

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**(Non-Approved Minutes)**  
**March 3, 2015**  
**Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Pat Bauries, Betty Tatro, Richard Thackston, Barry Faulkner, Mike Blair, Winston Wright, Phyllis Peterson, Lisa Steadman and Ed Jacod.

**Absent:** Eric Stanley, Robert Smith, James Carnie and unassigned seat from Roxbury.

**Administration present:** L. Carey, Interim Assistant Superintendent and J. Fortson, Business Manager.

**Also present:** L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary.

B. Faulkner opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

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

- 1. Public Comments:** N. Moriarty thanked the Board for the vote of confidence regarding the Chair position on the Superintendent Search Committee. He reported the committee had 14 candidates and has reduced it to 3 candidates.

R. Thackston explained this will be his last Board Meeting and he would like to address the Board. The question of authority should be the logo of the MRSD. We consistently question the authority of the District, committees, teachers, students and others. We question authority and it keeps us honest but makes us less inviting. We have produced positive results. We had two petitioned articles one regarding Gilsum and the other regarding the reduction of \$500.00 per student per year. We heard from the voters close the Gilsum School, what is the holdup and others said the wrong people voted for this. The Board also heard that we have not cut enough in the budget as asked for by the voters. Gilsum open or closed we can still be the best district in the State. The reduction of \$500.00 is a meaningless goal, not a reasonable benchmark. Monadnock needs to manage their resources at the best possible price. The goal is the product, students getting an effective education with the resources we have.

**2. Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the February 17, 2015 School Board Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** P. Bauries **VOTE:** 5.113/0/2.243/5.644. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** E. Jacod **MOVED** to accept the February 17, 2015, 8:47 PM School Board Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 8.301/0/0/4.699. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the February 17, 2015 9:00 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 5.113/0/2.243/5.644. **Motion passes.**

3. **Student Government Report:** There is no Student Government Report.
4. **BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:** J. Fortson asked the Board to allow the Chair and the Vice Chair to sign a request for \$32,444.65 from the Before and After Expendable Trust Fund. **MOTION:** E. Jacod. **MOVED** to allow the Chair and the Vice Chair to sign to withdraw \$32,444.65 from the Before and After Expendable Trust Fund. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 7.356/0/0/5.644. **Motion passes.**

J. Fortson handed out information to the Board on the cost of the Gilsum STEAM Academy for a 5 year period. She said the cost of the program is not the same as the cost of closing of the school. She reviewed the information. B. Faulkner would like the Board to review the information passed out by J. Fortson and discuss at the next meeting. P. Bauries commented the information supplied by J. Fortson was asked for by the AD Hoc Committee.

5. **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** L. Carey would invite Fred Bramante to talk about the ELOs. F. Bramante explained there are two Districts in the State involved in the 10,000 Mentors Program, Monadnock and Manchester. He presented a packet to the Board which is their tool kit. This is the beginning of a packet which when completed will be about 100 pages. This information will connect kids to the community and let everyone know their role. This will make it as easy as possible. Ultimately, how they will put together the competencies for the kids. A high quality learning experience agreed upon by the District and the entity. *L. Steadman and W. Wright arrive and R. Thackston leaves the meeting.* F. Bramante explained we will have a discussion with the Board around policy. There are many exciting opportunities for kids. He explained he had met with students from the SMART Program and will speak to other students tomorrow. The goal is to have a customized learning experience for all kids. The community wants to be involved. This is the pathway for future employees.
6. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**
  - 6a. **Website Update:** K. Pfeifer is leading this committee but is not present tonight. M. Blair who is on the committee would like to wait and defer questions to K. Pfeifer at the next meeting.
  - 6b. **HS Failure/Incompletes Update:** L. Kalloger explained the school is taking this situation very seriously. A letter to parents was sent home and meetings will be scheduled with students. There will be additional professional development for teachers and the students will be updated on a weekly basis. K. Upton explained there are plans in place for March to make sure all students are engaged and graduates are on track. We will provide every opportunity.

**6c. High School Schedule Update:** K. Upton explained every student has met with counselors and have their classes and requests in. She will be meeting with the administrators to explain the process of scheduling. This schedule will work with Keene regarding the CCC. Keene has not completed their process but we will wait. Next year sophomores will be invited to the CCC.

**6d. Correspondence and Announcements:** L. Carey reported H. Gigliello and B. Kuhn went to Concord for the Smarter Balanced Assessment. There will be a power point available for the A Team and than for the high school teachers next week. They are trying to schedule in the most effective way to do this test, it needs to be done and there is a lot of planning. The teachers have really worked together to plan the number of testing required. The Smarter Balance Assessment is more rigorous.

L. Carey updated the Board on the different fundraisers upcoming in the District.

**7. BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** B. Faulkner commented on the upcoming election and the fact the Board will have 3 new members. E. Stanley, R. Smith and R. Thackston will not be running. He commented this is the first meeting without K. Craig. He said he has a lot of respect for her and wished her the best. He commented on the many topics, issues and events that took place over the last year. The Gilsum STEAM Program, the budget agreed by the Board and the Budget Committee and 2 negotiated contracts are accomplished items to be proud of. If he was elected the new Chair he would overhaul the committee procedures, take time to discuss the goals by evaluating how it works with the public and Board. This should take place at a different meeting.

