

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2022
MRMHS Library/Zoom, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Colleen Toomey, Michelle Connor, Lisa Steadman, Kristen Noonan, Scott Peters, Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, Betty Tatro, Jennifer Strimbeck, Dan LeClair. **Absent:** Eric Stanley, Nick Mosher, Brian Bohannon and Winston Wright.

Administration Present: L. Witte, Superintendent, J. Rathbun, Assistant Superintendent and J. Morin, Business Administrator.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** S. Peters called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
2. **Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (I): Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (I): Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel. **SECOND:** C. Toomey **VOTE:** 8.302/0/0/4.698. **Motion passes.**
3. **Return to Public Session: MOTION:** M. Connor **MOVED** to seal the 6:30 PM July 19, 2022 Non-Public Session Meeting Minutes until July 19, 2042. **SECOND:** C. Toomey. **VOTE:** 8.439/0/0/4.561. **Motion passes.**
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no Public Comments:
5. **#celebrate MRSD:**
 - a. **MRMHS Modular Demolition:** L. Witte reported the modulars have been removed and the new construction is coming along well. The 4 new classrooms will be Math Classrooms. The basketball court is finished.
 - b. **Superintendent's Club Picnic:** L. Witte explained the Superintendent's Picnic is scheduled on August 23, 2022. This event will take place prior to the Board Meeting so members could attend.
6. **MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:**
 - a. **May 3, 2022 SEALED Minutes: MOTION:** C. Toomey **MOVED** to approve the 6:30 PM, May 3, 2022 Non-Public Session Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 7.307/0/1.132/4.561. **Motion passes.**
 - b. **June 21, 2022 Minutes: MOTION:** C. Toomey **MOVED** to accept the June 21, 2022 School Board Public and Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** M.

Connor. **VOTE:** 7.307/0/1.132/4.561. **Motion passes.**

c. **Motion on the Manifest: MOTION:** C. Toomey **MOVED** to approve the manifest in the amount of \$ 300,420.10 (2022) as presented by the administration. **SECOND:** B. Tatro **VOTE:** 8.439/0/0/4.561 **Motion passes.**

d. **Budget Transfers:** There are no transfers.

e. **Approve Policy DFA: MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to accept Policy DFA as reviewed. **SECOND:** C. Toomey. **VOTE:** 8.439/0/0/4.561. **Motion passes.**

f. **Approve Policy JLDBB: MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to accept Policy JLDBB as reviewed. **SECOND:** C. Toomey. **VOTE:** 8.439/0/0/4.561. **Motion passes.**

g. **Approve Independent Auditor/Plodzick & Sanderson, P.A.: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve Plodzick & Sanderson, P.A. as the Independent Auditor for the District. **VOTE:** 8.439/0/0/4.561. **Motion passes. S. Peters rejoins the meeting.**

h. **Approve Instructional Plan: MOTION:** C. Toomey **MOVED** to accept the Instructional Plan per Policy IJ as presented by the administration. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **DISCUSSION:** J. Rathbun explained that the curriculum cycle has been pushed out due to COVID and will get us on track. We have committees up and running. J. Rathbun reviewed the subject cycles. **VOTE:** 9.434/0/0/3.567. **Motion passes.**

i. **Update (if any) on Board Investigation:** S. Peters explained the Board had met with the attorney and the recommendation is to continue with legal counsel and place this topic on the August agenda.

j. **Approve Student Tuition Rate:** J. Morin explained based on the cost per pupil the student tuition rate for the 2022/23 School Year should be \$19,311.00. L. Witte explained this number is close to the State average. **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to approve the Regular Education Student Tuition Rate at \$19,311.00. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **Motion passes.**

7. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

a. **CRC/Renovations Advisory Committee:** C. McDaniel-Thomas explained the CRC met tonight and are forming the advisory committee for the renovation project. They will determine the path and materials to educate the public. The elementary school principals are all on board as well as some staff. There will be an organizational meeting in August. S. Peters, J. Rathbun and Gilfoil will begin discussing interviews and taping. Everyone would like to get on track.

b. **Academic Growth Rate:** J. Rathbun had provided the Board with test results on the Statewide assessment. The only problem is that we cannot compare the results with the State because they have not released their scores. In the 4th grade in ELA overall there was growth but at Gilsum a significant increase. We need to look at what they are doing. In the 5th grade there was average growth and with Emerson a significant growth. He commented even with jumps in growth the district wide the kids are dropping. The 6th grade is doing amazing district wide. There is an incredible increase with all of the students making good jumps. Twenty students

moved out from below proficient district wide. There are concerns in the 7th grade. There is a concern which we need to focus on. This true cohort did not change. No one moved and we need to do something about that. The 8th grade scored above trend. This is a true cohort and below proficiency. They are not growing and trending water. Math in the 4th grade at Troy is showing growth. The 5th graders in Troy are not showing a lot of growth but the others in the district have. The 6th graders stand out at Emerson. There was a big jump. Something is happening and we need to look at that. The 7th and 8th grade are significantly lower. There seems to be a drop when going into Middle School. We try to focus on how to transition to Middle School. J. Rathbun said the next steps will be going to the principals and sharing the data, digging into it and then sharing and digging into it with the teachers. We need to sit down with the 6th grade team. It is not only this class. We really need to put a big focus on Middle School. We want Instructional Coaches. We need fresh eyes looking at individual models. He is ready to dump the resources in. J. Rathbun will bring this data to the principals next week and start the conversation. We will dive in, make determinations and work will start right away.

c. **Update on Building Application:** S. Peters explained that the Building Application to the State has been submitted. Shortly after it had been reviewed by the State, the District was informed of a visit from the State the first week in August.

8. **8:40 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:** C. Toomey **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 9.434/0/0/3.567. **Motion passes.**

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

- a. **Education Committee**
- b. **Superintendent Goals**
- c. **Update on Advisory Committee**

10. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

11. **ADJOURNMENT: MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 PM. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 9.434/0/0/3.567. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary

VOTING KEY: Yes/No/Abstain/Absent