

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2020 (corrected 8.13.20)
Zoom Virtual Meeting, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration Present: L. Witte, Superintendent, J. Rathbun, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, C. Woods, Director of Student Services and J. Morin, Business Administrator.

Also Present: L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary

“We collaborate not just to teach, but also to engage and educate every student in our district in an environment that is challenging, caring and safe, while fostering life-long learning.”

1. CALL TO ORDER & PUBLIC COMMENTS: S. Peters called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were no Public comments.

2. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:

a. Annual Approval of Policy DFA: J. Morin explained it is a good idea to reaffirm these policies. **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the current DFA policies as presented. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **DISCUSSION:** S. Peters will ask L. Sutton to update the last review date. **VOTE:** 10/0/0/3. **Motion passes.**

b. Approval of Independent Auditor for 2020/21: **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to approve Plodzic and Sanderson as the MRSD Independent Auditor for 2020/21. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 10/0/0/3. **Motion passes.**

c. Set Tuition Rates for 2020/21: J. Morin explained the regular ed. tuition rate is 100% per pupil rate on the State website. **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to set the regular ed. tuition rate at \$17,558.00 for the 2020/21 school year. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** J. Morin explained our overall tuition rate went down. N. Mosher commented the tuition per pupil in the individual towns is a lot more than this rate. **VOTE:** 8.666/1.335/0/3. **Motion passes.** S. Peters explained the policy does not outline how you set the Special Ed. tuition rate. L. Witte explained there should be a conversation on the costs being incurred. There are items to be charged such as a one to one. Currently, there are no Special Ed. Students being tuitioned in. S. Peters would like to save this item for the August agenda.

d. Approve Curriculum Review Cycle for 2020/21: S. Peters explained curriculum review cycle is an annual review per policy. J. Rathbun shared the information which was discussed at a previous meeting. He explained the monitoring and implementation cycles were interrupted by Covid.

e. June 23, 2020 Minutes: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the Public and Non-Public Meeting Minutes for June 23, 2020 as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 8.879/0/1.122/3. **Motion passes.**

f. Manifest: MOTION: W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,223,527.89 as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 10/0/0/3. **Motion passes.**

g. Policies (2nd Read):

i. BEDD/BEDDA: MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to retire Policy BEDD and to replace it with the NHSBA sample policy BEDDA with committee edits. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher said it is a lot of procedure. He would question B-3, 1. He has concerns. K. Noonan said the committee questioned it in the committee meeting. He would like the "School Board" referenced in the paragraph removed. He also questioned the motion chart. K. Noonan said we do not follow Roberts Rules. N. Mosher said there are a number of issues, changing the table and the non-public. He is not in favor of the motion as presented. K. Noonan and W. Wright agreed to remove "School Board" from the sentence and change the percentage to 51% as a friendly amendment. N. Mosher would prefer $\frac{2}{3}$ not 51%. **VOTE:** K. Noonan-yes, W. Wright-yes, M. Connor-yes, N. Mosher-no, C. McDaniel-Thomas-yes, E. Stanley-yes, B. Tatro-yes, C. Toomey-yes, S. Peters-abstain and L. Steadman-yes. **Motion passes.**

ii. EFA:

iii. GBAA/GBAA-R:

iv. GCCBC:

v. JBAA/JBAA-R:

vi. IMBD: MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** on behalf of the Policy Committee to accept Policy EFA, GBAA/GBAA-R, GCCBC, I and JBAA/JBAA-R as presented with edits. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 10/0/0/3. **Motion passes.**

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

a. Board Goals Review:

i. Education: The Ed/Tech never met. They are more of an Ad Hoc Committee, on a as needed basis. They will be meeting August 5, 2020.

ii. CRC: C. McDaniel-Thomas explained the committee met earlier tonight and brainstormed strategies for the Communication Plan. They came up with methods of communication such as a powerpoint with verbal overlay and other ways to communicate the what and when.

iii. Finance/Facilities: B. Tatro said the Fin/Fac will be meeting next week. K. Barker has not met with this committee. She said the committee will be preparing questions

for him. The committee plans to have the August 11 meeting with K. Barker if he is available. J. Morin has been in contact with K. Barker. S.Peters explained the committee is expected to present on Sept. 1, 2020. The committee may want to have another meeting.

iv. Negotiations: Non-meetings when needed.

b. Operations/Superintendent's Report:

i. Article 9 Emergency Fund: J. Morin explained the fiscal year is over but not closed. We are still paying bills. At the next meeting we will discuss the unencumbered fund balance. S.Peters asked if the 2 ½ is specific or could it be less. J.Morin explained the Board does not need to decide yet. J. morin explained it is based on the net assessment but cannot be more than the surplus. The Board has until the very beginning of September to decide. She will bring a few scenarios. J. Morin explained the towns do not get the unspent funds they are used to reduce taxes. S.Peters will keep this on the agenda.

ii. Update on Food Service: J. Morin explained so far as of June 19, 2020 the school has served 36,355 breakfast/lunches for the students. It was mentioned the Food Service Program is providing lunches for the camps. J. Morin commented on the amazing work done by the Food Service staff. K. Noonan is concerned about the kids in Gilsum. J.Morin explained the waiver was extended and the Gilsum families are able to get the food. She explained there was not a significant drop in students taking the lunches after June 12. L. Witte explained the Farms to Families Boxes was what L. Steadman and others received.

iii. MOU for School Resource Officer: L. Witte explained a draft of the MOU is in the Board packets. This will be discussed again at the August meeting.

iv. Update on Plans to Reopen: L. Witte explained the SRPT committee continues to meet. One question is what does it look like when the kids come into the school and leave the school. We have not heard from the transportation company on the capacity or seating on the busses. We are anxiously waiting. Another question is what social distancing will look like in the buildings. There is a survey to the employees on how they feel about coming back and a survey to the parents and guardians. What if someone gets sick? We are waiting for the State guidelines. She is feeling good about the direction of this committee. The recommendation from the State lacks guidelines. The governor will make recommendations by the end of this week. L. Witte explained there are 4 models to return being looked at by the committee. L. Witte explained the staff will be screened. Looking at ways of effectively screening. There may be a video to show the kids how to enter the schools and how it has changed. Changing classes at the high school is a conversation being had. Building specific will be discussed with the building principals. She explained all kids will have to learn with a new protocol. She is looking for guidance from the State. We are looking at the resources we have and need to obtain. She has asked the principals to look at their buildings to see what they need. She is thinking of this truly optimistically.

v. Update on Special Education Services: C. Woods explained the ESY continues. Under Executive Order #48 we are required to hold a meeting for every student with

an IEP to determine if services were lost due to remote learning. All kids have likely regressed and some did very well. It is important every Fall to check in with every student that regressed during summer vacation. As needed by each child we may have to amend the IEP to increase services. The problem with guidance from the State is it is very vague due to the law.

4. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

- a. August 4, 2020 School Board Meeting**
- b. Review Elementary Student Handbooks (no motion required)**
- c. Review Middle/High School Student Handbooks (no motion required)**
- d. Article Nine**
- e. Special Education Tuition**

L. Witte explained we are trying to limit the amount of people attending graduation. L. Spencer and L. Witte will be the only people on the stage except for the graduate. If you want to attend contact L. Spencer.

5. Public Comments: K. Noonan explained her children participated in Kids Beyond the Bell and it is well thought out. She was pleasantly surprised at how well it is going.

6. ADJOURNMENT: MOTION: N. Mosher **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM.
SECOND: K. Noonan **VOTE:** 10/0/0/3. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary

VOTING KEY: Yes/No/Abstain/Absent