

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**(Non-Approved Minutes) Corrected 7/12/16**  
**June 21, 2016**  
**Monadnock Regional MSHS, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, James Carnie, Karen Wheeler, Joseph Smith, Phyllis Peterson, Scott Peters, Eric Stanley, Bob Mitchell, Winston Wright, Nicholas Mosher and Mike Blair. **Absent:** B. Tatro and L. Steadman.

**Administration present:** L. Witte, Superintendent and J. Fortson, Business Manager.

**Also present:** L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary and T. Blair and J. Rappucci Student Representatives to the Board.

**“We collaborate not just to teach, but also to engage and educate every student in our district in an environment that is challenging, caring and safe, while fostering life-long learning.**

- 1. Public Comments:** N. Moriarty commented about the \$510,000.00 and how the teachers want to receive the funds. He said it is an attempt to get a raise, when in fact the voters voted the contract down. The funds should go back to the taxpayers. The teachers are also asking to have the payroll tax covered from the \$510,000.00. He said the Budget Committee did not make signs to encourage voters to vote down the contract. P. Bauries abstaining on the MDEA Contract is not a violation. This is a scam to get a raise. The funds should go back to the voters. He hopes that the School Board is not a party to this.

T. Matson from the Town of Troy where they have the smartest students in the District. He is asking the Board for an educator to work with the town and the Conservation Commission on an environmental studies project. He would also like to know the cost of providing breakfast and lunch to all the Troy students during the school year. The students learn better with a full belly. J. Fortson and T. Walsh can provide the numbers. He would also like an educator to help with Impact Monadnock to help educate parents with children birth –Kindergarten as well as the children. Engage and expand student population. T. Matson said that he agrees 100% with N. Moriarty’s comments. NEA is the largest Union in the Nation. He said it is inappropriate to have a member of the Union from Winchester voting to return the funds from the Health insurance back to the Union in Monadnock. She should have recused herself. There is a conflict of interest with some other members of the Board.

J. Leclaire thanked the Board for listening to her presentation at the last Board Meeting. She updated the Board on what is going on with the Drug Awareness Intervention Group. The group held a panel discussion for students 9-12. Questions

were asked by the students. There were 47 questions asked and it went very well. A stress survey was conducted as part of a Senior Project and mental illness in NH was another Senior Project topic. She thanked the Board for their support.

P. Bauries thanked L. Carey and T. Kennett for their years of service at Monadnock. It is a loss for the District. She commented on the \$510,000.00, the fact the amount of teachers decreased after the first year of the contract regarding the insurance pool and the fact the District was paying 85% of the insurance and the teachers were paying 15%. She is flattered that the MDEA said she is responsible for the defeat of the contract. The teachers and nurses received living raises. They received their stipends, longevity payments, health care coverage and they are able to open negotiations for a new and reasonable contract. Open negotiations and come up with a contract we all can approve.

## 2. Matters that require Board Action:

### a. Community Relations Committee:

**Motion: To recommend to the full Board to endorse the Board Chair to spend up to \$2000.00 to coordinate a Board Retreat sometime this summer.**

**MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to endorse the Board chair to spend up to \$2000.00 to coordinate a Board Retreat sometime this summer. **SECOND:** P. Peterson.

**DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher asked why \$2,000.00. S. Peters explained it is wise to hire moderators that are not members of this groups, funds for food and a rental cost for the facility. J. Fortson would caution the Board not to endorse the chair. He does not have authority to spend. N. Mosher suggested using the school and everyone bring a dish. M. Blair said there is a Board line in the budget. We want to have a discussion with community members. We need to have a large facility to accommodate everyone and to have breakout sessions. Moderators do not come free. J. Carnie does agree with the purpose. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to amend the motion and to have the Board endorse a Board Retreat sometime this summer. **SECOND:** N. Mosher.

**DISCUSSION:** S. Peters said it is a worthwhile cause to pay for the moderators. J. Fortson said there are funds available in the 2015-2016 budget or the 2016-2017 budget. **VOTE on amendment:** 2.403/6.358/0/3.241. **Motion fails. DISCUSSION on original motion:** J. Carnie said it is an unnecessary expenditure. It was commented the members would sit around and chat. N. Mosher said he would rather see the funds go to the meals program for the kids. B. Mitchell said the retreat should be a high priority it is critical. W. Wright said the \$2000.00 will be well spent. P. Peterson said the retreat is essential and the timing is critical. We should have an initial draft with feedback from the Board. It was suggested to have this go to the CRC and have the committee come up with a cost. M. Blair would like the CRC to endorse the retreat. We cannot make a plan without the endorsement from the Board. A plan will be made after the endorsement. This issue was left off the last agenda by accident. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** for the Board to endorse the CRC to spend up to \$2000.00 from the 2016-2017 budget to coordinate a Board Retreat at the earliest convenience. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 9.759/0/0/3.241. **Motion passes.**

**b. Finance/Facilities Committee**

**Motion: To apply \$3,811.07 from the Nutrition Supplement budget to offset the \$3,811.07 negative balance from 2015-2016 in Nutrition Services: MOTION:**

J. Carnie **MOVED** to apply \$3,811.07 from the Nutrition Supplement budget to offset the \$3,811.07 negative balance from 2015-2016 in Nutrition Services.

**SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 9.759/0/0/3.241. **Motion passes.**

**Motion: If there is a balance in 2015-2016, to encumber \$200,000.00 for 2016-2017 out-of-district costs (only): MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** if there is a

balance in 2015-2016, to encumber \$200,000.00 for 2016-2017 out-of-district costs (only). **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** K. Wheeler would like to prioritize the motions and recommend this motion take priority. J. Fortson said the number of out of district students has doubled. T. Kennett and J. Fortson have worked on a sheet and the result is they are short 1 million dollars. J. Fortson said we now have a new student at \$97,000.00. S. Peters questioned the \$200,000.00 in regards to is it enough. J. Fortson said there is \$360,000.00 in the Special Ed. Expendable Trust. She believes we will manage with the new programs at Emerson, Mt. C. and Cutler. B. Mitchell commented we have shrinking student population but the out of district students have doubled. We need to address this on the next agenda. M. Blair said this is not unique. It is an unfortunate reality. L. Witte commented at the State of the District Address in January T. Kennett spoke of the shift. There are a lot of Special Ed. students and at a very young age. *J. Smith arrives.* J. Carnie commented this is a mandated program that is not being funded. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**Motion: To recommend that the full board approve an additional \$2,271.31 to the Hockey Boosters for the 2016-2017 season if there is a fund balance at the end of 2015-2016. MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to recommend that the full Board

approve an additional \$2,271.31 to the Hockey Boosters for the 2016-2017 season if there is a fund balance at the end of 2015-2016. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** E. Stanley asked where the figure came from. J. Carnie said there was a lot of discussion of what to present to the Board and a discussion on the Hockey Boosters balance in their account. E. Stanley explained the additional ice time is \$7245.00 which they had no control of. Last year each player had to pay \$474.00 out of their pockets and this year it will be \$607.00 per athlete without additional funds. No other team in the school comes close. The varsity team has no control of ice costs. J. Fortson explained she had asked for the Hockey Booster's bank statements and for the past two years the boosters ended up with a balance. P. Peterson would like more information on all of the sports. She said we need to be fair with all sports. E. Stanley said the total cost is \$25,586.00. J. Fortson explained the AD will have a sports cost template and will be collecting the expenditures for all sports and will be keeping track. E. Stanley said we are penalizing the Boosters for having funds. **MOTION:** E. Stanley **MOVED** to amend the motion and change the number to \$7245.00.

**SECOND:** S. Peters. **DISCUSSION:** E. Stanley commented we are asking them to deplete their funds. They do a fair amount of fund raising and they will still have to raise \$10,000.00 for 24 students. J. Carnie said based on the information from J. Fortson, the committee discussed it and changed the number. M. Blair commented the

Board should be aware that this is the last meeting of the 2015-2016 budget and if we do not approve an amount it will be \$8742.00 only. N. Mosher said we are basically asking to add funds to their savings. J. Carnie said we are paying half do they want all of it paid. M. Blair they do not expect a full payment but they are hoping for partial payment. They have done a lot of work to raise the funds. K. Wheeler is concerned with the Special Ed. costs. We need to be careful. E. Stanley said it would deplete their account. **VOTE on amendment: 7.720/3.160/0/2.119. Motion passes. VOTE: 7.720/3.160/0/2.119. Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to prioritize the previous three motions.  
**SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson explained what she will be doing regarding the approved motions. **W. Wright and J. Smith withdraw their motion.**

**c. Policy Committee:**

**Second Read: Policies BCA, BGB, BEDH: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to table the second read on Policy BCA, Policy BGB and Policy BEDH. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**d. Other Committee Motions:** There were no other motions.

**3. Matters for Information & Discussion:**

**a. Student Government Report:** J. Rappucci reported he met with A. Salzmann, the Select Board and administration regarding the playground at Cutler. Mt. C raised pennies for patients in the amount of \$750.00. Each second grader at Mt. C has received a pair of sneakers from the Elm City Rotary Club. The school will be hosting College Boot Camp. The track team has won the Division Three Championship. T. Blair informed the Board of the books the MSHS students will be reading over the summer. The Boy's Baseball Team has won the State Championship. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to award the Boy's Baseball Team with up to \$75.00 toward the purchase of championship rings. **SECOND:** C. Thomas-McDaniel. **DISCUSSION:** The championship items will be presented to the Special Olympic Basketball Team, the Boy's Baseball Team and the Track Team during Homecoming. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**b. Superintendent's Report:**

**i. Tutoring Policy:** L. Witte would recommend the Board waive the Policy GCRD Tutoring for Pay for the guidance counselor in order to work with the student over the summer. This is in the best interest of the student. There will be a written agreement with the parent stating this is not part of the District. **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to grant an exception to allow the guidance counselor to tutor the student over the summer under their liability and no compensation will be paid from the District. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** L. Witte explained she did seek legal counsel. **VOTE:** 8.761/1.121/.998/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**ii. Correspondence:** L. Witte informed the Board T. Walsh has been awarded the Nutritional Specialist Award. L. Witte explained she had met with some members

of Impact Monadnock as well as law enforcement members. This group is addressing the needs of children birth to 5 years of age. There are a lot of good things happening. We are all trying to work together. L. Witte will be going to the Annual Commissioners Conference and then on vacation June 25-July 1. B. Mitchell asked if Rise was involved in Impact Monadnock. L. Witte explained Impact Monadnock is relatively new but she does believe Rise is involved. They are part of the United Way.

**c. Business Administrator's Report:**

**i. Primex:** J. Fortson informed the Board she attended a new member training in Concord regarding the new insurance. She does have a few items for M. Blair to sign on behalf of the Board and a few for L. Witte to sign as well.

**ii. Encumbrances for End of Year:** J. Fortson presented the Board with a list of Reserved Fund Balances. She said the Husky House items were paid for by the gate receipts. The \$8560.00 was taken care of. J. Carnie asked about the \$511,100.00 listed as a fund balance. It was set aside last year for the health insurance premiums.

**iii. MDEA Insurance Premiums: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to have the Board vote on the MDEA Insurance issue tonight. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **VOTE:** 8.684/1.075/1.121/2.119. **Motion passes. L. Witte took over the meeting. M. Blair will leave the meeting until this issue has been voted on. MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to allow the allocation of funds for up to 100% of the MDEA insurance premiums and associated employer costs for 2015-2016 per the MDEA's request. The remaining balance will be unassigned fund balance and will lapse on July 1, 2016. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented this is ridiculous. There is a clear understanding of the funds. We are being told this amount is theirs. They want to spend 100% of the funds so that they have 100% of their health insurance paid for. J. Fortson said \$207,000.00 of the health insurance premiums will be returned to the employees and the \$16,000.00 for associated employer costs. B. Mitchell is satisfied that this is a legitimate and legal motion due to the discussion with the attorney. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to amend the motion and state in the motion the insurance premium number of "\$207,851.47 plus wage related employer costs." **VOTE on amendment:** 6.410/3.358/0/3.241. **Amendment passes. DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie agrees with clarifying the amendment but is opposed to the motion. **VOTE:** 6.454/3.305/0/3.241. **Motion passes.**

**d. Board Chair Report:** M. Blair will ask J. Smith along with the AD to organize the Gym Dedication by contacting the family members. The Board committees will be meeting throughout the summer. J. O'Shaughnessy explained the minutes do not need to include the discussion. M. Blair will continue with the minutes currently until the Board can discuss the issue.

**e. Committee Reports:**

**i. Education Committee:** N. Mosher reported the committee met and had a presentation from the elementary administration on the new Math Program, Envisions

which is the new Math Program for K-8. The committee would like to hear from the MSHS Math Dept. and more information on where we are and not on the materials we are teaching.

STEAM and the Ed. Committee would like to have a joint meeting to discuss the Science Curriculum.

**4. Consent Agenda:**

**a. Approval of the June 7, 2016 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the June 7, 2016 School Board Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented you need to have a reason to seal the minutes. **VOTE:** 8.638/0/2.243/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**b. Approval of the June 7, 2016 Non-Public School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the 8:35 PM June 7, 2016 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** S. Peters **VOTE:** 8.638/0/2.243/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**c. Approval of the June 7, 2016 Non-Public School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to approve the 8:45 PM June 7, 2016 Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** S. Peters. **VOTE:** 8.638/0/2.243/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**d. Approval of the June 7, 2016 Non-Public School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve the 9:18 PM June 7, 2016 Non-public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** It was asked why seal the minutes indefinitely. B. Mitchell asked why seal and why indefinitely. We seal too much. L. Witte said the motion is to approve the minutes as written not to debate the sealing of the minutes. **VOTE:** 7.563/0/3.318/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**4. The Board entered into the SAU 93 Meeting at 9:16 PM.**

**5. The Board entered back into the MRSD Meeting at 9:21 PM.**

**e. Approval of the Manifest: MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the Manifest in the amount of \$1,718,204.07. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson would ask the Board to authorize three Board Members to sign the manifest over the summer on behalf of the Board. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes**

**MOTION:** J. Smith **MOVED** to authorize three Board Members to sign the manifest over the summer on behalf of the Board. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**6. Setting Next Meeting's Agenda:**

1. Troy breakfast lunch break down
2. Out-of-District Placement

3. May 4, 2016 Non-Public
  4. Policy DFA, Independent Audit, Annual Tuition
  5. Proper procedure for entering into non-public
  6. Sealing of the minutes
- 7. Public Comments:** P. Bauries commented to unseal the June 7, 2016 Non-Public Minutes of 9:18 PM because they had already gone out to everyone by accident. She commented on the fact a Union Member working in another District did not reuse herself from the vote regarding the MDEA insurance premiums. The attorney sat in negotiations in order to guide the Board and then 4 years later has said to give back the money. She said the Board needs a new lawyer. P. Bauries asked the Board not to change the minutes by sanitizing them.

D. Gove is happy to see that the guidance counselor is allowed to work with the student over the summer. She commented on the film Raising NH. She said it is an excellent film.

**9:39 PM: M. Blair declared a recess.**

- 8. Non-Public Sessions under RSA 91-A:3 II**
- a. **9:44 PM : Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Consideration of hiring of a public employee. MOTION:** J. Smith **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II(b) Consideration of hiring of a public employee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**
  - b. **9:53 PM Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Setting compensation for public employees: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Setting compensation for public employees. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**
- 9. 9:56 PM Enter into the SAU 93 Board Meeting.**
- 10. 10:18 PM The Board returned to the MRSD Board Meeting.**
- 11. Adjournment: MOTION:** J. Smith **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 10:18 PM. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary