

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**(Approved Minutes)**  
**May 5, 2015**  
**Troy Elementary School, Troy, NH**

**Members Present:** Pat Bauries, Betty Tatro, James Carnie, Barry Faulkner, Mike Blair, Winston Wright, Phyllis Peterson, Scott Peters, Lisa Steadman, Joseph Smith, Nicholas Mosher, Bob Mitchell and Karen Wheeler.

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

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

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

B. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**1. Public Comments:** There are no Public Comments.

**2. Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the April 21, 2015 School Board Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 11.002/0/.998/0. **Motion passes.**

**3. Student Government Report:** L. Kalloger reported on the Scholar Leaders Breakfast at the Middle School. The students and parents attended. The Senior National Honor Society Members held a dinner for their parents. The GPS met on Monday and have the task of reviewing 6 sections of the Student Handbook. She explained the process in which the group will eventually bring suggestions to the Board. We are asking them to think globally. The group consists of 35 to 40 students a week.

**B. Faulkner called a recess at 7:05 PM to enter into a SAU 93 Board Meeting.**

**The Board returned to the MRSD School Board Meeting at 7:20 PM.**

**4. BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:** There is no report tonight.

**5. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** L. Carey provided a statement on the District’s curriculum work in the Board packet. She is working on a grant to receive funds for the summer work. She explained the District has enough money to pay employees 1008 hours of work. They are planning a teacher’s workshop on June 15, 2015. Title One will provide training for Cutler and K-2 will finish up training. The Smarter Balance Testing is

going on and they have finished the ACT Aspire. She thanked B. Geiss, J. Rathbun, B. Kuhn and H. Gigliello for their help with organizing the test schedule. AP Testing will continue. This has been a very busy month. The elementary schools will be doing the MAP testing. N. Mosher said it would be very helpful to have a single page list of the tests and where to get additional information on our own. L. Carey explained a few meetings prior to March she discussed how intense the month of May is with testing. She said it would be great to discuss the different tests in the Education Committee. K. Wheeler would like to see the tests that are mandated and which the District assigned. L. Carey reviewed the Math Common Assessment and explained this is not necessarily oranges to oranges. It is teacher created. The good news is in the growth. She explained the Math Common Assessment is a different test the students are competing against themselves. With the MAP Testing the students are competing against the norm.

**6. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

**6a. Correspondence and Announcements:** K. Pfeifer reported the Education Committee will continue to discuss the American School Correspondence Policy. K. Pfeifer was invited to discuss with the Louisville Symphony Orchestra to talk about brainstorming communication. He compared the communication with the School District. He reviewed the fundraisers as follows: HS Project Graduation, Senior Community Service Day, Project Graduation 5K, DI, Kona Ice, Cutler Activity Night, D'Angelo's fund raiser, car wash and pancake breakfast at Applebees. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to allow the Gilsum Elementary School to travel out of State to Vermont to attend the Montshire Museum. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to allow the HS Seniors to travel out of state to Hershey Park and the NJ Beaches for their Senior Trip. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.** K. Pfeifer would like to thank the Board for allowing him to travel to Kentucky. It was a wonderful experience.

**7. BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** B. Faulkner commented on a very successful Recognition Night. He was very impressed with the number of years the staff worked with the students and the support they give each other. In previous years the Board has purchased lunch for the staff to show their appreciation. This will take place next Wednesday. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the Board buying lunch for the staff. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.** B. Faulkner would like to appoint L. Steadman to the Policy Committee to take his place. **MOTION:** J. Smith **MOVED** to accept the appointment of L. Steadman to the Policy Committee from the Chair. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

**8. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**8a. Community Relations Committee:** M. Blair was appointed Chair of the CRC. He reported the committee met tonight and discussed developing a marketing outreach plan for the Board. They thought of ways to get information out to the public regarding the meet and greet with the two candidates. They discussed the organizational flowchart which was given to the CRC to work on. They will be working on it prior to the new Superintendent. They discussed the process versus the policy and will outline the responsibilities. The draft of the survey which was developed by S. Peters on how people use the website will be discussed at a later meeting. The next meeting is on June 2, 2015 at 6:00 PM. P. Bauries said there is also

a health survey. L. Kalloger said it is the Youth Behavior Survey. She said it has not been sent out yet. P. Bauries asked if parents have the ability to review the survey prior to filling out the survey. K. Wheeler asked how parents are notified to opt out of a student taking a test. It was commented information should be sent home to the parents. J. Carnie suggested sending this issue to Policy Committee to develop a policy.

**8b. Education and Technology Committee:** P. Bauries reported the committee met on April 28, 2015 and received a report from R. Schafer on discipline in the HS and the HS being under staffed. Most of the discipline issues are repeat offenders. The committee discussed the restructure of the administrative services. They discussed two motions which will be brought to the full Board tonight. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to accept the proposal of the Restructuring of MS/HS Administrative Services as presented by Dr. K. Pfeifer. The restructuring to be evaluated no later than six months after it's start. The proposal was amended to have a single hire for the position, opposed to two hires. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie would like to wait to vote until after the discipline report.

**MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to accept the proposal from T. Kennett to expand the Pre School program to the Troy Elementary School. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** T. Kennett explained there is no cost to relocate the program. T. Kennett explained the proposal. L. Steadman asked if a child is in another program and lives in Troy will they have to go to the Troy Program. T. Kennett said we will have to look at the numbers. The Troy kids would not have to ride the bus for such a long time. We need to balance the classrooms. Emerson and Mt. Caesar have a Preschool Program. Troy students now go to Emerson and to Mt. Caesar. K. Wheeler asked if anyone looked at a preschool for Gilsom. T. Kennett explained with the Troy Preschool all three programs will be full. T. Kennett explained the Preschools in the three schools are Special Ed. Preschool. T. Kennett explained they will try to send the children to the closest preschool. He also explained students in need of other services will not have to go to the service provider they will go to the student. L. Steadman commented the OT, PT and Speech Services provided at Mt. Caesar will be available to all the students. S. Peters said T. Kennett did a good job with this program. T. Kennett explained we will be adding 28 students with less time on the buses and no additional cost. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.** The next meeting will be on May 12, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

**Discipline Report:** R. Schafer explained his presentation is to let all the stake holders know where the need is. He explained the AP responsibilities at the beginning of the year. He said attendance in his office was not feasible. They had to reorganize with 5 people helping out. He said when discipline issues came up he had to prioritize. L. Kalloger said she had to handle all the observations. R. Schafer explained the time it takes to deal with certain issues. He gave a power point to the Board and reviewed the number of discipline issues. He said the police were called 139 times. They are called with any criminal act. It was asked how many students serve detention. R. Schafer said they are serving mostly due to being tardy. He said he has to prioritize. N. Mosher suggested hiring people to help. It was explained we cannot hire when they are not in the budget. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to support the proposal presented by the administration to RIF K. Upton's position, to establish a .6 assistant position at the MRMS, to establish a .4 ELO coordinator and develop a position and to reevaluate this

proposal after 6 months. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** It was suggested to hire one staff to do the .6 and the .4 positions. There was a friendly amendment to hire one single person for this position. B. Tatro discussed during the Education Committee to hire a full time Assistant Principal, full time ELO and a school psychologist. K. Pfeifer said our special education population has dropped significantly. We think we are okay with one less psychologist. He said to review in 6 months and see if there is a need in 3 months. He cannot say it will be perfect. T. Kennett said the preschool students do not have a need for a psychologist. M. Blair commented a change was made. We need to make a modification. It is a start. He wished we did not cut the budget so low. We need a plan to move forward. We need to make decisions on proper data not always on the bottom line. This is an appropriate start. We need to be proactive. P. Peterson said when the Board reduced it was a decision of the Board not a budget issue. N. Mosher suggested looking at ways to prevent fires in the first place. L. Steadman asked if the discipline had anything to do with the students returning from out of district. It was suggested to replace the SSO this would be a step in the right direction. W. Wright said we need some help. We have 1000 students and 2 people. B. Mitchell is in support of the motion and there is a discipline problem at the MS/HS. He is concerned this is not enough. He would ask the Board to address the SRO versus the SSO. **VOTE:** 11.879/1.121/0/0. **Motion passes.**

**B. Faulkner called for a recess.**

**8c. Finance and Facilities Committee:** This committee has not met since the last Board Meeting. The committee possibly will meet on May 12, 2015 depending on the Board Meeting.

