

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
(Approved Corrected Minutes, 12/16/14)
December 2, 2014
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Pat Bauries, Betty Tatro, Richard Thackston, Barry Faulkner, Winston Wright, Mike Blair, Phyllis Peterson, Eric Stanley, Ed Jacod, Lisa Steadman and James Carnie

Absent: Robert Smith and unassigned seats from Roxbury.

Administration present: L. Corriveau, Superintendent, K. Craig, Assistant Superintendent, K. Pfeifer, Interim Superintendent, T. Kennett, Director of Student Services and J. Fortson, Business Manager.

Also present: L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary and Callie Grotton, Student Government Rep.

R. Thackston opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

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

1. Public Comments: N. Moriarty informed the Board he will be meeting with the NHSBA to discuss what services the Search Committee would like from them. The committee will be meeting to finalize the ad for the search. He would hope the Board would consider the suggestion from NESDEC to close the Wilcox and SAU buildings. He would hope the Board would consider taking the funds to resurface the track out of the operating budget and pick it up in the Health and Safety Article. We need to have a control on the maintenance. We will no longer receive the reimbursement from the State now it is part of your taxes. The voters said to reduce the budget by \$500.00 per student each year. R. Thackston asked N. Moriarty if the Budget Committee has a number for the proposed budget. N. Moriarty said not at this time. He commented K. Pfeifer has helped with the Superintendent Search.

2. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the November 18, 2014 Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Bauries **VOTE:** 8.424/0/2.120/2.456. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the November 18, 2014 8:55 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 9.422/0/1.121/2.456. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to accept the November 18, 2014, 9:10 PM Non-public meeting minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 9.422/0/1.121/2.456. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to accept the November 18, 2014, 9:17 PM Non-public meeting minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 9.422/0/1.121/2.456. **Motion passes.**

3. **Student Government Report:** Callie reported the Student Government is regrouping. They passed out the Thanksgiving baskets. They are asking the students what they would like changed, see what we can do and fix it. The freshmen are doing an amazing job with a lot of different fundraisers. They will be having a Spaghetti dinner. The Student Government is helping the 9th graders. Seniors are applying for college and need to meet their deadlines. Seniors are also stressing about their acceptance letters from colleges as they wait for a response.
4. **BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:** J. Fortson explained she will be bringing the warrant article to the Board later in the meeting. She said they are mostly a place holder. She will be looking for feedback. R. Thackston will take this as a first read.
5. **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** K. Craig commented she is very busy with the Program of Studies. She has recommended new courses to the Education Committee. She thanked the division leaders, teachers and guidance for their work on the Program of Studies. The STEM Discovery Lab Ceremony was earlier this evening. K. Upton reported River Valley visited the school and is allowing the students to apply free of charge. They had representatives from different course areas at the school to speak to the students. Thursday the 10,000 mentors will be at the school. Fred Bramante will present to the students, staff and parents. There will also be a Financial Aid representative at the school to speak and help the students and parents. The Gilsum School presented at the Christa McAuliffe Center. The NESDEC presentation discussed the declining enrollment. The Board received a proposal for a job description change. Dr. Lynn Carey, Director of Elementary Learning and Title I will combine her position with the Assistant Superintendent position. There will be a savings of close to \$100,000.00. She handed out a draft for the Board's information. This position is in the budget. L. Corriveau informed the Board Emerson went to UNH for a presentation because of reducing the gap between Special ed. and regular ed. students in regards to the State Testing. He also mentioned there will be a motion to have the chrome books and the resurfacing of the track funds to come out of this year's budget.
6. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**
 - 6a. **Correspondence and Announcements:** L. Corriveau passed out his written report to the Board. He would suggest another Legislative Forum after the budget is determined. The Delegate Assembly will be meeting on January 10. L. Corriveau would suggest the Board send a representative.

K. Pfeifer would like to invite Dr. Bryant of the Secondary School of Redesign to speak to the School Board and the Search Committee regarding ways to help with the searches. There are different levels he can help.

L. Corriveau reported Troy has won the highest staff attendance for the District. District wide the attendance was 94.5%. He would ask for the Chair and the Committee Chairs to submit a report for the Education Matters by January 9, 2015. K. Pfeifer reported he has contacted School Board for the 21st Century and he has arranged an online class for 12 people at the cost of 6. The total cost would be \$2999.70. He would like the Board to let him know if they are interested.

6b. Other Issues of Importance: There are no other issues at this time.

