

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**Non-Public Session**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 1, 2016**  
**Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

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

**Also present:** L. Witte, Superintendent, L. Carey, Dir. of Curriculum and Instruction, J. Fortson, Business Manager, L. Kalloger, R. Schafer, [REDACTED] and L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary.

**The Hearing is being recorded.**

**7:10 PM Issue #1:** B. Faulkner asked if a Board Member had a conflict of interest or felt they needed to leave due to the fact the Board may have to act as a judge or jury. It was explained the parents of a student are requesting their child be able to go to another school due to circumstances that occurred at school. The parents are asking for a Manifest Education Hardship. They are asking to allow all three of their children to be able to go to another school out of District. It was explained the [REDACTED] son saw something happening and reported it to a staff member. During lunch the staff member congratulated the student for coming forward. Other students who were sitting near the student asked what had happened. The three students in which he told on found out and threatened the [REDACTED] son. The [REDACTED] son tried to go back to school but was afraid. The school tried to do everything they could to educate the child in the most secure setting. With all the efforts of the school it still was not enough the child was still afraid to return to school. The parents explained the story and felt it was best their son go to another District along with their other two boys. They presented a letter from a previous Superintendent telling the [REDACTED] their son would be able to go to another District. The [REDACTED] want the boys to go to school together. *The [REDACTED] leave the hearing.* **B. Faulkner closed the hearing.**

The Board asked the status of the three other boys. It was explained two of the three students are attending the SMART Program and the third is to be placed Out of District. The [REDACTED] are not aware of this and the District cannot give out that information. L. Witte said she cannot guarantee the student will not come back to the District. P. Peterson said there are students with other issues who might want to go to another school. It was commented the previous Superintendent offered other schools. N. Mosher is in favor of the manifest hardship. B. Tatro asked if it applies to the siblings. The Board has to decide. J. Smith believes we should support the document made last year. N. Mosher agrees. B. Mitchell said the campus should be free of the student who made the threat. N. Mosher would agree. It was explained the student was punished. S. Peters asked if we are making a motion for one boy or three. P. Bauries asked if this is a bullying issue. R. Schafer explained this was the only incident from the child within the year. **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve the Manifest Education Hardship and authorize

Superintendent Witte to make the arrangements. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** P. Peterson commented that this has spun out of control. N. Mosher said the teacher has grossly failed and we went down a path with the K. Pfeifer letter. The parents have grounds. L. Steadman said we had an employee who did something wrong. She also said an evaluation on the [REDACTED] son should have been done. B. Mitchell said the teacher did do something wrong and the [REDACTED] are charming. The threat of the Manifest Education Hardship does not exist regardless of the letter from K. Pfeifer. M. Blair agrees with B. Mitchell the [REDACTED] son played basketball all year on campus. He did not see it as an issue but over sensitivity. We have dealt with 2 of the three students. It was commented it is the responsibility of the staff member who made the mistake. J. Carnie does not agree, the administration and the teacher are not to blame but did not make it any better. He is concerned that more students will want to go out of district. The kids that caused the problem need to be dealt with first. Nothing in society is easy. They are not asking for one boy but all three boys to go out of district to another school. He believes we are making more of this. The administration could have done a better job. The Board needs to be solid and leave him here. K. Wheeler commented we do not know about the counseling of the boy. We do not know the students past. The other student could come back to the District at any time. J. Smith suggested seeking legal counsel. **MOTION:** J. Smith **MOVED** to seek legal counsel and to table the motion until the next meeting. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** W. Wright-no, K. Wheeler-yes, P. Peterson-yes, B. Tatro-yes, P. Bauries-yes, L. Steadman-yes, M. Blair-yes, S. Peters-no, B. Mitchell-no, J. Smith-yes, N. Mosher-yes, J. Carnie-yes and B. Faulkner-yes. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to leave Non-Public Session. **SECOND:** J. Smith **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

**The Board sealed these minutes in Public Session.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording Secretary