

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
(Approved Minutes)
April 21, 2015
Emerson Elementary School, Fitzwilliam, NH

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

Administration present: K. Pfeifer, Interim Superintendent and L. Heath.

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: E. White a parent and Troy Budget Committee Representative commented on the issue of the psychologist being RIF. She said there are only 2 psychologists in the entire District. They are required by law to attend IEP Special Ed. Meetings. This cut was not discussed during the budget process. The guidance counselor cannot substitute for a psychologist. The roles are not interchangeable. Look at the legal description of the two positions. We have significant discipline problems in the District. She continued to describe the qualifications of each position. She is not in favor of this cut.

M. Devons commented on the previous meetings of the Board. The Board members talked over each other and commented on each other. She would ask the Board to act like adults like we ask our children to do. Try to come together and work as a team. This is not healthy. She does not want students to see adults acting badly.

Sharon Wilson explained she wrote a letter to the Board asking them to rescind her retirement. She would ask the Board to look at the letter and the circumstances. She feels she should be allowed to continue to teach. B. Faulkner explained this is a non-public issue which the Board will take up tonight.

N. Moriarty commented on the article in the Sentinel. He said there is a problem at the MS/HS with discipline. T. Stewart just left the District and the problems were not there when he was in the school. T. Stewart is an asset to the District.

M. Garrett of Swanzey would support the Board rescinding Sharon Wilson’s letter of retirement. She is an excellent teacher and very giving to the students.

L. Cloutier and the DI Team thanked the Board for their contribution to allow the DI Teams to go Tennessee. The team presented the Board with cupcakes and thank you cards.

M. Blair congratulated the DI Teams and wished them luck in Tennessee.

2. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to accept the April 7, 2015 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** P. Peterson **VOTE:** 11.004/0/0.998/0. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to postpone approving the April 7, 2015 Sealed Non-Public Meeting Minutes until later in the meeting. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

3. Student Government Report: There is no report.

B. Faulkner called a recess at 7:10 PM to enter into a SAU 93 Board Meeting.

MOTION: P. Bauries **MOVED** to recess the SAU Board Meeting at 7:24 PM. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

The Board returned to the MRSD School Board Meeting at 7:25 PM.

4. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: The Monthly Expense Report is in the Board packet. J. Fortson is not present at this meeting.

5. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: L. Carey is not present and does not have a report tonight.

6. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

6a. Website Update: K. Pfeifer reported the committee will meet next week. They will be discussing the school organizational chart and the delivery to the web site coordinator. The software program we use will need to be evaluated and to look at other software.

6b. Correspondence and Announcements: K. Pfeifer listed the fund raisers going on in the District. The fund raisers are as follows: Cutler/MTC PTO Yankee Candle fund raiser, Huskies Relay Team selling items at games and at lunch, Cutler 4th grade provide fun activity afternoon, ACES 93 Annual Carnival, Gilsum STEAM clothing per pound, Pizza Night and E-Waste recycle.

K. Pfeifer asked the policy on paying for the American School Correspondence Courses and Virtual School. N. Moriarty commented that is a Finance or Education issue. P. Peterson asked if they were approved. She thought they were approved individually. J. Carnie asked if we had denied any. K. Pfeifer said yes. P. Peterson would like this issue to go to the Education Committee to review. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to send the issue of the American School Correspondence Courses and Virtual School to the Education Committee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Smith commented the initial process reimbursement for the virtual academy might have gone by.

K. Pfeifer informed the Board T. Kennett is requesting a day pilot at Mt. Caesar. There have been viable results with the extended day program. This is funded by Special Education and Title One for next year. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to accept the request from T. Kennett for the pilot program at Mt. Caesar. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.879/0/1.121/0. **Motion passes.**

T. Kennett has a request to move a teacher and a paraprofessional to Troy. The Board discussed the issue and would like to send this issue to the Education Committee. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to refer this issue to the Education Committee. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

The Swamp Bats representative will introduce the Reading for Ribby Program at an assembly at Emerson on May 1, 2015.

“Read to Dog” presentation will take place at the Town Library.

The MRMS is planning a trip to the Museum of Science and Quincy Market. The MRHS AP Studio Art and Intermediate Art students are planning a trip to the Brattleboro Museum in Brattleboro VT and the Wadsworth Athneum Museum in Hartford Conn. The DI Teams will travel to Tennessee on May 18, 2015. We wish them well. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to approve all out of state field trips as presented. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

The Gilsum STEAM Academy has been given a scholarship to attend an upcoming performance at The Colonial Theater.

7. **BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** B. Faulkner apologized for the number of action items that were not on the agenda. He will take action on them under committee reports. B. Faulkner commented as a Board it is better to be known for what we do.

8. **SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

8a. Education & Technology: M. Blair started to give the report. There was an objection. B. Faulkner informed the Board the committee did not select a Chair due to a 3-3 vote. J. Carnie commented it was a weighted vote. B. Faulkner would accept the report from M. Blair. J. Carnie commented based on what. B. Faulkner commented that is the rule. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to overrule the Chair. **SECOND:** J. Carnie. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries quoted Policy BDE and stated the committee went with a weighted vote but there was no one there to figure out the vote. The committee decided to figure it out at the end of the meeting. It was asked to have the Chair of the School Board to declare P. Bauries the Chair of the committee. J. Carnie commented the Board needs to grow up and not spend all this time. The vote was very clear. It was commented M. Blair ran the entire meeting. **VOTE:** 4.426/8.574/0/0. **Motion fails.**

M. Blair reported the committee met on April 14, 2015. He was appointed Chair by a split vote and 1 abstained. J. Carnie commented the minutes from that meeting were not approved.

M. Blair reported the committee discussed the website development and management. N. Richardson was in attendance. They discussed an organizational flowchart and the Chain of Command. They would like the CRC to take up the issue of the organizational flow chart. The committee discussed the unexpended fund balance to supply chrome books for the 11-12 grades, the breakage of the chrome books, the 1000 books in existence and 4 being destroyed. The IT Staff have been doing the repairs. The GPS will be looking at the Student Handbook. The following motion was submitted to the Education Committee. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to bring to the full Board the establishment of a .6 assistant principal position at the MRMS and to establish a .4 position as the ELO Coordinator and developer as approved by the Education Committee. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher explained he abstained from the motion at the committee meeting. K. Wheeler commented there is a need for an organizational flow chart. **MOTION:** K. Wheeler **MOVED** to table the motion. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **VOTE:** 4.121/8.879/0/0. **Motion fails.** L. Steadman commented she would trust what took place in the committee. N. Mosher said he did not feel enough was said. The committee took 6 minutes to discuss this issue. J. Smith asked if .6 was enough. K. Pfeifer commented his office is always open to discuss issues. He said he had enough money for the .6 and .4. This is a step to make the building safer. He said L. Kalloger spoke to the issue at the committee meeting. R. Schafer is doing his all to discipline. We had the police here 139 times. We let this position go and we need to get it back to work with the staff and students to ensure safety. B. Tatro asked if there was another way to address the ELO. K. Pfeifer said this is what he can do. Take a positive step. We all want a safer school. We need to help with the drug and alcohol issues. S. Peters commented the cuts were too deep. R. Schafer was the part time AD. There will be a lot more discussions on this theme. We are helping K. Pfeifer with this issue. P. Peterson said it is a good issue but we need to reassess this. The administration and the parents have said we have an issue. We need to get something to them to make it safer for the teachers and students. E. White asked how a .6 or .4 will be able to address the suicide issues. B. Mitchell commented L. Kalloger and R. Schafer are overwhelmed. We should approve this and revisit it if we need more. L. Steadman commented it will be effective on July 1, 2015. N. Mosher asked if it is the best option with the safety issues. K. Pfeifer said we will continually assess the data. We need to allow the administration to give feedback. K. Wheeler asked if we should have more time. B. Tatro asked if the 10,000 mentors can help. K. Pfeifer said this is a start. J. Carnie commented the Education Committee looked at this issue and had an administration recommendation. We have new members and he would like to send this back to the Education Committee. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to send this issue back to the Education Committee to review and bring it back to the Board at the next meeting. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **VOTE:** 11.879/1.121/0/0. **Motion passes.**

K. Pfeifer would suggest adding language in regards to a tie breaker and the weighted vote. He would suggest this issue be a change in policy and go to the Policy Committee. **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to send this issue to the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** B. Mitchell. **DISCUSSION:** M. Blair stated Policy BBBH-R refers to SAU 38 and has not been updated in sometime. We do not currently have that in place. P. Bauries asked to declare that she is the Chair of the Education Committee based on the weighted vote. B. Faulkner commented it is Board Policy to declare the Chair in the Education Committee. P. Bauries commented we have a policy and we work with the weighted vote. B. Faulkner commented

that P. Bauries shouting was unacceptable and an embarrassment to the Board. J. Carnie commented on the self declaring judgments. He asked if this was asked to go before the attorney. B. Faulkner said no, he is not aware of the request. J. Carnie stated the Deliberative Session of 2000 voted to use the weighted vote. It was commented the issue is how to address this in any vote and which policies it impacts. P. Bauries commented we had a weighted vote. B. Faulkner said to let M. Blair continue with his report. P. Bauries said if you go down this path she will have to do whatever means possible. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.** M. Blair continued to do the Education Report and said the Math Curriculum presented at the March 31, 2015 Meeting will be discussed at the next meeting. J. Carnie commented regarding the vote of the Education Committee. He said it was not on the side that won that called the weighted vote. We currently have by State and District standing orders and rules.

8b. Finance/Facilities: J. Carnie was named Chair of the Finance and Facilities. There are three motions from the committee. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to accept the proposal from H. L. Turner for the Architectural Design work at Mt. Caesar in the amount of \$25,400.00 and to bring it to the full Board. The committee would ask the Board to waive the three bid requirement. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher said there is a reason for a 3 bid policy which exists. He asked if it is normal to waive the three bid process. D. LaPointe explained the district has been working with H. L. Turner and W. V. Engineering for years and the District has been saving money working with them. They are great people to work with. **VOTE:** 12.787/0.214/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** to hire W. V. Engineering to do the electrical and mechanical work for the Mt. Caesar project in the amount of \$22,200.00 and to bring to the full Board for consideration. The committee would ask the Board to waive the three bid requirement for this project. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented some of the situations have been ongoing. This is like an extension. A matter of understanding, we have been dealing with these people and have confidence in them. N. Mosher commented it is best to have multiple options. L. Steadman commented one other bid received was higher. **VOTE:** 12.787/0.214/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** to hire W. V. Engineering to complete the engineering design for the underground piping for the Troy and Emerson projects in the amount of \$5600.00 and to bring it to the full Board for consideration. Two bids were received and the committee would ask the Board to waive the three bid requirement. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** D. LaPointe explained this project is to replace the tanks and to do the re-piping at both Emerson and Troy. **VOTE:** 12.787/0.214/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$2500.00 from library supply to equipment to purchase new books at the MRMHS. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$2393.00 from the Math and Reading budget lines to purchase furniture at Emerson. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** It was asked why the Board is seeing the transfers when we do not approve line by line in the budget. J. Carnie explained. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: J. Carnie **MOVED** to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$7000.00 from the book line to the furniture line to purchase tables for Mt. Caesar. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

B. Faulkner called for a 5 minutes break at 9:05 PM.

8c. Budget Committee: There is no report.

8d. Community Relations Committee: There is no report.

8e. Sports Committee: The committee met and appointed M. Blair chair of the committee. M. Blair thanked L. Patnode for the snow removal on the fields which would allow teams to practice. The trees were removed by the field hockey field to allow track and field events which will allow Monadnock to host a State Championship competition. The online athletic forms are up and running. They discussed a need for a better location for the soccer and lacrosse. They discussed a proposal behind Mt. Caesar. They discussed a proposal for an administrative assistant, Part time AD, organizational chart and a web site management. They discussed if the AD should be full or part time. They discussed the Student Handbook which conflicts with the Athletic Handbook. They also discussed 8th graders participating in high school sports. The next meeting is on May 19, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

8f. Policy Committee: M. Blair reported the committee did not meet but will bring the motions reviewed at the last meeting to a vote tonight. **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to accept Policy IC/ICA School Year/School Calendar as amended. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to accept Policy BEDC-Quorum/Voting as amended. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries asked why the committee added the word "voting" to the policy. M. Blair explained to deal with abstain, recusal or a walk out. B. Faulkner explained the three paragraphs are consistent. N. Mosher would like to wait to vote on the motions until later in the meeting. **MOTION** N. Mosher **MOVED** to postpone the motion until after item 12 on the agenda. **SECOND:** J. Carnie. **VOTE:** 8.521/3.358/1.121/0. **Motion passes.**

8g. Ad HOC STEAM: P. Bauries reported the committee has not met. They will meet on May 5, 2015 to continue to discuss the expansion of STEAM throughout the district. They are waiting to hear from the State about appearing before the State regarding the application.

9. Old Business:

9a. RSA 91-A Non-Meeting: J. Carnie commented the Board needs to have some form of accounting in the non-meeting during discussion with the attorney or negotiations. We do have minutes in a regular negotiations meeting. It is imperative. We have a few situations from the non-meeting because we do not have minutes. We need to have some means possibly record the meetings. He would like to see the Board come up with a means of accounting. B. Faulkner commented it is appropriate to have the policy committee take up

this issue. J. Carnie does not see it as a policy issue. The statute is clear. He said if we have a non-meeting with the attorney ask him to take notes. He would like the Board to run this by the attorney. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to refer the record keeping of a non-meeting to the attorney. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** M. Blair feels this is a waste of money. **VOTE:** 7.516/5.484/0/0. **Motion passes.**

9b. Request to rename MRMHS Gymnasium after Paul Joseph Breckell: **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to name the MRMHS gymnasium after Paul Joseph Breckell. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman asked if the Sports Committee reviewed this. M. Blair said no. W. Wright would like to wait for the Sports Committee to review and allow the family to be contacted. **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to amend to allow the Board to vote on the motion and then refer it to the Sports Committee. **There was no Second.** **MOTION:** P. Peterson **MOVED** to refer entire matter to the Sports Committee and to report back to the Board later. **SECOND:** W Wright. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries asked how you can change the entire motion. N. Mosher asked for additional information on Paul Joseph Breckell. **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

9c. Other Old Business as may come before the Board: **MOTION:** M. Blair **MOVED** to ask the full Board to elect the Chair of the Education/Technology Committee. **SECOND:** S. Peters. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries said that is illegal. It is not in the policy. It should be voted on in the committee not by the full Board. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to overrule the Chair. **SECOND:** The motion fails for lack of second. B. Faulkner stated the motion was in order. Board Members can make motions. Policy BGF Suspension of Policy was referred to. M. Blair stated we do not have the ability to change policy. B. Faulkner commented it calls for a unanimous vote. **M. Blair withdraws his motion.**

10. NEW BUSINESS:

10a. Action on the Manifest: **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to accept the manifest in the amounts of \$ 1,211,742.89. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** The new members asked for the manifest process to be explained. P. Bauries explained the manifest is sent out electronically before each meeting. S. Peters would like J. Fortson to review the accounts, vendors and descriptions. K. Pfeifer explained this is done during the budget process. **VOTE:** 11.665/0/1.335/0. **Motion passes.**

10b. Other New Business as may come before the Board: B. Tatro would like to know K. Craig's duties.

S. Peters asked about paraprofessionals making up snow days. K. Pfeifer explained they can be made up during professional development opportunities.

B. Mitchell asked if the MS/HS has department heads. He would like the Education/Technology Committee to look at this. K. Pfeifer explained L. Kalloger is working on the new proposal for next year. He would like to hear from her first.

N. Mosher would like information on the organizational flow chart. K. Pfeifer would invite N. Mosher to come to his office and discuss this issue.

11. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

12. Public Comments:

13. Policy BEDC Quorum/Voting: MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to accept Policy BEDS Quorum/Voting as amended. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie commented if there is a conflict of interest they should recuse. He would rather see paragraph 5 corrected. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to amend the motion and send Policy BEDC-Quorum/Voting back to the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** P. Bauries. **VOTE:** 9.636/2.243/1.121/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to approve Policy BEA Regular Board Meetings as amended. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to amend the motion and change the 5th paragraph to read as follows: A membership of the Board comprising greater than 50% of the total weighted vote of the Board. **SECOND:** S. Peters. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries said to leave prior to change. **VOTE on amendment:** 9.682/3.318/0/0. **Motion passes. VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to approve Policy BDE Committees and Delegates as amended. **SECOND:** J. Smith. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries commented the Board did not vote to have all members as alternates. Excluding negotiations is a dangerous road. M. Blair commented it is State law. P. Bauries commented to have one member sit across from the association and declare we are negotiating in good faith is ludicrous. We cannot go back to having 1 or 2 members coming up with a negotiating contract. She would like to remove everything in red. **MOTION:** P. Bauries **MOVED** to amend the motion and remove everything in red in the last paragraph. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **DISCUSSION:** P. Bauries commented if you allow this to go through you will have all Swanzey committee members. M. Blair commented 91- A is okay sometimes but not all the time. It excludes negotiations. J. Carnie said 91-A is incorrect, it was not looked at closely. It defines a meeting. Our policy stipulates 3 members need to be present to take action. **MOTION:** J. Carnie **MOVED** to refer Policy BDE Committees and Delegates back to the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **VOTE:** 9.759/3.241/0/0. **Motion passes.**

14. 10:31 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.

15. Public Session: B. Faulkner informed the Board he and K. Pfeifer have been invited by the Swanzey Select Board to attend their meeting on Tuesday.

16. 11:26 PM Motion to enter into and SAU 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:** N. Mosher.
VOTE: 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

17. Recess the Board Meeting to enter into SAU 93 Meeting.

18. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: M. Blair **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 12:12 AM
SECOND: S. Peters **VOTE:** 13/0/0/0. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording secretary