

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**(Non-Approved Minutes)**  
**June 2, 2015**  
**YMCA Camp Takodah, Putnam Art Center, Richmond, NH**

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

**Administration present:** K. Pfeifer, Interim Superintendent, L. Carey, Interim 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:** M. Diven of Swanzey said she was told there are no funds to pay the principal at the Gilsum School this summer. She said that brings up a problem for the STEAM Academy and Gilsum. The program would like to grow but without an administrator there is no one there to interview the new students. She will also be writing grants for the program over the summer. She asked why this issue was not brought to the attention of the Board. She would like to have someone rescind the decision or overturn it. They need the administrator over the summer. K. Pfeifer said the Board cannot discuss personnel in public session.

**2. Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the May 19, 2015 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the May 19, 2015 11:43 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the May 19/20, 2015 12.01AM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 9.759/0/1.121/2.119. **Motion passes.**

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

**4. BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:** J. Fortson reported there is no Business Manager’s Report.

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

6. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

**6a. Correspondence and Announcements:** K. Pfeifer informed the Board they had received a thank you letter from the second graders who attended The NE Aquarium. Gerry Kuhn has received the DI National Award. The monthly calendar has been handed out to the Board.

7. **BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** B. Faulkner reported he had received the letter from the second grade. B. Faulkner informed the Board on the set up for the Principal Search Committee. The committee will consist of 11 people. L. Carey will be a non-voting member on the committee, 1 School Board Member from Troy, 1 School Board Member from Fitzwilliam, 2 teachers from Troy, 2 teachers from Fitzwilliam, 1 paraprofessional from Troy, 1 paraprofessional from Fitzwilliam, 1 parent from Troy, Lori Stevens and Chair Molly Lynn. L. Carey explained she has sent out 500 questions to Molly to review. The committee will review the applications and questions. The committee will begin tomorrow. There are some viable candidates.

B. Faulkner has named the members on the Ad Hoc School Safety Committee. There will be 1 member from each town as well as others as follows: N. Mosher, K. Wheeler, W. Wright, S. Peters, J. Carnie, K. Pfeifer, N. Richardson and R. Schafer. B. Faulkner informed the Board he has asked two other people to be on the committee but has not heard yet. S. Peters suggested adding members from the elementary schools. B. Faulkner explained the purpose of the committee is to come up with ideas, members can be added. **MOTION:** J. Smith **MOVED** to accept the list of members as presented by B. Faulkner for the School Safety Ad Hoc committee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.** B. Faulkner would ask J. Smith to set up the meeting place and time.

8. **SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**8a. Budget Committee:** B. Mitchell reported the Budget Committee met on May 26, 2015. D. Coffman presented information on the student enrollment and staff over a 10 year period. The information was very interesting and will be shared when the committee has the final numbers. The committee discussed the spread sheets on negotiated contracts presented by J. Fortson. The committee has asked to have a Budget Committee Member sit on the negotiating committee. B. Faulkner commented we have been advised by the attorney regarding this issue. This is an issue for non-public.

**8b. Community Relations Committee:** The committee has not met but will be meeting tomorrow. K. Pfeifer is concerned because he will be attending an Awards Assembly at that time and will not be able to attend both. S. Peters will discuss the time later when M. Blair joins the meeting. N. Mosher is very interested in seeing the organizational charts. P. Bauries is also concerned. P. Bauries commented the sign in the front of the school is not being used to its full capacity. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to refer the sign issue to the CRC. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** N. Richardson explained the sign needs to be repaired. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**8c. Education and Technology Committee:** The committee is scheduled to meet on June 9, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

**8d. Finance and Facilities Committee:** J. Carnie informed the Board the committee met on May 26, 2015. There are three motions coming to the Board tonight. There was a proposal for a sound and light system for the Troy Multi-purpose Room. The committee reviewed the Monthly Expense Report, discussed Catastrophic aid, and the Medicaid situation. He explained the parents are not returning the needed information in order to bill Medicaid. The committee discussed the request to use the gym for voting, request from Planet Aid and the discussion on the fields behind Mt. Caesar will be discussed at the next meeting. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to instruct the Superintendent to respond to the Town of Swanzey's request to utilize the MRMS/HS as a voting location for all future voting as; the committee is uncomfortable with voting while school is in session. The MRSD calendar has been set for the 2015-2016 year, however we would entertain a discussion for future voting dates after July 2016 to allow voting in the school. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries commented we want to be good neighbors but at this time she finds it disturbing to disrupt the school day. She is upset one person versus the betterment of the community. It is a safety issue. B. Faulkner commented the selectmen are responding to a letter. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to approve the Bird Sanctuary Proposal presented by Jennie Calnan and the Middle High School Students, with an appropriation of up to \$984.85 to complete the project. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** A copy of the proposal was in the Board packet. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to approve placing a "Planet Aid" recycling container at the MRMS/HS campus outside location. The thought is to locate it at the far end of the student parking lot. Planet Aid will pay \$.05 per pound for the donations. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** K. Wheeler would suggest the funds go to a PTO. B. Faulkner explained any money goes to the general fund. W. Wright would suggest dedicating the funds to Project Graduation each year. B. Mitchell would ask if Planet Aid is a true charity or business. J. Fortson explained you need to contact Project Graduation, they have their own identity. **MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to amend the motion to donate the funds to Project Graduation. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE on amendment:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**8e. Policy Committee:** B. Faulkner reported the committee met and this is a second reading for the 2 policies. Policy BBBH-R is a second reading. We are now a single district and the policy has been changed to reflect that. K. Pfeifer explained other changes were to align with State law. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to table Policy BBBH-R. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented when Policy BBBH-R comes back it will be the first reading. **P. Peterson and K. Wheeler will withdraw their motion.** **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to refer Policy BBBH-R back to the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

P. Bauries explained the changes in the Policy JLCF Wellness Policy are highlighted in yellow. The MRSD has used this policy for years and has never approved it. T. Walsh asked the committee to present to the Board. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to approve Policy JLCF as presented by the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** It is stated sweets and soda cannot be used as an award or punishment. It was commented on the fact recess may be taken away as a punishment. K. Pfeifer commented recess is taken away all the time. It is done when someone will be hurt or will hurt others. **VOTE:** 8.471/1.075/1.335/2.119. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to send this issue to the newly appointed Ad Hoc Safety Committee and place this on their agenda. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** It was suggested to have T. Walsh attend the meeting. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**8f. Sports Committee:** The Sports Committee has not met. They are scheduled to meet on June 16, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

**8g. Ad HOC STEAM:** P. Bauries reported the committee has not met. They will meet tomorrow to draft the final report to submit to the Board at the next meeting.

## **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 \$ 1,851,749.90. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**10b. Other New Business as may come before the Board:** P. Bauries heard that the teachers are working in a work to rule situation. It was commented when we go into a non-meeting we need to discuss this. B. Faulkner explained work to rule is only what is absolutely required in the contracts. He also said there is no formal action. K. Pfeifer said it is a contract issue and should be discussed in non-public.

**MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to rescind the decision of the administration regarding the assignments. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** K. Pfeifer would suggest tabling this issue until the full issue can be discussed. You cannot speak in public regarding personnel. B. Faulkner commented per policy we need to have advanced notice and a discussion. K. Pfeifer commented it is very dangerous to speak in public session. There is more to it. P. Bauries suggested the Ad Hoc STEAM Committee take up this issue. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to amend the motion and refer it to the Ad Hoc STEAM Committee. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **DISCUSSION:** B. Faulkner commented this is not consistent with Board policy. J. Carnie said the motion is not clear on what the situation is. Is it a personnel issue or a budget issue? B. Tatro the intent is to get the funds back to pay for the administrator and fully staff the specials. J. Carnie asked how the Ad Hoc can discuss these issues. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to table the entire issue. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 5.236/3.571/2.073/2.119. **Motion passes.**

N. Mosher asked about creating an expendable trust to hire staff if there is a need. J. Carnie would hope we do not go there. N. Mosher said we have a situation, we cut and it did not work. B. Mitchell would support this. The cuts in staff were too deep. We have had issues with administration, specials and guidance. B. Faulkner would suggest a proposal to the Board. B. Tatro commented the cuts were made after the budget was passed.

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

**1. STEAM Ad Hoc**

**12. Public Comments:** Nicholas a parent of two Autistic children is asking to make sure there is an Autism Specialist in Mt. Caesar. T. Kennett explained there are two outside agencies that will fill the role.

M. Diven is concerned about the Board finding out about the Gilsum principal after the decision had been made. She is concerned the specials are being cut when they are trying to build the STEAM program.

Carol of Swanzey would encourage the specials to be equal across the District.

**MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to ask the Education/Technology Committee to look at the shared resources across the District. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 5.691/1.878/3.311/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**B. Faulkner called a recess for the SAU 93 Board Meeting at 8:45 PM.**

**The Board returned to the MRSB Meeting at 9:00 PM.**

**13. 9:00 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:** B. Mitchell **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. **VOTE:** 9.806/0/1.075/2.119. **Motion passes.**

**14. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 PM **SECOND:** B. Mitchell **VOTE:** 10.881/0/0/2.1178 **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary