

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**(Approved Minutes)**  
**June 16, 2015**  
**Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

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

**Administration present:** K. Pfeifer, Interim Superintendent, L. Carey, Interim Assistant Superintendent 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:** D. Harty commented on the elimination of the school psychologist. She also mentioned there were two letters which were to be attached to the Board Minutes and were not. Regarding the elimination of the school psychologist she said no one asked the opinion of the staff. She would ask the Board to discuss the issue tonight. She also mentioned the fact the Education Committee was asked to discuss this issue and did not. B. Faulkner commented the committees set their own agenda.

Nicholas Owen commented on the elimination of an essential staff member, the school psychologist. He would agree with what D. Harty stated.

**2. Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the June 2, 2015 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** J. Smith **VOTE:** 9.910/0/2.120/.970. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the June 2, 2015 9:01 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to amend the June 2, 2015 9:01 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE on amendment:** 9.910/0/2.120/.970. **VOTE on amended motion:** 9.910/0/2.120/.970. **Motion passes.**

**3. Student Government Report:** There is no report.

**4. BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:** J. Fortson informed the Board T. Walsh will be attending the meeting to discuss Policy EFCA. She would like to ask three Board Members

to sign the manifest during the summer break. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to allow three Board Members to sign the manifest on behalf of the full Board during the summer break. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **VOTE:** 12.030/0/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

5. **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** There is no Assistant Superintendent Report.

**B. Faulkner recessed the meeting at 7:20 PM for a non-meeting with the Board's attorney.**

**The Board returned to the regular Board Meeting at 8:05.**

6. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

- 6a. **Correspondence and Announcements:** K. Pfeifer reported there was a great graduation ceremony and 109 seniors graduated. He thanked the staff and the outstanding students. He commented on the outstanding Baseball Team and all the athletes throughout the year.

7. **BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** B. Faulkner asked the Board to recognize Wayne Wyman a former Board Member who has passed away at the age of 91 in appreciation of his service. B. Faulkner attended graduation and thanked all the Board Members in attendance. The speakers were inspirational and K. Pfeifer spoke from the heart. They are a great group of kids.

**MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to add E. Stanley and D. Coffman to the School Safety and Discipline Committee. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 10.955/0/1.075/.970. **Motion passes.**

8. **SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 8a. **Budget Committee:** B. Mitchell reported the Budget Committee has not met. They have requested for a Budget Committee Member to sit on the Negotiating Team. It was commented this had been previously discussed with the Board's attorney.

- 8b. **Community Relations Committee:** M. Blair reported the committee met and discussed the mission and the role of the CRC, the avenue of information flow. The CRC is the liaison between the School Board and the public. They discussed a round table discussion with the staff and administration in Troy. They discussed how to be creative to get information out to the public. We need to have a point person that represents the voice of the Board. So far there have been 350 responses to the survey. The committee reviewed the organizational flow charts. There is a motion to bring to the Policy Committee on June 30, 2015.

- 8c. **Education and Technology Committee:** P. Bauries reported the committee met on June 9, 2015. There were three presenters. Marjorie Droppa from Early Child Development Awareness Birth – age 5. She would encourage a Board Member to sit on the Steering Committee. Veronica MacIntish from River Valley presented to the committee. She spoke of the Running Start Program and the fact that enrollment was down. They will be looking into that issue. L. Kalloger will be taking up the River Valley partnership A. Salzmann gave an end of the year evaluation on her position as a principal for both Emerson and Troy. She gave a power point presentation on the pros and cons. K. Pfeifer commented on a great graduation. L. Carey explained Summer School, the Enrichment Summer Program and the ACES Summer Program. The committee spoke about the website survey, the chrome books for the

6<sup>th</sup> grade and the request for the 12<sup>th</sup> grade to receive chrome books. S. Peters spoke of a secure email, documentation and storage. The committee would like to discuss this issue with the attorney. He also spoke about not being able to email the student he was mentoring during his Senior Project. They would like to explore the process..

**8d. Finance and Facilities Committee:** J. Carnie informed the Board there will be motions from the committee tonight. The committee had a long discussion on the lunch program. The committee discussed the use of surplus funds for last minute item or to return the funds to the taxpayers. D. LaPointe discussed upcoming renovations. There was lack of detail on the fields behind Mt. Caesar as well as lack of a proposal on the score board and equipment shed. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to readopt Policy EFCA School Lunch Payment Policy (prior to existing policy) and to send it to the Policy Committee. Ask the committee to list an alternative menu in the policy and ask the Policy Committee to “fast track the motion and bring forth to the full Board at the next meeting on July 14, 2015. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented he would like to waive the second read. J. Fortson commented the amount of money owed has tripled. T. Walsh commented it is due to the teeth taken out of the policy. T. Walsh commented we want to act before school begins. The motion is to have the Policy Committee address the policy. J. Carnie said the Finance Committee voted unanimously. This is a serious problem. The old policy was better. We will be able to address the problem. The unpaid balance is over \$24,000.00, three times more than last year. It was commented we need to act on this. We did not have an alternative meal. The problem is largely in the MS/HS. B. Tatro commented the new policy does not have consequences. J. Fortson said previously a student was not able to do extra-curricular activities with an unpaid lunch bill. **VOTE:** 12.030/0/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to move the amount of \$24,089.14 from the Food Service Supplement Budget line to cover the lunch debit. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented we have had this discussion for years. The current policy is not addressing the issue. These issues should be addressed as an educational class. **VOTE:** 10.955/0/1.075/.970. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to approve the request for up to \$9600.00 for the Troy Lighting and Sound System with the funds coming out of the surplus. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries commented the surplus should go back to the taxpayers. P. Peterson does support this motion because the students will use this all year. We should address this item for all the schools. B. Tatro suggested asking the PTO in Troy for financial support. She has a hard time saying yes when we said no to the psychologist. W. Wright said we should cover this but not necessarily out of the surplus. L. Steadman commented this should have been brought to the Board by the principal. J. Carnie said it is a budget item and should be in the budget. We will expect other schools to put it in their budgets. It is the principal’s obligation to put it in the budget. B. Mitchell is in favor of the motion. S. Peters commented the person who brought it to the committee did not know the process. J. Smith commented the system needs to be fixed now. **VOTE:** 8.712/3.18/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

M. Blair requested the use of the allocated funds for the upgrade of the score boards and the equipment shed. D. LaPointe said he did not have plans or specifics.

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to use \$160,000.00 from the surplus for the purpose of resurfacing the track. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **DISCUSSION:** J. Fortson explained the track and the chrome books were in the budget, removed by the Budget Committee and agreed to take it out of any surplus. **VOTE:** 10.908/1.121/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** on behalf of the Finance Committee to use \$35,000.00 from the surplus for the purpose of purchasing chrome books for the 2016 Senior Class. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.030/0/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

**8e. Policy Committee:** The Policy Committee has not met.

**8f. Sports Committee:** M. Blair reported the committee met and discussed the equipment shed and the scoreboards. He said he had discussed these issue with D. LaPointe and L. Patnode. The equipment shed will be worked on by the District staff. The electronic registration for the fall sports is up and running. There was a discussion regarding Monadnock being approached by the Conval Hockey Booster Club. The committee would like to contact the Monadnock Hockey Booster Club first. The Monadnock Football Team would like to establish a Thanksgiving Day Turkey Bowl against Fall Mt. The game will be at Fall Mt. this year and alternate each year. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to allow the Monadnock Football Team to hold an annual Thanksgiving Day Turkey Bowl against Fall Mt. the game will be at Fall Mt. this year and alternate each year. **SECOND:** B. Tatro **DISCUSSION:** W. Wright asked the cost. J. Fortson said it would be for bussing. When the game is at Monadnock the staff is mostly volunteers. There will be a charge for the officials. The funds for the games are usually designated to a charity. **VOTE:** 11.032/0/.998/.970. **Motion passes.** The AD met with the elementary school students and discussed the MS sports with the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. It was well received.

M. Blair reported on the 2014-2015 sports seasons. He said 9 teams went to the playoffs and there were 2 championship teams. The Boys High School Baseball Team was State Runner up and there were many all stars.

**8g. Ad HOC STEAM:** P. Bauries presented each member with the final report from the STEAM Ad Hoc Committee. She said the committee was formed by a vote of the Board. The STEAM Academy was to enroll 40 students K-6. There are 40 students with more applications coming in. The committee asked, why does Monadnock want STEAM. P. Bauries said to ensure the future success of our students. STEM and STEAM are the wave of the future. It is hands on technology. It is critical thinking. There recommendation is to expand STEAM to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The recommendation is for a smooth transition from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> and to STEM in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. B. Tatro asked if the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers have been approved. The recommendation is to expand STEAM throughout the District. She reported the Conversion Charter School request to the State has been unapproved. The committee has resubmitted the request. STEAM is the wave of the future. We need to educate to be more

successful. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** on behalf of the STEAM Ad Hoc Committee to expand the STEAM concept to the other 5<sup>th</sup> grades in the District. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries would ask K. Pfeifer to put on his agenda to speak to the A Team and to bring this to the teachers for discussion. K. Pfeifer would like to wait for the Troy/Emerson principal. E. White asked if it will begin in the 2015-2016 school year. P. Bauries said no. E. White asked why put the cart before the horse. L. Steadman commented the specials would increase in the STEAM classrooms and the other students in the district would get less than they do now. **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to table the motion until the Board has all the information. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **VOTE:** 5.361/6.669/0/.970. **Motion fails.** B. Mitchell asked how many hours of STEAM training did the teachers receive. P. Bauries explained the District does not provide training. The staff taught themselves, they used professional development. There was a little help from the community. It was asked who will train the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. P. Bauries said if the Board supports the recommendation the District will provide training. M. Diven said KSC would send student teachers to help train. It is fairly inexpensive by using the colleges. J. Fortson explained the teachers had training and received a stipend. The District applied for a \$150,000.00 grant which cannot be used to supplement the budget. M. Diven said they were denied the grant. L. Steadman stated we have a lot of time to discuss. We need to discuss this in the budget. We do not know the cost. P. Bauries said there is a plan in place the recommendation is for Sept. 2016. D. Hardy commented to supervise a student teacher takes a lot of time. B. Mitchell has not had the opportunity to read the report and could not vote on it tonight. It is premature to vote on it tonight. Is the population up or down? P. Bauries said there are applications but it has not increased. J. Fortson stated you can do STEM in any room it is a concept. Not a big cost. B. Tatro stated student teachers are a lot of work. She would prefer a graduate student. She would like to expand the specials. It was explained the district has invested \$11,000.00 in technology in order for the teachers to be trained for STEM. Jeremy will train next year. It will be open to all teachers. It was also explained Gilsum has been receiving a lot more time for the specials. The Education Committee will have a presentation from L. Carey on Tuesday regarding the specials in the District. **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to amend the motion to continue the STEAM Ad Hoc Committee and encourage the administration to build a pilot in one of the other schools. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** S. Peters commented on the cuts in staff and asked how the program will be handled in one school. L. Steadman suggested offering a traditional class as well. M. Blair commented it is not a new concept. We all support the concept but he would hesitate to vote on a motion. He does not see a rush. P. Bauries stated you support the program but do not want to vote on it. N. Owen said the Board does not have enough information to make a decision. **S. Peters and B. Tatro withdraw their motion.** J. Carnie would like to see the Board take action. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to amend the motion and recommend directing the administrative team to move the STEAM concept to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade throughout the MRSD for the 2016-2017 school year. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **VOTE:** 12.030/0/0/.970. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** on behalf of the STEAM Ad Hoc Committee to recommend to the full Board the continuation of the STEAM Ad Hoc Committee through the 2015-2016 school year. **SECOND:** M. Blair. **DISCUSSION:** B. Mitchell commented it should continue with the administration and the Education Committee not the AD Hoc. L. Steadman said we need an Ad Hoc because there is not enough time in the Education Committee. B. Tatro commented this committee brings things together and gets things done. J. Carnie commented this has

been a very successful committee. The Education Committee would be tied up with this single issue. **VOTE: 10.908/1.121/0/.970. Motion passes.**

**8h. School Safety and Discipline Committee:** J. Smith reported the committee reviewed the job description of the SSO. The committee would like to reinvestigate hiring a SRO. The next meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2015 at 6:30 PM. It was suggested to propose the name of the committee to be the School Safety and Discipline Ad Hoc Committee. P. Peterson thought that was the title. J. Smith commented the discipline is the day to day role of the administration. If the policies and procedures are not being done we should challenge. J. Carnie commented the committee was created in relationship to the SSO and SRO position. It was commented we need to know how the administration deals with discipline. L. Steadman read the minutes. It states an Ad Hoc Committee for School Safety and Discipline. It stated discipline. B. Mitchell commented staffing issues are discipline issues and safety issues. B. Tatro commented it is our responsibility to set policy. J. Carnie commented it is the Board's job to make policy and make sure the policy is enforced. The problem would be implementing the policy. J. Carnie commented he has heard from at least 5 people about discipline.

It was asked if the position for the SSO was advertised. K. Pfeifer said it was on School Spring.

**9. Old Business:**

**9a. Other Old Business as may come before the Board.**

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**10a. Action on the Manifest: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amounts of \$ 1,227,428.07. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 12.030/0/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

**10b. Other New Business as may come before the Board: MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to appoint B. Tatro to the Impact Monadnock Steering Committee. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **VOTE:** 10.955/0/1.075/.970. **Motion passes.**

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

**1. Policy EFCA**

**12. Public Comments:** E. White commented on the psychologist and the contracted services discussed. The SSO and the SRO is a serious problem. She started to discuss a personnel issue and B. Faulkner said it should be discussed in non-public. J. Carnie commented the person in question should have the opportunity to be present in non-public. B. Mitchell commented it is important to have the details. B. Faulkner will ask the administration but we cannot air it in a public session. E. White asked if the school psychologist will be on the next Education Committee agenda. B. Faulkner said each committee makes their own agenda.

M. Diven commented the SSO position advertisement is not on School Spring. J. Fortson explained the job description needs to be corrected.

**MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to have the School Board purchase jackets for the Girl's Championship Track Team. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 10.908/0/1.121/.970. **Motion passes.**

**B. Faulkner called a recess to conduct the SAU 93 Board Meeting at 10:59 PM.**

**The Board returned to the MRSB Meeting at 11:24 PM.**

**13. 11:24 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) Hiring of a Public Employee. **SECOND:** M. Blair **VOTE:** 12.030/0/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

**14. 11:40 PM Motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **VOTE:** 12.030/0/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

**15. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 PM **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 12.030/0/0/.970. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary