

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**(Non-Approved Minutes)**  
**April 7, 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, Nicholas Mosher, Bob Mitchell and Ed Jacod. **Absent:** Scott Peters.

**Administration present:** K. Pfeifer, Interim Superintendent, L. Carey, Interim Assistant Superintendent, T. Kennett, Director of Student Services and J. Fortson, Business Manager.

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

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

B. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

- 1. Public Comments:** N. Moriarty mentioned he could do a report on the Superintendent Search but he will be leaving at 8:15 PM.

D. Cairns thanked the School Board for allowing the Band to go to Florida. The students are learning outside of the classrooms. Thanks you again.

Michelle Colbert President of the PTO for Mt. Caesar and Cutler is speaking on behalf of some parents. They have heard about bullying, gangs and assaults in the elementary schools and the high schools. She would like the Board to look into this. The staff needs more support. She asked the Board to put this issue on the next agenda.

The Board had a moment of silence for Paul Breckell. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to name the MSHS Gymnasium after Paul Breckell. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries asked if there is a name for the gym now. M. Blair said there is no name for the gym. Some of the fields in the District are named. He would like to name it after Paul for his great service to the District and countless hours in the gym. B. Faulkner would suggest sending this to the Sports Committee to review. M. Blair said he had a conversation with the AD and he is very much in favor of this action. W. Wright suggested putting it on the next agenda. He said it is not urgent but a nice gesture. **MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to postpone this issue until the next meeting on April 21, 2015. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

- 2. Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the March 17, 2015 School Board Meeting Minutes as amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 11.245/0/.757/.998. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the March 17, 2015, 10:36 PM School Board Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 10.124/0/1.878/.998. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the March 17, 2015, 11:03 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 11.245/0/.757/.998. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to postpone the approval of the March 31, 2015 Minutes until April 21, 2015. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

3. **Student Government Report:** L. Kalloger reported to the Board on behalf of K. Skrocki who in Florida. The Student Government planned and carried out the Spring Sports Pep Rally. The DI Teams were recognized. A. Solomonidis has been accepted to West Point. Other students have been accepted to Smith and UNH while others have applied to Yale and UCLA. The Good People Society has been meeting weekly in the Discovery Center. The Band is in Disney.
  4. **BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:** J. Fortson handed out the Adequacy Aid information from 2008-2016 to the Board as well as the MS22 breakdown. The GMR for the health insurance will increase 1 % in the fall and the Dental will increase 2 %. J. Fortson explained what affects the Adequacy Aid.
  5. **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** L. Carey does not have a report tonight.
  6. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**
    - 6a. **Website Update:** K. Pfeifer reported the committee has been at work and will be meeting tomorrow.
    - 6b. **Correspondence and Announcements:** The 3 DI Teams are asking for help to go to Tennessee for the Global Challenge. The Teams need to raise a total of \$11,465.00 and have raised \$3336.85 so far. They are asking the Board for support. It is part of education, problem solving and working together. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to give each team \$2,500.00 in order to participate in the Global Challenge in Tennessee and to have the Board purchase appropriate sweatshirts for the teams. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** K. Pfeifer asked members of the DI Teams who were in the audience to tell the Board what they will be doing in the competition. **VOTE:**12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.** The funds for the DI Teams will come from the School Board line in the budget.
- K. Pfeifer informed the Board Gilsum STEAM would like to hold a spring fundraiser in which they would bring items to Scrap-It. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to allow the Gilsum STEAM to hold their fundraiser. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.** K. Pfeifer continued to inform the Board about the upcoming fundraisers.

7. **BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** B. Faulkner welcomed K. Wheeler to the Board. B. Faulkner clarified his comment at the last meeting regarding the former Chair and Roberts Rules. B. Faulkner commented we will follow Roberts Rules where practical and reason for flexibility. Any Board policy is imposed by the Board. They are free to change it. We will follow Roberts Rules.

**Review of Superintendent Search:** J. Carnie commented this is an issue of the SAU not in a MRSB Meeting. B. Faulkner commented this Board needs to plan for next year and provide coverage for next year. We need to have a report from the committee. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to table this issue until the next SAU Meeting. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **VOTE:** 4.640/6.605/.757/.998. **Motion fails.** P. Bauries asked how the MRSB can take up an issue of the SAU. B. Faulkner is just asking for a report from the committee. J. Carnie will challenge the ruling. This deals with the fundamental rules of the committee and required a 2/3 vote. B. Faulkner commented it is in order. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to overrule the Chair. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman commented there are no motions being voted on. We are hearing a report. **VOTE:** 4.640/7.362/0/.998. **Motion fails.**

N. Moriarty would suggest stop having a separate SAU Meeting. There is no purpose. He reported the committee has had a very good response from the second ad, which will close on April 10, 2015. We have selected 5 candidates to look at with still more coming in. They have sent the 5 applicants to the SAU and the committee will plan on how to interview.

8. **SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**8a. Education & Policy:** M. Blair reported the committee met and reviewed a number of policies which will be brought up under motions. B. Faulkner would suggest this meeting introduce the policies and the next meeting to vote on the policies. He would like to take up the following policies at the next meeting: Policy IC/ICA School Year/School Calendar, Policy BEDC Quorum/Voting, Policy BDE Committee and Delegates and Policy BEA Regular Board Meetings. M. Blair commented he appreciates the policy that requires a review and then a motion at the following meeting but the Board has had two weeks to review. If there is no action for another two weeks that allows the Board four weeks to review is that much time needed. B. Faulkner said it could be brought up to change the policy. N. Mosher said he has not had the policies for 2 weeks. P. Bauries would like time to review the policies. She does not believe there are any policies that are of an emergency. The Board needs to research the policies and not rush into any motions. There is no reason to change the policy. B. Faulkner commented that question is not before us. J. Carnie commented most people would agree something that has been given a great deal of consideration should have time to review the changes.

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

**8c. Budget Committee:** There is no report.

**8d. Community Relations Committee:** M. Blair reported the committee met tonight prior to the Board Meeting. They asked what the mission of the CRC is. There were 6 members and a few from the public present. The mission is to convey from the Board to the public. How that

happens and how that should happen is an active conversation. The committee did not come up with any definite ideas. We will meet to figure out how to interface between the public.

**8e. Sports Committee:** The committee did not meet.

**8f. AD Hoc Committee on the STEAM Academy:** P. Bauries reported the application for the Public Conversion Charter School has been completed and submitted to the DOE as of April 1, 2015. She thanked Dr. Pfeifer, Dr. Carey, L. Reinhart and the committee for all their hard work. We are the first in the State. She would ask the Board to approve the application. B. Faulkner would ask the motion to come later in the meeting.

**8g. Cheshire Career Center:** There is no report.

**9. Old Business:**

**9a. Approval of the School District Calendar 2015-2016: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the MRSD 2015-2016 School Year Calendar as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** M. Blair commented part of the previous conversation on the calendar was around the holiday break. We thought they were keeping the 2 week break. K. Pfeifer said the goal is to try and align the calendar with the CCC and Keene. B. Faulkner commented L. Carey had previously presented the 2 week break. M. Blair commented the CCC has 100 students going from Monadnock and we have far more not going to the CCC. We are making a decision based on Keene and the CCC that affects only 10%-15% of the population. Not a wise thing. K. Wheeler asked why the two weeks are necessary. B. Faulkner commented the week prior to break is not very productive. W. Wright commented we have worked for 20 years to come close to the CCC and Keene has bent over backwards to complete. The two week break could cut the amount of students who want to go to the CCC. Hopefully a student will be able to go to the CCC and graduate from Keene some day. L. Steadman gave her reason for wanting the 2 weeks. She said she does not believe Keene asked us. We should have worked it out together. M. Blair is not saying the students are not important or do not count. The program is wonderful. Could the District allow the CCC students to attend Keene during the break? P. Bauries can understand both sides, we have come a long way with the CCC, make it a goal, insist on collaboration and start talks early. **VOTE:** 7.640/4.363/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

**9b. Approval 2015-2016 Board Schedule:** J. Carnie commented it has been past practice to have a meeting held in every town in the District. He would suggest a meeting in Roxbury. **MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the 2015-2016 Board Meeting Schedule as revised as follows: the November 17, 2015 Meeting will be held at the Roxbury Town Hall. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

**9c. Standing Committee Assignments: MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to nominate K. Wheeler for the Finance/Facilities Committee, Sports Committee and the STEAM AD Hoc Committee. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

**9d. Review of Superintendent Search Process**

**Assignment to send a representative to the committee:** B. Faulkner commented E. Jacod had been on the Superintendent Search Committee. There have been a number of people interest but he would like to appoint W. Wright. P. Bauries would love to do that but it should be under the SAU Meeting. It is not legal to do it here. We agree on having a special meeting. B. Faulkner commented these are appointments from the Board to the Search Committee. **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to have the MRSB recommend to the SAU Board the appointment of W. Wright to the Superintendent Search Committee and attend as an advisory member. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie said it is illegal. B. Faulkner called out of order on the illegal. J. Carnie said the correct procedure is to call an SAU Meeting within one week. W. Wright would like to find out if we have to belong to an SAU. **J. Carnie would like to add a friendly amendment to hold a SAU Meeting on April 13, 2015. VOTE:** 10.881/1.121/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

**9e. SSO Numbers:** B. Faulkner explained the Board is requesting information on what the SSO does on a daily basis, police incidents. L. Carey and R. Schafer had gathered that information. Essentially the police were called 110 times this year. They are called for disputes, to offer support, drug incidents and violence between students. J. Carnie asked if it was the local police or the State police. L. Carey said it is essentially the local police. She said there was a locker search with Keene in conjunction with local police and the State dog. Nothing was found from the search. L. Carey explained it is usually the same students who are involved in the incidents. We document every activity. L. Kalloger explained there is a problem with discipline. We have a skeleton crew. The police said we have to call if there is a dispute. We see the same 20 kids every day. It is very clear with only 1 principal and 1 vice principal and 900 students we need help. We have discipline issues. We have a core group. Look at the problem not the numbers. She said if we had more support possibly another vice principal, crisis personnel. We need more help to harness the situation. W. Wright commented on the numbers for the MS/HS but there are other schools that have concerns. What are the numbers for the other schools? J. Carnie commented the Board went through 2 years for the SSO. A lot of time was spent on this issue. If there is a problem after the hiring of the SSO he would question if the position is valuable to the District. It is an extremely political position in the District. If it is not working we need a report back. B. Faulkner would like to postpone the discussion until there are numbers from R. Schafer. B. Tatro commented there is a response to intervention and all students should be getting that. It was commented it is different because of cuts to guidance. B. Faulkner commented this is not the right forum allow the Finance and Education to have this discussion. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to recommend this issue to be placed on the Education Committee's agenda. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** It was asked if the high school has a safety committee. L. Kalloger commented there was a safety committee at one time. She has been trying to get a committee together. P. Peterson commented this is becoming an issue. L. Kalloger would say the Student Handbook is one issue. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

**9f. Other Old Business as may come before the Board:** J. Carnie asked to have an item on the agenda. He would like the issue of a non-meeting on the agenda. He would like to know issues regarding minutes, and decisions carried over from non-public to public. B. Faulkner said that would be a policy change. J. Carnie explained the RSA states what a non-

meeting is but nothing about the minutes. B. Faulkner said we need a new policy or a proposal for a policy.

#### **10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**10a. Action on the Manifest: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amounts of \$ 1,801,552.84. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

**10b. Approval Conversion Charter School Application: MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to approve the Gilsum Elementary STEAM Academy Conversion Charter School Application and along with the existing AD Hoc Committee to recommend a 7 member trustee standing committee at the time of application by the State and DOE. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries explained the School Board is ultimately the overseer but there needs to be a committee of the AD Hoc or trustee to do the daily work to report back to the School Board. She explained the application has been submitted to the DOE. B. Faulkner commented a standing committee is a new policy and should be taken up at the next meeting. K. Pfeifer suggested keeping the AD Hoc Committee but not a trustee. The Board discussed the topic of the 7 member trustees standing committee. M. Blair commented the Board had just received the application in the packet. We have a policy regarding a reading at one meeting and a vote at the next. Why have a process when the application has already been submitted. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to postpone this discussion until the next School Board Meeting. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman asked the recourse if we postpone the approval. P. Bauries said the Board already approved the application and it is going forward. She said there is a question on the policy but the Board does not have to approve tonight. We have done the best we can. It is still a District school the difference is the District is responsible for the school and the budget. J. Fortson asked in section r of the application where is the 2014-2015 budget. She commented she did not see a warrant for a vote for the Gilsum School to be a Charter School. She asked what was submitted to the State. P. Bauries commented J. Fortson should have a hard copy. The budget came off of the approved budget. J. Fortson commented she has not seen the revenues. B. Mitchell did not see the budget and is very uncomfortable approving this. K. Wheeler said there are no revenues because this is the first year. K. Pfeifer said he has the additional information electronically. **VOTE on motion to postpone:** 4.699/7.303/0/.998. **Motion fails. VOTE:** 8.424/1.121/2.456/.998. **Motion passes.**

**10c. Teacher Appreciation and Retirement Awards Evening: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to allow the Teacher Appreciation and Retirement Awards Evening to take place at Papagallos on May 4, 2015. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

#### **10d. Other New Business as may come before the Board:**

B. Tatro asked if the trustee part of the motion regarding the Charter School was still included. The secretary confirmed it was included in the motion. **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to reconsider the motion for the Charter School Application. **SECOND:** L. Steadman. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes. MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to approve the Charter School Application as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 8.424/2.243/1.335/.998. **Motion passes.**

J. Carnie commented on the information regarding students and the colleges they applied for which was in the Board packets. He felt this is a student privacy issue.

B. Tatro asked if the SAU could be an item on the agenda if needed. J. Carnie said as long as you do not mix and match the roles and responsibilities of the SAU staff, budget and when it was a multi-school district SAU the law required 3 meetings a year. We do not need a meeting every time. We have to hire teachers by April 15 but if there are any SAU hires that have to be done tonight. B. Faulkner commented joint meetings are allowed.

**11. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:**

- 1. Non-meeting**
- 2. RSA 91-A**
- 3. SSO related issues**
- 4. Quorum-policy**

**12. Public Comments:** M. Divens commented Conversion Charter Schools are not normally thought of as a standalone public school. We as an elementary school have a STEAM Program that the District and the State will support.

D. Cairns had a question on the calendar. The Board explained the elementary schools are on a trimester schedule and the MSHS is on a quarterly/semester schedule.

**13. 10:06 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. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie asked if the Board will be discussing MRSD employees. K. Pfeifer said yes. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

**14. 11:12 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee: MOTION:** J. Smith **MOVED** to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.002/0/0/.998. **Motion passes.**

**15. Public Session: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to seal the 10:06 PM April 7, 2015 Non-Public Meeting Minutes until June 30, 2015 and the 11:12 PM April 7, 2015 Non-Public Meeting Minutes until June 30, 2015. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 8.808/2.196/0/1.996. **Motion passes.**

**16. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 PM. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura L. Aivaliotis, Recording secretary