**8d. Policy Committee:** M. Blair reported the committee met on April 28, 2015. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to accept Policy BDE Committees and Delegates as amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** M. Blair explained the changes made at the committee level. It was suggested and agreed by M. Blair and W. Wright to add the Sports Committee to the list of committees and remove the SAU Committee. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to accept Policy BEDC-Quorum/Voting as amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie questioned the adding of the words “and voting”. B. Faulkner explained that is a standard way of counting votes under Roberts Rules. L. Steadman made a friendly amendment in the first paragraph to read as follows: A membership of the Board comprising greater than 50% of the total weight of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. M. Blair and W. Wright agreed to the friendly amendment. **VOTE:** 12.787/0/.214/0. **Motion passes.**

T. Walsh brought Policy JLCF the Wellness Policy to the committee for review. This will be on a future meetings agenda of the committee. It was questioned if Kona Ice violates this policy. The next meeting is on May 26, 2015 at 6:30 PM.

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

**8f. Ad HOC STEAM:** P. Bauries reported this committee will be meeting with Bob Baines on Thursday at noon to discuss Charter Schools. They will also be joining members of the STEM from KSC.

**9. Old Business:**

**9a.** N. Mosher asked if we are going to wait for the new Superintendent to develop the organizational flow chart. M. Blair said the CRC was asked to do this. The committee has started to work on it and when complete they will bring it to the Board. W. Wright asked if the Superintendent was not present who is next in line. L. Steadman said a flow chart is for the HR Dept. P. Bauries said we have a flow chart but it is not for the HR Dept. to do. It is an administration issue. D. Coffman explained he had passed out an organizational flow chart previously. N. Mosher stated it is absolutely important that it is up to date. S. Peters explained the committee met tonight and we have drafts available. We can look at the drafts as a team or ask the administration to draft something we need. B. Mitchell would like to see all three of the work charts. K. Wheeler would agree. She feels she has had to reach out to get information.

B. Mitchell would like the information on failures and attendance. K. Pfeifer will provide that information.

K. Pfeifer explained NESDEC will be attending the next Board Meeting.

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**10a. Action on the Manifest: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amounts of \$ 1,734,794.43. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.787/0/.214/0. **Motion passes.**

**10b. Other New Business as may come before the Board:** B. Mitchell commented on an email he had received from E. White. She was not able to read her entire letter to the Board at the last meeting. He would like to attach the letter to the minutes. J. Carnie said she had an opportunity to speak. **MOTION:** B. Mitchell **MOVED** to attach E. White's email to the minutes. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **VOTE:** 12.243/.757/0/0. **Motion passes.** J. Carnie agrees with putting the letter in the minutes but does not agree with parts of the letter. The cuts were made by the administration. He hopes there is a response to the email. He would like a response from the administration. S. Peters said the Board should respond to the public comments. We should respond and the administration should respond. P. Bauries suggested replying to the email and inviting E. White to the next Education Meeting. L. Steadman would suggest being careful about replying through email. J. Carnie would hope the administration will respond to the email.

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

1. NESDEC
2. SRO-SSO

**12. Public Comments:** A. Garrapy thanked the Board for attending Recognition Night and her gift.

D. Coffman asked if we have a SRO. K. Pfeifer responded no. He said they are working on a SSO. D. Coffman said the process needs to be expedited. He said there are enough people in the District for reassignments. Be creative. He would recommend a SRO. We need a full time Superintendent. Let the committee bring the person and move the process. The Board will be able to vote and hire.

**B. Faulkner will recess the meeting at 10:25 PM for 5 minutes.**

B. Faulkner explained he had attended a meeting with the Selectmen of Swanzey. They discussed moving the voting to the high school instead of the church, they discussed the Wilcox Building with no particular interest and they discussed the SRO. Nothing was decided at the meeting.

**13. 10:30 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee: MOTION: MOVED** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee: **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

**14. 10:50 PM Motion to enter into and SAU 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:** J. Carnie. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

**15. Recess the Board Meeting to enter into SAU 93 Meeting at 11:45 PM.**

**16. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 12:29 AM **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 11.879/0/0/1.121. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary