors to comply with the audit timetable to insure that each district can complete and send to the state the DOE 25 by the due date of September 1. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** A friendly amendment was made to have D. Hodgdon prepare a letter or resolution going forward. **VOTE:** 14.765/0/0/.235. **Motion passes.**

- a. Action on the Manifest: MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** the manifest in the amount of \$2,180,951.33. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13.078/0/1.078/.235. **Motion passes.**

- 5. Other New Business as may come before the Board: MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to ask the SAU #93 to send out the School Board packets via email unless otherwise requested by the individual Board Member. **SECOND:** B. Barlow. **DISCUSSION:** The Board discussed the motion. **VOTE:** 9.407/4.132/1.227/.235. **Motion passes.** R. Thackston will let L. Reinhart know who would like to receive their packets in the mail.

J. Carnie mentioned the issue regarding all the previous sealed minutes and who would look at this issue. He said although the minutes state he was asked to look at this issue he is not willing. He would like to have someone look at this issue.

10. Setting the next agenda:

- 1. Facility and Health and Safety Warrant**
- 2. SAU #93 proposals**
- 3. Sealed Minutes**
- 4. Chair report on sealed minutes.**

- 11. Public Comments:** M. Blair mentioned 4 exceptional seniors and 4 exceptional alumni had advanced placement on college level AP exams.

R. Thackston thanked the viewers for inviting the Board into their living rooms.

12. 9:23 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Grievance:

MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Grievance. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE** W. Wright, M. Blair, B. Barlow, M. Morrison, L. Steadman, P. Peterson, P. Bauries, J. Carnie, J. Labadie, S. Ellsworth, E. Stanley, W. Felton, E. Jacod and R. Thackston. **VOTE:** 14.765/0/0/.235. **Motion passes.**

13. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 10:09 PM. **SECOND:** B. Barlow **VOTE:** 14.765/0/0/.235. **Motion passes.**

The Board held a non-meeting to discuss negotiations.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary