

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**(Approved Minutes)**  
**August 12, 2014**  
**Gilsum Elementary School, Gilsum, NH**

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

**Absent:** Robert Smith, Lisa Steadman and unassigned seats from Roxbury.

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

**Attorney present:** Attorney Jim O'Shaughnessy

R. Thackston opened the meeting at 7:55PM.

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

1. **Public Comments:** J. Craig of Fitzwilliam commented on the fact L. Corriveau will be retiring earlier than expected. He commented we should thank him for his effort in student learning, growth and development. He thanked L. Corriveau and commented he understands.

2. **Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the July 15, 2014 Public Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 9.546/0/1.121/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to accept the July 15, 2014 7:10 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **The Board will table the discussion on these minutes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the July 15, 2014 10:56 PM Non-public meeting minutes as presented. **SECOND:** M. Blair **VOTE:** 7.674/0/2.993/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the July 15, 2014 11:11 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 7.674/0/2.993/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the July 15, 2014 11:28 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** M. Blair **VOTE:** 7.674/0/2.993/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the July 15, 2014 11:44 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 7.674/0/2.993/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to seal the July 15, 2014 11:28 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes indefinitely. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 7.349/1.075/2.243/2.333. **Motion passes.**

P. Bauries commented at the last meeting the Board voted on a motion with a hand raise and it is not recorded in the minutes which were just approved. J. Carnie commented RSA 91-A states any decision has to be recorded. M. Blair commented any discussion on this issue was in a non-meeting or recess and R. Thackston would agree with M. Blair. There are no minutes recorded for a non-meeting or recess.

3. **Student Government Report:** There is no Student Government Report.
4. **BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:** J. Fortson informed the Board there was a survey done regarding rates for substitute teachers. Out of 49 SAU there are 6 Districts that pay more than us. We have 104 substitutes. J. Fortson reported one million dollars is the best guess estimate for the surplus. R. Thackston asked if the surplus funds could be given back to the individual towns to help pay their taxes. J. Fortson explained we are still running the District. We have not received the adequacy monies. R. Thackston was wondering if it was possible for the December tax bill. J. Carnie asked why not return the funds to the towns. We have a surplus. J. Fortson explained a few towns owe us money. There are towns in arrears. J. Carnie commented to allow a reduction on the next payment. J. Fortson explained the grants are in arrears and so are the towns. It is the timing of the funds coming in. She has 6 different budgets. B. Tatro asked where the 1 million dollar surplus came from. J. Fortson explained a savings in maintenance, bussing and special education. J. Carnie would like to know at the next meeting the estimated refund each town would receive with the surplus. J. Fortson updated the Board on the progress the custodians have made. They are doing a great job dealing with the construction. A huge Thank You to the custodians. The renovations are on time and should be completed at the end of September. J. Fortson along with students and advisors will start a store at the high school. This will be a learning project. She will bring a recommendation to the Board soon.
5. **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** K. Craig informed the Board Mike Brown and Kathy Upton will be giving kids the opportunity to work with businesses and the community. It is very exciting. She is excited to welcome the faculty, staff and students back to school. New teacher orientation will begin soon. The staff continues to focus on literacy. K. Craig welcomed the Board on August 21, 2014 to listen to Dr. Paul Nussbaum on workshop day. K. Craig introduced Kathy Upton the new Post Secondary alternative Coordinator. K. Upton reported there was a slight increase on the AP scores it went from 66% to 68%. The highlight is that we are 7% above the State average. In the area of Chemistry and Spanish they did not do well. We will have to get support from the administration. K. Upton informed the Board of a new program the Young Entrepreneurs Academy. This is available to area students. The cost is \$495.00 per student. There are scholarships available. The program will run from January to May. This is the first year the program is in Keene. This program is through KSC.

## **6. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

**6a. Correspondence and Announcements:** L. Corriveau commented on the NESDEC Assessment. He said this document will give you a planning document. We have tough decisions due to cost.

L. Corriveau introduced A. Noel the principal at Gilsum. A. Noel is very excited about being a teaching principal this coming school year. A. Noel did a power point presentation on STEAM. She explained MRSD is offering an opportunity for students to explore and take part in an alternative program instead of the traditional school. Every child will be engaged. Each topic throughout the year will end with a student exhibition. She explained students from other districts wanted to attend but changed their mind due to the cost of tuition. The Board thanked her for the presentation.

L. Corriveau informed the Board he cannot release the SAT scores but explained the students did better than the State.

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

**7. BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** R. Thackston informed the Board he has received the annual engagement letter from the auditor Klukay. He would like authorization to sign the letter on behalf of the Board. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to authorize R. Thackston to sign the engagement letter with Klukay. **SECOND:** 10.667/0/0/2.333. **Motion passes.**

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

**8a. Education & Policy:** M. Blair reported the committee met on August 5, 2014. The committee received an update on STEAM. The committee discussed the eBooks initiative that had previously started and the committee would like to continue. The etext issue has logistical and technical issues. The committee is looking to develop a plan. There will be a motion later tonight. The new chrome books are less expensive, have a three year warrantee and have the Monadnock logo on the cover.

Policy will be bringing a few motions later in the meeting. The committee would like to remove a blank policy and review the PE Policy.

The committee discussed 10,000 Mentors and will be bringing a motion later.

The committee discussed the staff needs in the MS/HS. There will be no Chinese offered instead Intro to World Language will be offered to the Middle School. K. Craig outlined the back to school workshops.

**8b. Finance/Facilities:** M. Blair reported the committee met on August 5, 2014. He reported the renovations are going very well. The maintenance staff is doing a great job even with the construction. There will be a motion for the Emergency Fuel Fund. He reported J. Fortson discussed the surplus. The ACES Program in Gilsum does not have a person to run the program yet. There will be a proposal for Sports stipends.

**8c. Budget Committee:** The committee has not met.

**8d. Sports Committee:** E. Stanley reported the committee met on August 4, 2014. The discussed the proposed Sports Stipends in the amount of \$89,270.00. The weight room is almost complete. There will be motions for coaching positions. The Athletic Director commented on the new winter sports and a lot of interest from the students. The next meeting is on August 18, 2014 at 3:00 PM. W. Wright informed the Board the Football Team did a great job picking up trash at the Cheshire Fair.

**9. Old Business:**

**9a. Teacher Contract Discussion:** R. Thackston commented the Negotiating Team would like to open negotiations with the Union. P. Bauries commented it would be good for the Board to receive a copy of the Union's meeting minutes. R. Thackston explained we have to do it in the Right to Know and parameters of negotiations. He said we have ground rules and we need to be compliant.

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**10a. Motions from Education & Policy Committee: MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** on behalf of the Education and Policy Committee to continue the eBook sub-committee for the development and implementation of an eBook program for the 2014-2015 school year. The sub-committee consists of M. Blair, B. Tatro, K. Craig, N. Richardson, J. Naso, J. Rathburn and P. Campbell. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **DISCUSSION:** K. Craig commented we need to order materials now. P. Bauries asked if the Budget Committee members N. Moriarty and B. Black would be on the committee. **VOTE:** 5.484/5.183/0/2.333. **Motion passes.** J. Carnie commented this is a maneuver to get the Budget Committee Members off the committee. E. Stanley mentioned it is a public meeting and anyone can attend. M. Blair explained the Budget Committee members were non-voting members.

**MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** on behalf of the Education and Policy Committee to allow the District to partner with 10,000 Mentors. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **DISCUSSION:** K. Craig explained this will not affect Senior Projects. This is open to all students. K. Upton and the 10,000 mentors will facilitate. They are looking for a commitment from the District. The committee has a lot of work to do. **VOTE:** 8.471/0/2.196/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** on behalf of the Education and Policy Committee to ask the Board to send Policy BEDH Public Participation at Board Meetings to the attorney for review. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **DISCUSSION:** The committee brought this up because of the conversation at the last Board Meeting regarding how people would be allowed to speak. R. Thackston handed the policy to the attorney who is present at this meeting. J. Carnie commented there is no change to the policy why is the Board giving it to the attorney. R. Thackston explained P. Bauries brought it to the committee for review. J. Carnie asked what the recommendation is. He does not want to waste money. B. Faulkner explained he offered his opinion. He said not to distinguish between what group should be able to speak first. P. Bauries commented the policy should be open to all but the voters of the District should speak first. We have never denied who can speak. R. Thackston does agree. P. Bauries

commented past practice is how we do it. R. Thackston commented this Board has never adopted Roberts Rules. This has never been a problem. He is happy with the way it is. Allow the attorney to review the policy to see if it is legal. He asked the attorney not to spend much time on it. J. Carnie questioned the word “citizen”, commented on a court case and said it is a waste of time and money for the attorney to review. The attorney has the policy.

**10b. Motions from Finance & Facilities Committee:** The Board will table the Emergency Fuel Fund Warrant Article until the next meeting.

**10c. Motions from the Sports Committee: MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance and Facilities Committee to ask the Board to accept the proposed Sports Stipends in the amount of \$89,270.00 as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** E. Stanley explained the funds were approved but the Athletic Director wanted to let the Board know how they are allocated. **VOTE:** 9.546/0/1.121/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**10d. Action on the Manifest: MOTION:** B. Faulkner **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amounts of \$102,877.97, \$58,064.71, \$26,468.54 and \$20,544.09 for 2013-2014. **SECOND:** M. Blair **VOTE:** 10.667/0/0/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** B. Faulkner **MOVED** to accept the manifest for 2014-2015 in the amount of 97,145.94, \$240,985.89, \$84,493.58, \$1,098,058.14 and \$279,102.81 for 2014-2015. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 9.592/0/1.075/2.333 **Motion passes.**

**10e. Other New Business as may come before the board:** L. Corriveau informed the Board of the many fundraisers going on in the District. STEAM, Mt. Caesar and Life Skills are all running fundraisers.

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

- 1. July 15, 2014 Non-Public**
- 2. Monadnock United**

**12. Public Comments:** Cheryl Thomas asked the Board to make a few more copies of the handouts they receive for the public.

**The Board will take a 10 minute recess.**

**13. 10:07 PM MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II ( b ) Hiring of a Public Employee: **SECOND:** P. Bauries **VOTE:** J. Carnie, M. Blair, W. Wright, B. Faulkner, R. Thackston, E. Stanley, P. Peterson, E. Jacod, B. Tatro and P. Bauries. **Motion passes.**

**14. Public Session: MOTION:** E. Jacod **MOVED** to authorize L. Corriveau to offer contracts for 3 Special Ed. paraprofessionals, 2 Special Ed. teachers and 3 Title One paraprofessionals subject to final Board approval. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 10.667/0/0/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**15. 10:29 PM MOTION:** E. Jacod **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. Peterson **VOTE:** J. Carnie, E. Jacod, P. Peterson, E. Stanley, B. Tatro, R. Thackston, B. Faulkner, W. Wright, M. Blair and P. Bauries. 10.667/0/0/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**16. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 PM. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 10.667/0/0/2.333. **Motion passes.**

**The Board went into a non-meeting with their attorney.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary