

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
(Approved Minutes)
October 20, 2015
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration present: L. Witte, Superintendent 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:** M. Blair of Swanzey would like the Board to focus on the children. Have the Board develop skills in an environment conducive to education. He hopes during the budget to put aside funds to make the MRSD the best it can be. Work collectively. Have the Board adopt Husky Pride. During the budget process put aside anything that distracts MRSD from being the best.

M. Diven heard at a Budget Meeting someone asked if Gilsum was locked in for the next 5 years and the response was no. She would like the Board to know the Gilsum folks read all the minutes. We want to keep an eye on the situation. She does not want to have a figure each year. The voters said they would allow 5 years for Gilsum to prove ourselves. She does not believe we should have fight to keep the school open each year. B. Faulkner said the Budget Committee is separate from the Board and we cannot take authority away from future Boards. B. Mitchell said a Board cannot elect for future Boards.

- 2. Consent Agenda:**

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to postpone the October 6, 2015 School Board Meeting Minutes until the next meeting. **SECOND:** J. Carnie **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie informed the Board he did not receive the full set of minutes. **VOTE:** 7.523/3.241/2.236/0. **Motion passes.** The minutes will be sent out again.

MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** to accept the October 6, 2015, 11:05 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

- 3. Student Government Report:** There is no Student Government Report.

4. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

a. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: J. Fortson explained the DOE and the DRA have signed off on the apportionment financials. Every town will see a decrease in their taxes except Richmond as a result of the District. She has received the insurance rate, GMR of 7%. The Budget Books will be ready on Friday. They can be picked up at the SAU Building.

b. Correspondence and Announcements: L. Witte passed around the fund raiser calendar and updated the Board. L. Witte explained the Senior Class would like to go on an overnight field trip. They will travel on May 20-21, 2015. There will be 4 chaperons and they will be going white water rafting and zip lining. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to allow the Senior Class of 2015 to go on their field trip on May 20-21, 2015 as presented by L. Witte. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.** There will be an evacuation drill in the near future. The professional development went well. Cutler had 142 students participate in the National Walk to School Event. Mt. Caesar will host the Swanzev Fire Department for Fire Prevention Week. Troy will continue their lunch with the principal event. L. Witte saw some of the winners having lunch with the principal. Twenty-five students from Troy, Emerson, Cutler, Gilsum and the MS will attend the Youth Leadership Conference. L. Witte will participate in the Milford Accreditation Process. The Parent Forum slides for the Smarter Balance are on line. The React Club carved pumpkins. N. Richardson had an article on technology published in a magazine.

5. BOARD CHAIR REPORT: B. Faulkner explained items for the Board's agenda need to be at the SAU no later than noon on Wednesday before the meeting. P. Bauries asked if the question on a negotiated contract was answered. B. Faulkner said he has a copy of the signatures of people who signed the Monadnock United Resolution. P. Bauries would like a copy. B. Faulkner explained the process of moving the question. He said if something is incorrect you can raise a point of order. Termination of debate means everything on the floor is erased. In most cases closing debate would mean everything under that item. P. Bauries would hope the Chair would make it perfectly clear to ask the motion maker what is the intent.

6. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

6a. Budget Committee: B. Mitchell reported the committee has not met and is scheduled to meet on October 31, 2015 at 8:00 AM. This is a joint meeting with the Board. J. Carnie asked who will be running the meeting. W. Wright commented the chairs usually alternate each year.

6b. Community Relations Committee: M. Blair reported the CRC met and reviewed the "Suggestion Box" which the committee would like to launch in November. The committee discussed the School Lunch Policy which will be implemented on December 1, 2015. The committee was updated on the Round Table Discussions and the group will reach out to Gilsum, Mt. Caesar and to the MS/HS after they finish the Endicott Survey. L. Witte would like to develop a plan to update the Strategic Plan. The Smarter Balanced results will be available on November 12, 2015. The CRC will hold a work session to develop a plan for the various mechanisms to communicate to the public. The committee will invite a few

members of the Monadnock United to review the items and to see which items have been addressed. J. Carnie would like a copy of the Resolution and the signatures.

6c. Education and Technology Committee: P. Bauries reported the committee will be meeting on October 27, 2015 at 6:30 PM.

6d. Finance and Facilities Committee: J. Carnie explained the committee met on October 13, 2015 and received a report on the fund balance and where the surplus came from. Cutler and Mt. Caesar presented their budgets to the committee. Gilsum and MS/HS will present on October 27, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

6e. Policy Committee: M. Blair reported the committee will be meeting on October 27, 2015 at 5:00 PM. M. Blair explained the changes to Policy IGAF. This policy allows a PE waiver to those who participate in school sports after one semester of PE has been taken. Policy BDE is changing the name of the Sports Committee to the Extra-Curricular Committee.

6f. Extra-Curricular Committee: M. Blair reported the committee has not met. He explained the NHIAA did not approve the JV and Varsity for the Cooperative Ice Hockey Team with ConVal.

6g. Negotiations: P. Bauries reported the committee is meeting almost on a weekly basis. She said they are getting close to a contract.

6h. Ad HOC STEAM: P. Bauries reported the committee is scheduled to meet on October 21, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

6i. School Safety and Discipline Committee: J. Smith reported the committee will be meeting on October 21, 2015 at 6:00 PM. N. Mosher, L. Witte and W. Wright will not be able to attend the meeting.

6j. Cheshire Career Center: W. Wright reported the CCC has not met.

N. Mosher asked what committee has the organizational chart. The Policy Committee has the chart.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Policy IGAF Physical Education: MOTION: J. Smith **MOVED** to accept Policy IGAF Physical Education as amended. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

Policy BDE Committees and Delegates: MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to accept Policy BDE Committee and Delegates as amended. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 10.804/2.196/0/0. **Motion passes.** L. Steadman suggested the policies being voted on should be in the packets.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

a. MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amount of \$1,194,907.45. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

b. Other New Business as may come before the Board: SRO: N. Mosher asked if the SSO is in the budget and if the Board voted on the SRO. B. Faulkner said he felt the SRO was voted in place of the SSO. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to include the SSO in the 2016-2017 school budget. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher spoke in support of the SSO. He said there are issues that need to be addressed by the SSO not the SRO. He would like to see the SSO available to the other schools. K. Wheeler asked L. Witte what she thought. L. Witte said she does see the merits. There is a distinction in roles. J. Fortson would like a budget number for the SRO. P. Peterson said there will be a lot of questions about the SRO and SSO. There is no homework and no details. P. Peterson said if the Board is going to bring forth a motion you would hope information would be available. We have not spoken to the Chief of Swanzy. L. Steadman agrees with the team approach. There are other Districts that have the same. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to amend the motion and request the funding for the SRO be a warrant article instead of in the 2016-2017 school budget. **SECOND: Motion fails for lack of a SECOND.** J. Smith said the Chief is on vacation and was not able to speak to J. Smith. J. Smith has invited the Chief to the Safety Meeting on October 21, 2015. J. Carnie commented there is no dollar figure. W. Wright said a warrant is a good idea. P. Peterson is not against the position but she would like the facts. **VOTE:** 12.243/0/.757/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to accept the nomination of M. Blair, S. Peters, B. Mitchell, B. Tatro and W. Wright to the Technology Committee. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries said it was a motion from the Education Committee to separate the two committees because it is difficult to get through the entire agenda and technology has a part in every committee. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to amend Policy BDE and have Technology deleted as a separate standing committee. This is a first read. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman said it seems the amendment changes the motion. B. Faulkner said it is in order. M. Blair said there are a number of technology issues. This should be a standing committee. He would suggest sending this back to policy. B. Mitchell said the Education/Technology Meetings have gotten the short end of the stick. The technology items had to be put on the next agendas. N. Mosher said at the last meeting we had a long meeting and did not get through all of the items. J. Carnie commented historically Technology had been an Ad Hoc Committee. Due to the shortage of members the Education and Technology Committees were combined. M. Blair said the committees were combined because of identical membership. There are a number of issues for the Technology Committee to work on. We are spending 40 minutes on an item that could be easily resolved. M. Blair said technology was an Ad Hoc to the focus on the Chromebook pilot. P. Bauries said the intent is not to do away with technology but to make it available to all the committees. W. Wright will vote against the motion. N. Mosher said it is more efficient to separate the two committees. B. Tatro would agree. **VOTE on first read:** 1.335/10.590/1.075/0. **Motion fails.** J. Carnie said there are several issues about the conflict of interest. He does not want to see it. If so there will be appropriate actions. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to amend the motion and not to include the appointments as part of this committee. **SECOND:** There is no second. **Motion fails for lack of second. VOTE on**

nominations: 10.804/2.196/0/0. **Motion passes.** B. Faulkner would ask M. Blair to schedule a meeting for Technology.

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** if there is overlap of 3 or more members of a committee they are not allowed to meet concurrently. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman explained her reasoning. **MOTION:** K. Wheeler **MOVED** to amend and not allow the committee meetings to overlap. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries asked for a point of order. She said this was not on the agenda. L. Steadman said October 27, 2015 does impact dates and times. N. Mosher said he agrees this is a policy change. B. Faulkner said the motion is in order. J. Carnie would disagree with the way it is phrased. L. Steadman had asked to reschedule the Finance Meeting. J. Carnie agrees with no overlap but the Finance Committee had been scheduling the principals every two weeks. The Finance Committee is scheduled for October 27, 2015. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to postpone this discussion until the next meeting. **SECOND:** J. Carnie. **VOTE:** 7.887/4.115/.998/0. **Motion passes.** M. Blair will postpone the October 27, 2015 Policy Committee Meeting.

L. Steadman informed the committee she will have to resign from the Finance and Facilities Committee. K. Wheeler commented the members on the individual committees need to be updated on the website.

9. Setting Next Meeting's Agenda:

- 1. De-leveling Discussion**
- 2. CRC to present Round Table Feedback**

10. Public Comments: S. Peters commented the Board spent 70 minutes talking about themselves. The public is losing interest we need to set the motives on the kids.

N. Mosher said there are 6 different towns and opinions. It is not simple to say we will all agree and go in the same direction.

K. Wheeler did not feel comfortable with how things are moving regarding the Board.

J. Fortson of Swanzey supports both the SRO and the SSO. She appreciates the discussion for the next meeting on de-leveling.

B. Faulkner called for a 10 minute recess.

11. 9:31 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee: **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

12. 9:44 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:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

13. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: J. Smith **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 PM.
SECOND: M. Blair. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary