

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2020
Monadnock Regional MSHS, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration Present: L. Witte, Superintendent, J. Rathbun, Director of Curriculum and Assessment 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.”

6:00 PM Enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a): The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee: MOTION: B. Bohannon **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a): The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **VOTE:** 7.881/0/0/5.119. **Motion passes.**

7:00 PM Board returns to Public Session: B.Bohannon **MOVED** to return to Public Session. **SECOND:** N. Mosher **Vote:** Unanimous for those present.

1. **Public Comments:** N. Mosher was disappointed that the proposal for the reconfiguration of the schools is moving forward. We need to have a conversation with the public.
N. Moriarty said there was no cost analysis done.

2. **MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:**

a. **Approve Warrant Articles: Article Two: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve Article Two as written. **SECOND:** N. Mosher. **DISCUSSION:** R. Colbert would strongly disagree with this article. We are asking the taxpayers for a lot. We want to be careful about asking for too much. N. Mosher commented we need to keep up the infrastructure we have if the public rejects Article Three. We need to keep up the renovations. The Feasibility Study does not affect the MSHS. It was commented if we do not ask for the million-dollar article it may go away and be different in future years. N. Moriarty is not sure why we should take down the portables. R.Colbert would agree with N.Moriarty. The Facilities Committee did not vote on this article. L. Witte explained the District will be receiving 1.4 million from the State. These are a one-time funds. This 1.4 million will cover Article 2 and Article 3. B. Bohannon commented if we do nothing it might be 3-5 years before the upcoming proposal is complete. B. Tatro said the environment in the portables is cold or hot and has rodents. N. Mosher suggested continuing the upkeep on the buildings in the District that we are going to keep. **VOTE:** 8.925/2.197/0/1.878. **Motion passes. Article Three: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve Article Three as written. **SECOND:** W.Wright **DISCUSSION:** It was commented that this is premature to sell to the public. S.Peters said the reason is the State Aid issue. There is a narrow window of opportunity. We need the plans for the request. B. Bohannon said there is an opportunity to build on Troy for a savings. R. Colbert explained we have done a great deal of research. L. Witte sent the Letter of Intent on January 1, 2020. L. Witte explained the increase from last year on the total warrant will be 1.15% including the extra funds coming from the State. R. Colbert explained the approach was to look at MTC as the most updated school and to bring the other schools up to the MTC standard. We had the H.L. Turner report and the report from K.Barker which was far more refined than H. L. Turner. L. Witte reviewed the Letter of Intent to get the ball rolling. **VOTE:** 10.909/0/.213/1.878. **Motion passes. Article Four: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve Article Four as written. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **DISCUSSION:** K. Noonan read the list of items to be fixed in this article which total \$240,000.00. S. Peters commented this makes less sense with the plan. R. Colbert said if this does not pass we will be behind. K. Noonan said the renovations may make the buildings more sellable. N. Mosher said the feasibility project will be years out. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878 **Motion passes. Article Five: MOTION:** B. Bohannon

MOVED to approve Article Five as written. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878.

Motion passes. Article Six: MOTION: B. Bohannon **MOVED** to approve Article Six as written. **SECOND:** S. Peters. **DISCUSSION:** J. Morin explained the Trustees requested that we consolidate the funds. J. Morin sent the article to the DRA and they said you cannot transfer. The information was just received from the DRA today. The Board amended the article as follows: To see if the school district will vote to discontinue the 2009 School Bldg. Capital Reserve Fund created in 2008. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes. Article Seven: MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to approve Article Seven as written. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes. Article Eight: MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to approve Article 8 as written. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes. Article Nine: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve Article Nine as written. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **DISCUSSION:** It was commented that this will be a hard sell. J. Morin explained this is something the towns do. She also wanted to let the Board know this is available. **VOTE:** 6.476/4.646/0/1.878. **Motion passes. Article Ten: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve Article Ten as written. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes. Article Eleven: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve Article Eleven as written. **SECOND:** N. Mosher **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

b. Approve Draft Warrant Articles in Plain English: The Articles in Plain English are not available. The committee will bring them to the Board for approval.

c. Operating Budget: L. Witte explained there are 4 items to be added to the proposed operating budget, the SRO, guidance counselor, extra-curricular stipends and curricular stipends. **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to set the operating budget at \$34,089,903.00 which includes the above four items and the \$970,000.00 for food service. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **DISCUSSION:** The Board discussed the 4 items and last year's operating budget number.

d. Policies for Second read:

i. JICDAA/GBEBB-Employee/Student Relations: MOTION: B. Bohannon **MOVED** to reclassify Policy JICDAA to Policy GBEBB and to retire Policy JICDAA. **SECOND:** C. Toomey. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

ii. JICL/GBEF-Responsible Computer/Internet Use: MOTION:

B.Bohannon **MOVED** to update current policy with the sample policy provided by the committee and to retire Policy GBEBD. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878

Motion passes.

iii. GBCD-Background Checks: MOTION: W.Wright **MOVED** to update

Policy GBCD with the current NHSBA sample policy with edits from both the administration and the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** C.Toomey. **DISCUSSION:** S.Peters explained the criminal checks will be required every three years. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.** L. Witte explained the District has a fingerprinting machine in the SAU and staff are being trained to do the processing.

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

a. Board Chair Report:

i. Open Board, Budget and Moderator Seats: L. Steadman reviewed the positions open on the different committees.

ii. Budget Hearing 1/16, Deliberative 2/1: The Budget Hearing is the Budget Committee's Meeting. B.Tatro, W. Wright and L. Steadman said they will be attending. The Board will meet in the Teacher's Room at 9:00 AM prior to the Deliberative Meeting.

b. Operations/Superintendent's Report:

i. Letter of Intent: L.Witte passed out the Letter of intent to the Board. B. Bohannon suggested a fact sheet in regards to the study and consolidation. L. Steadman spoke to the Union Leader regarding the timeframe and what the vote at the last meeting meant.

ii. Related Service Provider Evaluation Form: L. Witte provided the related service provider evaluation form for the Board to review.

iii. MTC Traffic Study Update: D.LaPointe is working with the company on the MTC traffic study. There will be an update after the site work study is complete. The rotary construction will be happening this summer.

c. Education:

i. Program of Studies: J. Rathbun presented the Program of Studies to the Board for approval. There are 2 additional courses, Welding and AP Statistics. Those courses do

not require new teachers or any additional funds. **MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the Program of Studies. **SECOND:** R. Colbert. **DISCUSSION:** J. Rathbun explained there is still dual enrollment with the colleges. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

d. Cheshire Career Center Injunction and Arbitration Updates: L. Witte explained she has not heard anything from the judge. As far as arbitration goes we are looking at the end of next month.

e. Definition and Usage of Non-Public (d): The information was passed out to the Board.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. December 18, 2019 School Board Meeting Minutes: **MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to approve the December 18, 2019 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro **VOTE:** 10.909/0/.213/1.878. **Motion passes.**

b. December 18, 2019 Non-Public Meeting Minutes: **MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to approve the December 18, 2019, 9:50 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** N. Moriarty-abstain, N. Mosher-abstain, remaining members-yes. **Motion passes.**

c. Sealing of January 7, 2020 6:00 PM, Non-Public Meeting Minutes: **MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to seal the January 7, 2020, 6:00 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes until the resolution of the personnel issue is complete. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

d. Manifest: **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,456,974.33 **SECOND:** S. Peters **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

5. Setting Next Agenda:

- 1. Deliberative Session Organization**
- 2. Authorize CRC Plain English**
- 3. Consolidation of Schools Facts Sheet**
- 4. Gilsum Selectmen-Board person**

B. Bohannon asked about the high involvement of the 7th and 8th grade parents. J.Rathbun will be speaking to the CRC. L. Steadman asked for members to email J. Rathbun with any questions regarding the reporting of the data for the second meeting in February.

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

7. **9:45 PM Enter into Non-Public Session: MOTION:** S. Peters **SECOND:** S. Peters. **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, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. **SECOND:** R. Colbert **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

8. **9:48 PM Enter into Non-Public Session: MOTION:** S. Peters **MOVED** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee: **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878.**Motion passes.**

9. **Return to Public Session: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to seal the January 7, 2020 9:48 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes until the resolution of the personnel issue is complete. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes**

10. **ADJOURNMENT: MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 PM. **SECOND:** W. Wright **VOTE:** 11.122/0/0/1.878. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis

Recording Secretary