

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2019
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration Present: 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.”

1. **Public Comments:** Jeannine Leclerc the Wellness and Community Liaison invited the Board to a presentation with Ken Bartolo. He will be speaking about Substance Abuse. This presentation will be shared with the Winchester Middle School as well. The entire week there will be activities regarding alcohol and substance awareness. J. Leclerc also reported there will be a Career Fair at the MS/HS. They have scheduled the Career Fair earlier in the year in order to get the students out in the community. N. Moriarty suggested contacting the lady at the airport. He said she would be very helpful.

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

a. **Finance Committee:**

i. **Withdraw \$43,299 from the Emergency Expendable Trust Fund to cover the remaining balance for the Emerson Furnace project: MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to withdraw \$43,299 from the Emergency Expendable Trust Fund to cover the remaining balance for the Emerson Furnace project. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **DISCUSSION:** It

was asked when did the Board know the project was more than budgeted for. J. Morin explained they had an estimate but the bids were significantly higher and nothing was done. A contractor came in lower than the others but still more than budgeted for. We are asking to use the funds from the Emergency Expendable Trust Fund that is the purpose of the fund. J. Morin explained the project has been completed. This has been discussed at the Board level. The work has been completed and the bill has been paid. If the Board does not agree the funds will need to be found in the budget. L. Steadman said the bill needs to be paid but we want to make sure this is done correctly in the future. **VOTE:** 10.124/0/1.122/1.755. **Motion passes.**

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

a. Board Chair Report:

i. Harvest Night at Emerson will happen on Thursday, Trunk Trick or Treating will happen on Oct. 19, 2019 in Fitzwilliam and in Swanzey as well. Roxbury will pass out candy at the Town Hall on Oct. 26 from 1-4.

ii. **Ed Law Conference:** L. Steadman explained she attended the Ed Law Conference and explained it was very informative. She attended 6 sessions which she explained to the Board.

iii. **Budget Committee Partnership:** L. Steadman, S. Peters, J. Morin, L. Witte, A. Hopkins and W. Lechliden had planned on meeting tonight but a few people were out sick and it did not happen. They plan to reschedule soon.

b. Operations/Superintendent's Report:

i. **Letter from Fitzwilliam Selectmen and Administration Input:** L. Steadman explained the letter was in the Board packet and asked how they would like to respond. It was explained the FY19 Audit fieldwork is being done. The State had not set the tax rate as of last week due to the late State budget and adjustments. J. Morin explained the forms are due but not in on the exact date. There is a due date but we needed the information from the FY19 Audit. They would prefer the forms being in on Sept. 1 but not alot of Districts meet the date. It is our intention to meet the deadline moving forward. **MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to

have the administration draft a response letter to the Fitzwilliam Selectmen. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 11.032/0/.213/1.755. **Motion passes.**

ii. **GMR:** J. Morin reported the GMR rate came in at 4.4%, that rate is lower than the average.

iii. **Keene Start Time:** J. Rathbun explained they are watching what is happening with the Keene start time. L. Spencer attended a meeting and there is concern with the CCC students. Our kids will have trouble getting there. J. Rathbun explained our numbers are up. There are 44 students. We are on top of this issue. Fall Mtn. will be affected as well. L. Steadman would like to invite the Director of the CCC to a future meeting.

iv. **Title IIA Compliance Report:** J. Rathbun explained we had been selected to have 3 reviews one is Title II A. Title II A came in very much in compliance with two areas in need of corrective action. We need to write down how we decide to use Title II funds in each school and we need to conduct a survey to collect data to see if any activity for teacher improvement is beneficial or not. K. Noonan read the commendations and said thank you.

v. **Troy Property Lien and Release of Lien:** L. Steadman reported the lien discussed at the last Board meeting had been released and signed by the person who inquired about the lien.

vi. **Participation in UNH Study:** J. Rathbun informed the Board UNH has created an app for college students in which they can use to get help when needed. UNH would like to expand this to high school students. This is a 3 stage study. This is the informational session and student feedback. The administration supports this process. The next step would be to create and use it. The final step is to come before the Board. **MOTION:** B. Bohannon **MOVED** to allow the participation in the UNH Study. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** J. Rathbun explained this is an opt in survey. **VOTE:** 10.130/1.115/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

c. **Policies for First Read:** The Board reviewed the following policies for a first read: GCI-Professional Staff Development Opportunities, GBEB-Educator/Staff Code of Ethics, GBEAB-Mandatory Code of Conduct Reporting-All Employees, JFABD-Education of Homeless Children and Unaccompanied Youth, JFABE-Education of Children in Foster Care and JLF-Reporting Child Abuse/Neglect.

d. Education

i. Progress Monitoring in the Primary Grades: M. Suarez reported on the process for Progress Monitoring at MTC. She explained the process used when she first started and the process used now. The team meets each week so there is no wait. The meetings are for an hour afterschool. The staff on the team knows of these extra meetings. If the teacher has used all of the resources available at the classroom level, then the student will be discussed at the team level. She explained each school has similarities in their systems but also individualized systems. There is a District wide expectation. The difference is based on demographics for every student. J. Rathbun explained same standards at each school but may be a different procedure.

e. Other:

i. Request for a motion to reconsider the 10/1/2019 vote to include the SRO in the operating budget: **MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to have a separate warrant article for the SRO. **L. Steadman called the motion out of order. MOTION:** N. Moriarty **MOVED** to challenge the Chair. **VOTE:** 1.075/8.842/1.328/1.755. **Motion fails. MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to rescind the motion regarding the SRO on a separate warrant article. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher would like to see the cost for the SRO. B. Bohannon commented this has been discussed alot and to call the vote. **VOTE:** 4.64/6.599/0/1.755. **Motion fails.**

ii. School Board Meeting Location: R. Colbert would like to have the Board Meetings in Swanzey. He said no one shows up at the meetings when we travel to other towns. K. Noonan and W. Wright like to visit the different schools. N. Moriarty explained in previous years a tour of the building was scheduled prior to the Board Meeting. **MOTION:** R. Colbert **MOVED** to schedule the Swanzey Meetings at the MS/HS Library. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **VOTE:** 9.917/0/1.328/1.755. **Motion passes.**

iii. NHSBA Resolution Proposal: **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to add a sentence to the NHSBA Resolution Proposal as follows: This resolution should not be interpreted to obligate the NHSBA to challenge the renewal or re-authorization of mandates that uphold existing rights for students receiving special education services. **SECOND:** B. Tato. **VOTE:** 9.049/0/2.197/1.755. **Motion passes.**

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. October 1, 2019 School Board Meeting Minutes: MOTION: B. Tatro
MOVED to approve the October 1, 2019 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented.
SECOND: W. Wright **VOTE:** 9.049/0/2.197/1.755 **Motion passes.**

b. October 1, 2019 Non-Public Meeting Minutes: MOTION: K. Noonan
MOVED to accept the October 1, 2019, 9:12 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented.
SECOND: B. Tatro **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755 **Motion passes.**

c. October 1, 2019 Non-Public Meeting Minutes: MOTION: W. Wright
MOVED to accept the October 1, 2019 9:00 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented.
SECOND: K. Noonan **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755 **Motion passes.**

d. Manifest: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the manifest in the amount totaling \$1,230,673.11. **SECOND:** E. Stanley **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

5. Setting Next Agenda:

- 1. October 1, 2019 Sealed Minutes**
- 2. Fund-Awards-Student Recognition**
- 3. CCC**
- 4. Sample Administration Evaluation**
- 5. Student led Parent/Teacher Conferences**
- 6. Quotes-Shop**
- 7. Procedures Process for Trusts**
- 8. Cost of SRO**

MOTION: B. Bohannon **MOVED** to put the discussion of the Swanzey Pumpkin Festival on tonight's agenda. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.** It was asked

why the students do not bring their pumpkins to the Swanzey Pumpkin Festival. It was explained that there is a fee to go to the Swanzey Pumpkin Festival, that might be the reason. The Board will discuss this issue in August.

K. Barker will be present at the next Facilities Meeting on October 22, 2019. The Feasibility Study should be done by the end of October.

It was commented to consider discussing the CCC time change with an attorney

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

7. **ADJOURNMENT: MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM.
SECOND: W. Wright **VOTE:** 11.245/0/0/1.755. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis

Recording Secretary