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

**8a. Education & Policy:** The committee has not met.

**8b. Finance/Facilities:** The committee has not met.

**8c. Budget Committee:** B. Tatro reported the meeting was posted but cancelled.

**8d. Community Relations Committee:** M. Blair reported the committee met prior to the Board Meeting. There was a single item on the agenda, the mission of the committee. They had good dialogue. B. Faulkner, B. Tatro and M. Blair were present. The committee discussed with the public the role of the committee. He would recommend using the committee as a critical component. He commented the meeting for a half an hour prior to the Board Meeting is not enough time.

**8e. Sports Committee:** This committee has not met.

**8f. AD Hoc Committee on the STEAM Academy:** P. Bauries reported the committee will be meeting on Wednesday and working on the application to the STATE. K. Pfeifer and A. Noel are working on it. P. Bauries explained the committee asked the Business Manager to put together a proposal on the cost of the Gilsum School which she worked on all week. At

the presentation on Wednesday options were put forth for our teachers for the STEAM Program. The committee will have a full report in June maybe sooner.

**8g. Cheshire Career Center:** W. Wright and L. Steadman attended a meeting at the CCC tonight. He informed the Board there are 16 programs being offered and Monadnock is able to take part in. In 2017 they will have an engineering program. They are in the process of hiring a new leader for the CCC.

**9. Old Business:**

**9a. Approve School District Calendar 2015-16: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the MRSD Calendar for 2015-2016 as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright.

**DISCUSSION:** L. Carey asked the Board if they would like to limit the number of days with the CCC that are not the same. Monadnock will be taking two weeks for Christmas break and Keene is not. There are three days in which the Monadnock students will miss going to the CCC. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to refer the MRSD Calendar for 2015-2015 back to the Superintendent, to have the students in attendance on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday prior to Christmas and to clarify what the last day of school would be.

**SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** E. Jacod would agree it is wrong not to operate Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. He asked why there is a need for two weeks vacation at Christmas break. **P. Peterson and W. Wright would withdraw their motion. VOTE:** 7.349/1.121/0/4.529. **Motion passes.**

**9b. Other Old business as may come before the board:** There is no other business to come before the Board.

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**10a. Motions from Education & Policy Committee:** There are no motions.

**10b. Motions from Finance & Facilities Committee:** There are no motions

**10c. Action on the Manifest: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amounts of \$ 1,912, 052.53. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 8.471/0/0/4.529. **Motion passes.**

**10d. Other New Business as may come before the Board:** P. Bauries commented it was requested to have the signed contract and the signed TAs on the agenda for this meeting. B. Faulkner explained this should be discussed in non-public.

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

**1. Board Organization**

**12. Public Comments:** K. Wheeler thanked J. Fortson for the numbers for the Gilsum STEAM Academy. She said it will help with the Charter Application.

D. Cairns thanked B. Faulkner for his comments and also doing a relook at the goals and the strategic Plan to know where we are going. He commented on the calendar and the fact we

are on hours and Keene is on days. We are Monadnock not Keene. At times it may not work with Keene. Not sure what will happen on the three days in question at Christmas break. Do not believe much learning will take place. B. Faulkner commented the purpose is to coordinate with Keene. L. Carey commented a good portion of our students are getting their education at Keene. B. Faulkner commented we are referring to the CCC which is located at Keene.

M. Szymcik commented if you take three days during Christmas break you add 3 days to the end of the year and the last day of school in Keene is different.

Emily Weber commented on the new schedule. She said she will have reduced contact time with the students. B. Faulkner commented this is an issue for the administration and the principals. L. Carey asked the information be given to L. Kalloger. The last day of school in Keene is scheduled for June 10, 2016.

M. Divens thanked the Board for the numbers for the Gilsum STEAM Academy. She is concerned the numbers were available right before the vote. Not sure if it is fair.

J. Fortson explained she was given the information on the 5 Year Plan for the STEAM Academy 1 week ago.

B. Tatro is concerned regarding the less contact time with the students. B. Faulkner would ask for information from the administration about the new Master schedule. L. Carey would like the Finance and Facilities Committee to put this on their agenda.

M. Blair informed the public he was not in attendance at some of the Board Meetings because he coached the Girls JV Basketball Team. They had a very successful season.

**8:24 PM B. Faulkner declared a recess in order for the Board to go into a non-meeting with their attorney.**

**13. 9:12 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b)**

**Consideration of hiring of a public employee: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Consideration of hiring of a public .

**SECOND:** M. Blair **VOTE:** 8.471/0/0/4.529. **Motion passes.**

**14. 9:30 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person. **SECOND:** P. Bauries **VOTE:** 8.471/0/0/4.529. **Motion passes.**

**15. 9:45 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (e) Discussion of pending or threatened litigation. MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (e) Discussion of pending or threatened litigation.

**SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 8.471/0/0/4.529. **Motion passes.**

**16. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 PM.  
**SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 8.471/0/0/4.529. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary