

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
Non-Public Session
School Board Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2015
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

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

Also present: L. Witte, Superintendent, J. Fortson, Business Manager and L. Aivaliotis, Recording secretary.

Issue #1 9:16 PM RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee: MOTION: W. Wright **MOVED** to accept the nomination of Shannon Tarbox for the MRMHS Nurse as presented by L. Witte. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** L. Witte explained the position. S. Tarbox has a BA in nursing and is off step. The salary is prorated. **VOTE:** 12.243/0/0/.757. **Motion passes.**

Issue #2 MOTION: J. Smith **MOVED** to accept the nomination of Diane Mitchell as a paraprofessional at Cutler, Troy and MRMHS, Billie Jo Kokx as a paraprofessional at Cutler and Emily Tullgren as a paraprofessional at Mt. C. as presented by L. Witte. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** L. Witte explained the positions and movement of the positions. She said the paraprofessionals have a high absentee rate, there is always a need. J. Fortson explained paras receive benefits. A substitute will receive \$65.00 a day. J. Fortson said the benefit of the para and not the substitute is the students see the same familiar face. L. Steadman said the para is more valuable than money. The para knows what is going on and the student recognizes the para. P. Peterson is concerned with the absentees. It was commented T. Kennett has that information on the paras. The student needs the trust and consistency of the para. N. Mosher asked if we are attracting quality people for these positions. B. Mitchell commented on the well known and well respected paras. J. Fortson commented we have had paras in the positions for 30, 35 and 40 years. B. Tatro commented many of them have teaching degrees. P. Bauries asked about the Board directed hiring of staff at part-time, 25 hours. J. Fortson said the Union grieved and the School Board backed down. She said the District hires for what is needed. She would like to have T. Kennett discuss the paras. L. Witte explained the meeting para is to cover IEP meetings. J. Carnie is not arguing the existing paras. We are redefining the roles. He is not convinced on the floating paras. He would like to see T. Kennett here to explain the roles and the needs for the paras. B. Tatro commented there is a 90 day probation period for paras. N. Mosher said we are getting a substantial benefit with the floating para. We are getting our value. S. Peters said we are talking about a replacement of a para. We are too far into this conversation. It was explained Billie Jo Kokx will be working with a student who is now in need of a one on one aide. W. Wright said to put kids first. That is what the administration is trying to do. He said to vote these people in the students have already been interrupted. **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to terminate debate. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **VOTE:** 12.030/.214/0/.757. **Motion passes. VOTE on the nomination of the 3 paraprofessionals:** 10.047/0/2.196/.757. **Motion passes.**

Issue #3 MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** to accept the nomination of Gerald Palmer as the Girl's Basketball Assistant Coach for Cutler and Abraham Wyman as the Boy's Basketball Assistant Coach for Cutler as presented by Superintendent Witte. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented these are stipend positions and we are in non-public session. S. Peters said we have referred the stipend issue to the Policy Committee. M. Blair commented every stipend issue for the past 5 years has been in non-public session up to three weeks ago. J. Carnie said it does not belong in non-public session. B. Faulkner rules we should be in non-public session. L. Steadman would like to vote in non-public session like we have done. She asked if we have to vote on someone with a stipend of \$150.00 as long as there is a background check. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to postpone the approval of these 2 stipend positions. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher said they are public employees. J. Fortson said School Board Members are elected officials and coaches are covered under workers comp. L. Steadman said they are employees and we should vote in non-public. **VOTE to postpone the vote:** 2.190/10.053/0/.757. **Motion fails. VOTE to approve the two coaching positions:** 11.128/0/1.115/.757. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to leave Non-Public Session. **SECOND:** J. Smith **VOTE:** 12.243/0/0/.757. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,
Laura L. Aivaliotis