- 7. BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** R. Thackston informed the Board P. Bauries will be chairing the STEAM AD Hoc Committee. He was surprised and pleased at the nature of the discussion which was the best way to use this program for the benefit of the children in the District. The report is due in 7 weeks. R. Thackston had a conversation with the attorney and he will meet with the Board at the next meeting without a cost to the District. It will be a legal discussion and in non-public session. During negotiations MESSA has asked to have the negotiations off campus. MESSA will pay for the facility.

8. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

8a. Education & Policy: L. Steadman reported the committee met on December 1, 2014. They discussed 4 policies. They also will be recommending 4 new courses to the Board for approval. The committee discussed arena scheduling. They will schedule a meeting sometime in the first week of January. K. Craig commented there is no additional cost for the ASL course.

8b. Finance/Facilities: L. Steadman reported the committee met on December 1, 2014. The Team Building on Trust presentation is scheduled for January 7, 2014. The CRC will promote the evening. There will be a motion later to support the Budget Committee's recommendation. There will also be a motion for a budget transfer and a capital reserve warrant. The committee has decided to leave most of the work regarding the proposed budget to the Budget Committee and will not propose anything contradictory. They spend hours on this and we accept their recommendation. The Gilsum School is still in the operating budget. They would ask anyone who voted in the affirmative to reconsider if not there will be a recommendation from the Finance/Facilities Committee at the December 16, 2014 Board Meeting. R. Thackston would recommend leaving the budget to the Budget Committee but if Gilsum is in the budget the committee will make a motion. N. Moriarty commented the Budget Committee is not committed to say where to cut. J. Carnie commented it is appalling the Finance Committee has not taken this seriously. They have not touched the budget. P. Bauries commented it is embarrassing that the Finance Committee sits and intimidates this Board after we approved Gilsum for a year. L. Steadman commented they are watching the issue carefully. P. Bauries commented L. Steadman said if the Board does not do something the committee will. R. Thackston commented we have an Ad Hoc Committee for Gilsum and Gilsum is in the proposed budget. L. Steadman commented it is no more embarrassing when the Board reconsidered the motion at the next meeting.

8c. Budget Committee: B. Tatro reported on the combined meeting with the Board and the Budget Committee. W. Wright, P. Bauries, E. Jacod and P. Peterson were present. NESDEC gave their report and had suggested closing the Wilcox and the SAU buildings. They also suggested consolidating the schools on the 121 acres in the Swanzey. The Default Committee met. T. Parker stated at the Budget Committee Meeting, the article asking the Board to reduce the budget each year by \$500.00 per student was not advisory as well as the closing of Gilsum was not advisory. J. Fortson explained where the surplus came from in the budget.

8d. Sports Committee: The committee met but it was not a formal meeting because they did not have a quorum.

9. Old Business:

9a. School Board for the 21st Century: MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to accept the 21st Century Program offer presented by K. Pfeifer in the amount of \$2,999.70 for 12 licenses for the price of 6. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 9.469/0/1.075/2.456. **Motion passes.**

9b. Warrant Articles: J. Fortson reviewed the Articles. Article One is the proposed budget which does not have a number yet.

Article Two is for the renovations to Mt. Caesar in the amount of 1.181 million. E. Jacod asked D. LaPointe what was on the list. D. LaPointe explained to the Board. Information will be in the next Board packet.

Article Three is the Health and Safety Article. The stage repair and the asbestos abatement will be done with these funds. J. Carnie asked if the non-voted 5 year plan was part of this. D. LaPointe explained this is not part of a plan. It is for Mt. Caesar. We need to fix Mt. Caesar. N. Moriarty asked if this can be done during the summer. D. LaPointe said it is possible. The breakdown on the 2 articles will be in the Board packet.

Article Four is for the Before and After Program. J. Fortson explained this number may be a lot lower.

J. Fortson explained she did not write an article for the Special Ed. because there is a balance of \$300,000.00 in that account.

Article Five is to raise and appropriate \$50,000.00 for the Emergency Fuel Fund.

M. Blair arrives.

Article Six is to raise and appropriate the sum of \$630,701 to be place in the School Building Capital Reserve Fund. These funds are the return of School Building Aid. B. Faulkner commented we need to fix things every year. Do we want to consider this every year? The State will not continue but if we place it in a reserve we could have it available and for onetime expenses. J. Fortson commented we have about \$4000.00 in that account. P. Bauries would recommend paying for the chrome books, track resurfacing and the MS/HS maintenance from this return from the State. R. Thackston commented this is a first read and will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

9c. Program of Studies: It was commented this is a work in progress and will be addressed at the next meeting.

9d. Update on Finance recommendation on proposed budget: There are no recommendations at this time.

9e. Board's position on the proposed budget: There are no recommendations at this time.

9f. Negotiation's update: It was reported MESSA and the Specialists will meet with the Negotiating Committee on December 4, 2014. L. Steadman reported the committee and MESSA will be meeting at the E. F. Lane Hotel. They will have a facilitator running the meeting to move things along. They would like to come to some kind of resolution and get this on the warrant. L. Steadman reported it is a facilitator that will run the meeting. It was approved by the committee members at their meeting.

9g. NESDEC Update: L. Corriveau asked when the Board receives the final report what does the Board want to do with it. NESDEC can hold community forums, hold focus groups and do what the Board needs. The final report will be done in January. L. Corriveau would like to begin with the Legislative forum. He suggested not letting the NESDEC Report sit on the shelf.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

10a. Motions from Education & Policy Committee: MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** on behalf of the Ed. /Policy Committee to accept Policy AC Non-discrimination as amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 10.544/0/1.121/1.335. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** on behalf of the Ed. /Policy Committee to accept Policy GBCD Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** M. Blair explained the change in the policy is adding language that is currently being done in the District. The policy stated if there is not a lapse of more than 6 months there does not need to be a recheck. **VOTE:** 11.665/0/0/1.335. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** on behalf of the Ed. /Policy Committee to accept Policy JLCJ-Concussions and Head Injuries as amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.665/0/0/1.335. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** on behalf of the Ed. /Policy Committee to accept Policy JKAA-Use of Restraints as amended. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** T. Kennett explained the language needed to be changed to make sense. The schools need to document the incidents and notify the parents. He explained the amended policy. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to table the motion until the Board can discuss past practices in non-public. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 3.311/8.354/0/1.335. **Motion fails.** **DISCUSSION:** R. Thackston asked the Board to limit the discussion on the motion and to approve or not approve the revised policy. J. Carnie commented it makes more sense to discuss this in non-public. The past practice is covered under the previous policy. It was commented this is a new policy and there are no repercussions to any past practices in regards to restraints. R.

Thackston asked how a past practice would have any effect on adopting this revised policy. J. Carnie commented the practice was proper and legal at the time but could be held liable. M. Blair commented the revised policy went into effect in September as amended. **VOTE:** 8.712/0/2.953/1.335. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** on behalf of the Ed. /Policy Committee to ask the full Board to approve four new courses, ASL, Sports Analytics, Introduction for Computer Science and Foundations in Algebra as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to amend the motion and move each course individually. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 4.068/6.482/1.115/1.335. **Motion fails.** **VOTE:** 9.833/1.832/0/1.335. **Motion passes.**

10b. Motions from Finance & Facilities Committee: **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance /Facilities Committee to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$7800.00 for 30 chrome books and carts. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 11.665/0/0/1.335. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance /Facilities Committee to pay for the chrome books designated for Grade 12 for approximately \$50,000.00 and the repair of the HS/MS track for approximately \$160,000.00 from any excess funds available from the 2014-2015 fiscal year, and reduce the 2015-2016 proposed budget by those amounts. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries commented on paying for this from the State Building Aid return. R. Thackston called the motion out of order. J. Carnie would hope there is more information before we vote on this next time. R. Thackston commented we do not have a final proposal on anything. We all need to be on the same page.

10c. Motions from the Sports Committee: There are no motions.

10d. Action on the Manifest: **MOTION:** B. Faulkner **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amounts of \$ 1,445,192.66. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 11.665/0/0/1.335. **Motion passes.**

10e. Other New Business as may come before the Board: L. Corriveau passed out the fundraiser calendar to the Board.

11. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

- 1. Warrant Articles**
- 2. Attorney**
- 3. Update on Finance Recommendations**
- 4. Legislative forum date**

12. Public Comments: D. Coffman hoped to have a resolution regarding the negotiations by the Deliberative Session. R. Thackston hopes to have a resolution by January 13, 2015. D. Coffman would ask the Board to work with the Towns to schedule their Session not on the same date as the schools. We paid \$40,000.00 for the NESDEC report he would urge the Board to place this topic on the agenda at every meeting.

M. Alexander commented MESSA is meeting with the Negotiations Committee now because the facilitator could not get the dates any sooner.

L. Corriveau, K. Craig and T. Kennett leave the meeting.

R. Thackston commented he will be resigning his Chairmanship after the Chair Report on January 6, 2015. He said the Board needs to figure out who will be in charge when he is not here. J. Carnie as Vice Chair could run the meetings or the Board could nominate someone else.

13. 9:30 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Hiring of a Public employee: MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 10.544/0/1.121/1.335. **Motion passes.**

14. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 PM. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 11.665/0/0/1.335. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary