Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2020 (Not Yet Approved)
Monadnock Regional MSHS, Swanzey,NH

Members Present: Winston Wright, Kristen Noonan, Nicholas Mosher, Brian Bohannon, Lisa Steadman, Colleen Toomey, Neil Moriarty and Scott Peters. **Absent:** Eric Stanley, Rob Colbert, Kristie Wilder, Betty Tatro and Karen Wheeler

Administration Present: J. Rathbun, Director of Curriculum and Assessment and J. Swanson, 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: L. Steadman opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

2. 7:02 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION: S. Peters **MOVED** to enter into a Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Student Matter **SECOND:** K. Noonan **VOTE:** 6.636/0/0/6.364 **Motion passes. These minutes were sealed later in the meeting.**

The Board returned to Public Session. ***B. Bohannon arrives.***

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

a. Public Comments: A. Salzmann and Taylene Givetz of Cutler passed out 5 photos to the Board that they wanted to share. They had a tough time trying to figure out what highlights they wanted to share with the Board because they had so many great things to share regarding school culture and climate. The staff met with Charlotte Lewis and she presented the Choose Love Curriculum which highlighted skills for our students. Our students connected with a non-profit. The students worked at a farm with social and emotional students. The 3rd and 5th graders go to the library and read together. The Fire Dept. visited the school and worked on Fire Safety Awareness Plans with the family. The Swanzey Museum allows the students to visit the museum. The staff and students collected 700 items for Gurt's Pantry. There are therapy and comfort dogs in the classrooms. NHDI will be in the building and all students participate. This is Dr. Seuss Week and the students are participating in different events. There are 2 authors that will be visiting the school. Cheshire Smiles came into the schools and there were also vision screenings. Dartmouth Hitchcock came to do flu shots. The portable Star Lab was purchased last year with Title 4 funds. It will be going to Emerson in 2 weeks.

4. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:

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5. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

a. Board Chair Report:

i. Elections/Voting: L. Steadman thanked N. Moriarty and K.Wilder for their time on the Board.

ii. MESSA Dinner: L. Steadman explained the MESSA Dinner will have to take place in the Spring to welcome the new Board.

iii. NHSBA Special Education Training 4/13 Concord: L. Steadman will be attending the training on April 13 and anyone wishing to attend could carpool.

iv. Superintendent Training Program: L. Steadman informed the Board that L.Witte would like to go to the AASA program. Very few superintendents have attended and it is a great opportunity. This is not cheap. The cost is $6000.00 plus housing and accommodations. The Board will discuss this at the next meeting.

v. Update on CCC: It was reported that Fall Mtn. will withdraw from the CCC next year. J. Rathbun explained there has been a settlement regarding the schedule concerns. From this day forward Keene and Monadnock will work closely together on the scheduling. Keene will set the blocks so our kids do not miss time. The new start time will not affect our students. It is spelled out regarding due dates for the scheduling and then no changes. Everyone is very happy. This will greatly improve our relationship with Keene. J. Rathbun explained Monadnock is discussing if there are offerings here which could be made available to the students that the CCC does not offer.

b. Operations/Superintendent's Report:

i. Roundabout Project Update: It was reported as soon as the weather is nice there will be a preconstruction meeting on the roundabout. The State has already spoken to the Swanzey Selectmen on February 19, 2020.

ii. South Winchester Street: It was reported work will be done on the sidewalks and crosswalks by Cutler School.

iii. School Nurse and School Counselor Evaluation Tools: There are school nurse and school counselor evaluations in the Board packet. Both groups are part of the MDEA group.

iv. Vex Classes: J. Rathbun explained the 7 and 8 grade Vex classes are 44 minutes long. The high school Vex Classes are 88 minutes long. They would like to change the classes to 44 minutes each. The administration and the MDEA have agreed. They would like to do a sidebar agreement as part of the contract. M. Szymcik explained it is not a monetary issue and a sidebar can be done as long as the School Board is agreeable. This issue will be revisited each year. L. Witte has asked the District Attorney to look at the sidebar. L. Witte said it does not have to be approved but to make the Board aware of it. M. Szymcik said the lawyer has gone through it. W. Wright would like to read it before he agrees.

c. Policies: The Board has had ten policies in their packet for two weeks. S. Peters would like to ask the Board to consider this the second read and approve the policies. **MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to call tonight the Second read on the ten policies presented in the packet on February 18, 2020. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **DISCUSSION:** L. Steadman commented the public should know we are voting in case they wanted to have input. **VOTE:** 6.546/.213/.998/5.243. **Motion passes. MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to take the following policies as a collection and adopt the ten policy changes as presented by the Policy Committee: Policy EBCA-Crisis Prevention and Emergency Response Plan, Policy EBCB-Safety Drills, Policy EBCB-R, Policy AC-E-Contracts for Title IX, Policy ADC/GBED/JICG-Tobacco Free

Schools, Policy EH-Data Management, Policy BEDG-R/EH-R-Procedures for Right to Know Requests, Policy FEH-Supervisor of Construction Project Manager, Policy IGAG/IHAMA-Teaching about Drugs & Alcohol and Policy JLDBB-Suicide Prevention. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 7.544/0/0/5.243. **Motion passes.**

d. Educational Report:

i. Data Report Out: J. Rathbun passed out the report to the Board. The Board reviewed the information. He explained the information is not cumulative. If there are student concerns brought up since October it will be discussed in a team meeting. We are trying to make sure we are tracking this data consistently. How will this data be used to set goals? K-6 is reported out by report cards. He said 100% proficiency is a great goal but will absolutely not happen. B. Bohannon asked about the same criteria in every school. J. Rathbun explained the same standards and the same understanding. Is it a carbon copy assessment-no. He said it is not his purpose to compare schools. B. Bohannon is interested in comparing results. L. Steadman explained this is not the appropriate time to discuss this. We need to give J. Rathbun time to prepare for the April meeting. B. Bohannon asked if at the end of the year there will be a discrepancy between schools. J. Rathbun is not sure he can answer the question. That is a conversation for the principals.

e. Board Self-Evaluation Results: S.Peters gathered the results of the Board Self-evaluations. He said 6 people responded. The Board will review the information when we craft the goals. We need to make them measurable.

f. Committee Structure: The Board will discuss the committee structure when there are more members present.

g. District Audit Status: J. Morin explained the audit should be completed soon. The Board asked about the new financial software. J. Morin explained it went pretty well along with the other programs. She is happy so far. There are some issues we are working through. We will be working with the software company on the teacher contracts. J. Rathbun said roll out of the new software could not have gone better. J.Morin and her staff deserve a lot of credit. They worked endlessly.

h. Elementary Sports: It was explained the elementary sports are not the responsibility of the AD. B. Bohannon would look for guidance. The elementary schools feed into the MS and HS. Maybe a set of guidelines. K.Noonan said the ECC did discuss this. It is a good idea. J.Rathbun said it would make sense to discuss it with the ECC. We do not want this to fall on T. Cote. We need a conversation on how to do better.

i. Additional Joint Meetings with the Budget Committee: K. Noonan commented the conversation regarding joint meetings would make more sense with the new Board.

j. Feasibility Recap: It was reported the Feasibility Information Sessions have been going well. The people in attendance seem to be engaged and asked questions. K. Noonan said there were about 900 views on Facebook from the 2 presentations.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. February 4, 2019 Minutes: MOTION: B. Bohannon **MOVED** to approve the February 4, 2020 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** N. Moriarty **VOTE:** 7.757/0/0/5.243. **Motion passes.**

b. Manifest: MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** the manifest in the amount of $1,240,478.61 **SECOND:** N. Moriarty. **VOTE:** 7.757/0/0/5.243. **Motion passes.**

c. Manifest: MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** the manifest in the amount of $1,942,739.62. **SECOND:** N. Moriarty. **VOTE:** 7.757/0/0/5.243. **Motion passes.**

7. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

1. **Joint Meeting with Budget Committee**
2. **Roundabout**
3. **New Leadership**
4. **Superintendent Academy**

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no Public Comments.

9. 8:40 PM NON-PUBLIC SESSION: MOTION: B. Bohannon **MOVED** to enter into a Non-public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee **SECOND:** S. Peters. **VOTE:** 7.757/0/0/5.243. **Motion passes.**

10. 8:45 PM NON-PUBLIC SESSION: MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into a Non-public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Matter which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. **SECOND:** S. Peters. **VOTE:** 7.757/0/0/5.243. **Motion passes.**

11. 9:00 PM NON-PUBLIC SESSION: MOTION: B. Bohannon **MOVED** to enter into a Non-public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee **SECOND:** S. Peters. **VOTE:** 7.757/0/0/5.243. **Motion passes. These 9:00 PM Non-Public Session Minutes were sealed later in the meeting.**

12. Return to Public Session: MOTION: S. Peters **MOVED** to seal the March 3, 2020 7:02 PM and the 9:00 PM Non-Public Session under RSA (a) until the named student is 18 years of age. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **VOTE:** 7.757/0/0/5.243.**Motion passes.**

13. ADJOURNMENT: MOTION: S. Peters **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. **SECOND:** K. Noonan **VOTE:** 7.757/0/0/5.243 **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary