

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
(Non-Approved Minutes)
March 17, 2015
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration present: L. Carey, Interim Assistant Superintendent, T. Kennett, Director of Student Services and Kathy Schnyer.

Also present: L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary.

“The goal of the Monadnock Regional Board is to be the Best School District in the State.

L. Carey called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

M. Cloutier swore in P. Peterson, J. Smith, D. Mitchell, S. Peters and N. Mosher as the new School Board Members. She also swore in D. Coffman and K. Goodenough as the new Budget Committee Members.

Students and parents from the Gilsum STEAM Academy thanked the Board for the recent vote allowing the Gilsum STEAM Academy to stay open for 5 more years.

M. Divens would like to hear a vote of approval from the Board regarding the recent vote of the voters.

L. Carey asked for nominations from the Board for Board Chair. **MOTION:** E. Jacod **MOVED** to nominate P. Bauries as Board Chair. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to nominate B. Faulkner as Board Chair. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries and B. Faulkner gave reasons why they would like to be the Board Chair. **VOTE:** 5.183/6.605/.214/0. **Barry Faulkner is the Board Chair.** **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to nominate J. Carnie as Vice Chair. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to nominate L. Steadman as Vice Chair. **SECOND:** M. Blair **VOTE:** 5.183/7.604/.214/0. **L. Steadman is the Vice Chair.**

1. Public Comments:

N. Moriarty updated the Board on the Superintendent Search. They have reopened the search because a couple of candidates have been knocked off. They have asked the NHSBA for help. The classes are complete and well received.

2. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to accept the March 3, 2015 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 7.473/0/5.528/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: E. Jacod **MOVED** to accept the March 3, 2015, 9:12 PM School Board Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 8.471/0/4.529/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the March 3, 2015, 9:30 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 8.471/0/4.529/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the March 3, 2015, 9:45 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** E. Jacod **VOTE:** 8.471/0/4.529/0. **Motion passes.**

- 3. Student Government Report:** K. Skrocki the Vice President of the Student government informed the Board Coach Patnode and L. Kalloger have formed a Good Person Society to improve our school spirit. The Art Display presented by the Monadnock Rising Artists is on display at 135 Old Homestead. The Guys and Dolls presentation was great and well received. Three 7th and 8th graders won the Elks Club Drug Awareness Contest. Many of the seniors are applying to college and being accepted at very good schools.

- 4. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:** J. Fortson is not in attendance she is at a training conference.

- 5. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** L. Carey informed the Board Kindergarten registration is open. She reported the March 10 Workshop went very well. B. Kuhn and H. Gigliello have spear headed the scheduling of the spring testing for the Middle and High School. The month of May is very busy with testing. She passed the MAP Testing results to the Board for review and if there are any questions to contact her. She did explain there is growth.

6. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

6a. Correspondence and Announcements: K. Pfeifer is not in attendance but L. Carey will present his report. She passed out the proposed School Board Meeting schedule. She passed out the fund raiser calendar for the month of April. The Elm City Rotary will present each 2nd grader with a pair of New Balance sneakers to encourage students to walk, run, jump, dance and move. ACES #93 has prepared a syllabus for the Dr. Seuss Week and it was passed out to the Board. L. Carey reported Mr. Brown's economics Class would like to take a field trip to SNU in Manchester, Mrs. Frazier's second grade class would like to take a field trip to the NE Aquarium. The ACES #93 Summer Program would like to take a few field trips this summer, Battleship Cove, Stone Zoo and Strawberry Bank. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to accept the Demar/Elm City Rotary donation of sneakers for grade 2 in the District. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** B. Faulkner commented on the great program, well attended and respected marathon.

7. **BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** B. Faulkner commented he was very encouraged by the vote last week. The articles were supported and approved. He would like to welcome the new members to the Board. He thanked P. Bauries for being gracious, supportive and helpful on the Board. He would like the Board to examine the goals, look at the committees and the reorganization. He is looking forward to a great year and thanked the Board for the vote.

8. **SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

8a. Education & Policy: The committee has not met.

8b. Finance/Facilities: The committee has not met.

8c. Budget Committee: B. Tatro reported the committee will be meeting on March 24, 2015.

8d. Community Relations Committee: The committee has not met.

8e. Sports Committee: This committee has not met. M. Blair reported the Girl's Varsity Basketball Coach, Curt Dutilly has been named Coach of the Year.

8f. AD Hoc Committee on the STEAM Academy: P. Bauries reported the committee is still working on the Charter School application. The committee had a question and answer time with a member from the NHDOE on ways we want to pursue. We are the first in the State. Their lawyers are looking into this. K. Pfeifer and L. Carey have been helping with the process. We are moving quickly and promptly.

8g. Cheshire Career Center: There is no report from this committee.

9. **Old Business:**

9a. Committee Procedures and Restructure:

***Appointment of Committee Members:** B. Faulkner commented that the committees will facilitate the flow of decisions to the Board and work with the administration. The committees will not make the decisions for the Board. The committee is not a place to kill a proposal. The committee will be supportive and helpful. They will work best in groups of 3 or 4 and every School Board Member will be on at least one committee. He will combine the Facilities and Finance, Education and Technology and Policy will stand alone as well as Sports, Negotiations, CCC and Budget Committee. In order to have a quorum at every meeting all of the members will be alternates. He is also suggesting rotating membership in 6 months and to schedule the meetings at least once a month, on the same day, a Tuesday at a convenient time for the staff and Board. He would suggest between 4:30 – 6:00PM. The SAU will not be scheduled when there is a committee meeting scheduled. The agenda will be out 48 hours prior to the meeting and the minutes should be complete in a minimum of 5 days, they should be completed on Monday. B. Faulkner passed out the committee assignments to the Board. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to accept the list of committee assignments as presented by B. Faulkner. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** P. Peterson asked if the Board has any input on the assignments. She asked what if you do not want to be on one but another. N. Mosher stated this is a poor idea. He said allow the people with

expertise to be on the specific committees. E. Jacod would agree with N. Mosher. P. Bauries stated this is terrible. She would like to ask any Board Member if they receive the health insurance through Monadnock. The School Board needs to know that. Up until June of 2014 the Board had a strong Negotiating Committee, they always had a quorum and the minutes were posted. The Finance Committee has not met since December 1, 2014. She said that she is not interested in the Policy Committee. She also commented why she was only put on one committee. E. Jacod commented prior to the Camp Takodah incident we had functioning committees and it worked. This is not solving the problem. He said some have specific qualifications and we have to draw upon those skills. B. Tatro commented she has served on any committee when asked. L. Steadman asked if B. Faulkner would acknowledge a request to transfer. M. Blair said it is a good attempt to mix up the pot. B. Mitchell likes the fact that all Board Members are alternates and the rotation of assignments. He is willing to serve on any committee and can work with the proposal. B. Faulkner commented negotiations are seasonal. The committees are by Board policy. J. Carnie explained over the years the Board Members would turn in their committee requests, the Chair would continue to run the meeting and organize the requests. The Chair is now making an effort to control everything. There is no choice. We are a Board not a dictatorship. Finance and Facilities should be listed separately. The Board was doing well until Camp Takodah. He also commented the committees have an even number of members. It would be a problem when voting. J. Carnie would like to amend the entire sheet. **MOTION: B. Mitchell MOVED to amend the motion** to ask the School Board to submit a list of their committee requests to the Chair and allow the Chair to bring forth the committee assignments at the next School Board Meeting. **SECOND: E. Jacod. DISCUSSION:** It was commented that the Board is making a mistake to think B. Faulkner is doing an ill attempt. The policy states to accept requests and the policy reflects the combined committees. Policy BDE was not updated on the web site. B. Faulkner would like to rotate the committees in 6 months. M. Blair does not feel this outline is an ill attempt. It is in line with the policy. He does not see how it is different. He would like to hear why. N. Mosher would agree with J. Carnie and have the members submit their requests. A single person to dictate and control is a lot of control. J. Carnie said the Board requests were based on qualification and interest. P. Bauries commented B. Faulkner took the new members and put them on 2 or 3 committees and she is only on 1 committee. L. Steadman would ask the Board to submit the requests to her and she will make the list. **MOTION: J. Smith MOVED** to end debate on the motion. **SECOND: B. Tatro. VOTE:** 8.718/4.282/0/0. **Motion passes. VOTE on the amendment:** 4.282/8.718/0/0. **Motion fails. MOTION: L. Steadman MOVED** to table the motion until the committee requests can be processed at this meeting. **SECOND: J. Smith. DISCUSSION** L. Steadman and J. Smith withdraw their motion. **MOTION: L. Steadman MOVED** to postpone the discussion on the motion until later in the meeting. **SECOND: B. Tatro. VOTE:** 10.047/2.953/0/0. **Motion passes.**

B. Faulkner called a recess of the MRSB Meeting to move into the SAU 93 Board Meeting.

MOTION: M. Blair MOVED to accept the revised committee assignment list as presented by B. Faulkner. **SECOND: B. Tatro. DISCUSSION: J. Carnie** stated P. Bauries and he asked to be on the Education Committee. **M. Blair and B. Tatro will take that as a friendly**

amendment. J. Carnie asked if the committees would be reviewed after 6 months. B. Faulkner said it was not in the motion but suggested. **M. Blair and B. Tatro would take that as a friendly amendment.** S. Peters would suggest a date of Sept 15, 2015 to review the committee assignments and to come back with new assignments as appropriate. **VOTE:** 12.243/0/.757/0. **Motion passes.** B. Mitchell likes the idea of all Board Members as alternates.

9b. District Goals and Board Operations: MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** to send the Operations guidelines presented by B. Faulkner to the Policy Committee along with Policy BDE for review. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 9.833/2.41/.757/0. **Motion passes.** J. Carnie would like a copy of the document B. Faulkner read it during the Committee Procedures and Restructure section of the meeting.

***Schedule work session for establishing goals and guidelines:** B. Faulkner would like to schedule a work session on March 31, 2015 at 7:00 PM. M. Blair would suggest the meeting be held in the Discovery Center.

9c. Other Old business as may come before the board: There is no other business to come before the Board.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

10a. Motions from Education & Policy Committee: There are no motions.

10b. Motions from Finance & Facilities Committee: There are no motions

10c. Action on the Manifest: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amounts of \$ 1,235,880.55. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.787/0/.214/0. **Motion passes.**

10d. Other New Business as may come before the Board: L. Steadman commented she had received the Education Matters the day of voting. She did not have time to read it. She asked for permission to get name tags for the new Board Members. There are no objections.

MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to endorse the vote of the District to keep the Gilsum STEAM Academy open for no less than 5 years. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman does not want to restrict STEAM to Gilsum. E. Jacod would like to remind the AD Hoc Committee not to forget the other elementary schools. B. Faulkner commented this is very encouraging but we cannot bind future boards. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to allow Mrs. Frazier's second grade class to travel to the NE Aquarium in May or June. **SECOND:** E. Jacod. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** to allow the ACES #93 Summer Program to travel to Battleship Cove in Fall River, Mass. on July 1, 2015 and to travel to the Stone Zoo in Stoneham, Mass on July 16, 2015. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

E. Jacod read his letter of resignation to the Board. He stated his reasons for leaving and commented on what is going on in the District. He commented on the Board politics and how it fractured the committee system. He would hope the Board would be able to provide a “great educational environment which, at this moment, seems to be slipping away.”

MOTION: P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept E. Jacod’s resignation from the School Board at the completion of the March 17, 2015 School Board Meeting. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: L. Steadman **MOVED** to replace E. Jacod on the Finance Committee with M. Blair and to replace E. Jacod on the Sports Committee with L. Steadman. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **VOTE:** 8.718/2.196/2.085/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** not to elect the Chair of the committees until the new Board Member is selected from Gilsum. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** B. Faulkner called the motion out of order. This is per policy. It will require a policy change. P. Bauries would overrule the Chair, not a valid argument and it is up to the committee. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to change the Finance/Facilities Committee Meeting from March 24, 2015 to April 14, 2015 at 6:00 PM. **SECOND:** J. Carnie. **VOTE:** 11.122/1.121/.757/0. **Motion passes.**

L. Carey informed the Board that the administration would support the calendar as submitted and leave the two week Christmas break. They will discuss changing the 2 workshop days in March to line up with the Keene schedule. The calendar will be on the next agenda.

J. Carnie commented on minutes for non-meetings. He believes there were decisions made and there were no minutes taken. B. Tatro commented the attorney said not to take minutes. This will be on the next agenda.

B. Tatro asked about the contact time with students in regards to the new Master schedule. L. Carey reported they have revamped the schedule and AP classes will meet every day.

11. SETTING NEXT MEETING’S AGENDA:

- 1. Calendar**
- 2. Revamp agenda**
- 3. Non-Meeting**
- 4. Web site**
- 5. Committee Meeting Minutes**
- 6. SRO numbers**

12. Public Comments: K. Wheeler asked if she would be able to attend the March 31, 2015 Meeting. The meeting is open to the public. She said she would have a letter from the Gilsum Select Board.

Alice Garrapy thanked the Board for the vote in favor of the contract even though not everyone supported it. She thanked the Board for putting it on the ballot. The morale at the school has risen. Thank you.

M. Divens thanked E. Jacod for his time on the Board as the Gilsum rep. She thanked the Board for the unanimous go ahead with the STEAM Academy.

D. Coffman asked the Board if they still receive the report from the SRO. B. Faulkner explained they do not receive the reports. The Board did not want time taken away from his job to prepare the reports. D. Coffman said the Board needs to know what he is working with. There is stuff happening. You need to see what is going on and where the majority of the students are. On a quarterly or a monthly basis you need to hear from the not so great side. There are people who are suffering because of what is going on. The School Board needs to inquire in order to have the safest delivery of education. They are not delivering education. They need more support because of what is happening. Ask for proof. L. Steadman would ask for an update on the SRO and Policy IHH Search of Students. L. Carey commented the search will happen but it is not publicized. To make it truly effective, no one has the date. L. Carey commented there is a lot of work to do. B. Mitchell would like to know how often the police are on the school grounds. P. Peterson would suggest a monthly report and hopefully see results.

M. Blair congratulated the DI teams. They are moving on to the States. It is a very successful program.

13. 10:36 PM Motion to enter into 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 . **SECOND:** M. Blair **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

14. 11:03 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: M. Blair **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:** P. Bauries **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

15. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 PM.

SECOND: P. Peterson **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary