

**Monadnock Regional School District  
Education/Technology Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2023  
SAU Conference Room, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Stephanie Lawlor, Scott Peters and Edmond LaPlante. **Absent:** Brian Bohannon.

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

1. **Call the Meeting to Order:** S.Lawlor called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
3. **Philosophy Statement:** The following philosophies were a result of the Ed/Tech Committee. S. Peters explained that the Philosophy Statement was presented to the Board. The Board had a discussion on the information that was presented and the fact that the Behavior definition was not complete so there was no vote. The committee came up with the Behavior definition. This completed Philosophy Statement will be presented to the Board for approval at the next Board Meeting. S. Peters would like this document to be tuned up every Spring. The opinions in this document might not be the same for everyone.

**READY FOR SCHOOL:** We believe that parents/guardians are responsible to send children to school who are ready to learn, meaning: appropriately fed, rested, clothed, and have the necessary tools such as supplies, homework, medication, snack, lunch, etc. However, when a student comes to school without any of these requirements, it is our moral obligation to fill the need. For students to learn and grow, these needs must be met first.

**ACADEMICS:** As each student progresses to the next level, they should remember, understand, and be able to apply the skills they have learned. Students are considered proficient when they can apply the skills, and will have achieved mastery when they can analyze, evaluate, and create.

**COMPETENCY:** A competency is a state-defined standard of minimum learning for a given skill; it defines what a student should know or be able to do. Students are proficient when they meet competency standards.

**PROFICIENCY:** A student is considered proficient in a competency when they are able to demonstrate that they can remember, understand, and apply their knowledge (Bloom's Taxonomy).

COMPETENCY: We believe that every student should make continual learning progress. We believe that students should be measured often in order to ensure that growth is happening.

ACHIEVEMENT: We believe that achievement is both the proof and the celebration of growth over time. Achievement includes test scores, awards, and graduations.

WORK ETHIC : We believe that every student needs to be challenged, and should respond with effort within and outside of the classroom. We also believe that every student should learn to work independently to reach their goals. As students' progress into middle school, they should learn to work with diverse groups of their peers. As students' progress into high school they should learn how to plan their time in advance in order to reach long term goals.

ATTENDANCE: We believe that students must be present to learn the required competencies, but also to properly develop social skills, work ethic, and participate in field trips or extracurricular activities. When a student misses' school for any reason, it is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to ensure their child makes up the missed schoolwork.

NUTRITION: The Board recognizes the importance of proper nutrition and developmentally appropriate physical activity as ways of promoting healthy lifestyles, minimizing childhood obesity, and preventing other diet-related chronic diseases. The Board also recognizes that health and student success are interrelated. It is, therefore, the goal of the Board that the learning environment positively influences a student's understanding, beliefs, and habits as they relate to good nutrition and physical activity.

SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL: We believe that every student needs five key components to be successful in managing themselves and their relationships. They are self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. As they grow and learn to manage their feelings, we provide safe spaces for students to express and confide in trusted adults.

BEHAVIOR: We believe that every student should strive to be respectful, responsible, safe, kind, work together as a team when needed and follow rules/directions/expectations. The Board recognizes that student conduct in school can be a reflection of multiple things, such as an unstable home situation, trauma, homelessness, bullying, or the belief system of their parents/guardians. When a student does not follow rules/direction/expectations, the School Board expects Administration will consider both the behavior and the student's personal circumstances before setting consequences.

**4. Presentation to the Board:** S. Peters created a Slide Deck that the Ed/Tech Committee will be presenting to the Board again for approval.

**5. Bullet List:** S. Peters suggested now that the philosophy is complete to take a definition each meeting and come up with a drop-down bullet list. Nutrition for instance physical exercise

and diet. S. Lawlor said to pick one as a recommendation for the budget. S. Peters commented that he is not sure that the committee has gone through enough to recommend. S. Lawlor said the Behavior piece is huge and there are a lot of issues from that. Does the staff need training? Choose Love is being taught in some of the schools. It was asked how the administration is holding the teachers accountable. S. Peters would suggest a facilitator to do a diagram which was used for test scores for Behavior. The committee began the conversation on cell phones. S. Peters said there may not be data and teachers may not care. S. Lawlor asked if they are tracking cell phone use. S. Peters said it is at the discretion of the grade and the teachers. We need a cell phone policy but what is realistic. They would need advice from the administration. The committee would like to ask the Policy Committee to work with the administration to develop a cell phone policy. The committee would need to be kept informed about the progress of the policy. The committee emailed J. Rathbun and he joined by phone. J. Rathbun explained that under academics Math is up and running, they will be pushing Reading in the next 2 weeks. There has been a major turn in literacy instruction. S. Peters asked if the committee could give J. Rathbun homework asking what's cooking. The committee would like J. Rathbun to take each definition and list the components and notes on what the district is currently doing. The committee used "work ethics" as a test run for the drop down for each philosophy definition. The categories are initiatives, description, start, launch, progress data, desired outcome and risks. The committee will take one definition each meeting until completed.

**6. MOTION to approve the September 27, 2023 Ed/Tech Committee Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** S. Lawlor **MOVED** to approve the Sept. 27, 2023 Ed/Tech Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** E. LaPlante. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

**7. Setting the next meeting's date, time and agenda: November 15, 2023 at 6:00 PM.**

**8. Public Comments:** There are no comments.

**9. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** S. Lawlor **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM. **SECOND:** E. LaPlante **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Laura L. Aivaliotis**  
**Recording Secretary**