Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2019 (corrected 5.21.19)
Troy Elementary School, Troy, NH

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

Administration Present: L. Witte, Superintendent 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: S. Peters opened the meeting at 7:10 PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

a) #Let's CelebrateMRSD: J. Kuhn was asked by the Board to report on the fundraising efforts for the DI Team. He reported the team has raised $14,000.00 and is in need of $900.00. There are fundraising efforts still going on at this time. **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to authorize J. Swanson to write a check up to $900.00 based on if there is still a need for more funds prior to their leaving on the trip to the Globals. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559. **Motion passes.**

3. SPOTLIGHTS: Elementary Library/Media-Lisa Wiley: Lisa Wiley explained to the Board her role in the schools. She suggested the Board check out her new website. She has gone to the classrooms to help teachers learn how to get on the card catalog online. She works with teachers on what they are teaching the children. She has created a google site with tools for the teachers to use. She explained in the library they are updating the book collection. She also said the students spend a lot of time on Makerspace. All of the schools have access to a 3D printer. She thanked the Board for giving the children the tools to learn. Emerson was awarded an author to come to the school and read to the children. The children will also be provided with new books.

4. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:

a) Health Insurance Contract/GMR: J. Swanson explained the GMR came in at 7.6% and the Board had estimated 9.2%. There will be a savings of about $78,000.00 next year. **MOTION:** K.

Noonan **MOVED** to authorize the business office to contract with Health Trust for management of health insurance services for the 2019-2020 school year. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559 **Motion passes.**

b) Roofing Bids-D. LaPointe: D. LaPointe presented the bids for the 3 school roofs in the District. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to approve the following bids: Academy Roofing for the Maintenance Roof in the amount of $26,400.00, Melanson for the Cutler Roof in the amount of $29,680.00 and A.L. Johnson for the Emerson Roof in the amount of $31,948.40. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559. **Motion passes.**

c) Policies for Second Read: MOTION: W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the following policies for a Second Read: Policy IMGA-Service Animals in School, Policy JICDAA/GBEBB-Employee-Student Relations, Policy JICDD-Student Discipline for Out of School Action, Policy JLD-School Guidance and Counseling Program and Policy KEE-Website Accessibility and Grievance. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559 **Motion passes.**

5. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

a) Board Chair Report:

i) Cheshire Career Center Tour: The date for the CC tour has not been finalized.

ii) Swanzey Board Seat Vacancy: B. Tatro explained it is up to the Swanzey Board Members to make a decision on who fills the seat until the vote in March. The Swanzey members will post the position, take applications, hold interviews and bring their choice to the full Board. The position will be posted in about 10 days.

b) Operations/Superintendent's Report:

i) Fill Rate for Para Subs Pre- and Post-Rate Change: L. Witte passed out information to the Board regarding the fill rate for para subs. She explained the 2017 rate change increase did not make an impact on the sub positions being filled. L. Witte commented if the Board is going to change the rate of pay for the paras the Board may want to change the rate for teacher subs as well. L. Witte explained the economy is good and unemployment is low. **MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to ask the administration to bring ideas and initiatives to improve the fill rate for next year. This information will be brought to the Board at the July Board Meeting. **SECOND:** W. Wwright **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559 **Motion passes.**

ii) Ecology School: L. Witte reported the 6th grade students are at the Ecology School this week and the principals are taking turns attending on a daily basis. J. Rathbun is staying a few nights and L. Witte is also going this week as well.

iii) Special Education Compliance: L. Witte reported it has been 8 years since the District has been in 100% compliance on all indicators for Special Education. Hats off to C. Woods.

iv) Cutler Sidewalk: L. Witte informed the Board the Town of Swanzey has applied for a grant which would go towards improvements for the sidewalks around the Cutler School. We are in support of the efforts. Hopefully they will receive the grant.

v) School Safety Task Force-Exercise Chapter: L. Witte presented information, explained the Exercise portion of the School Safety Task Force Report and explained 2 are related to an active shooter. We are developing an annex. This concludes the School Safety Task Force Report. This is the final chapter and L. Witte will update the Board on what is being done. We are implementing the Go Bags. We are ordering the items. The numbers are being put on the doors. The 3M film is on all of the schools except Troy. Troy just received the grant for the work.

vi) Field Trip: MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to allow the DI students to attend the Global Competition out of state. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

c) Policies for First Read:

i) Policies IGCD/IMBC and JLCA/JLCA-R: The Board reviewed Policy IGCD/IMBC-Alternative Credit Options and Policy JLCA/JLCA-R for a first read.

ii) DAF and DAF-1 thru DAF-10: MOTION: S. Peters **MOVED** per Policy BGB to waive the first and second read requirements. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559. **Motion passes. MOTION:** N. Mosher **MOVED** to approve DAF, DAF-1 thru DAF-10 with committee edits as presented by the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** C. Toomey. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559**Motion passes.**

d) Educational Report:

i) Class size for 19/20 School Year: Information was presented to the Board regarding the projected class size with the staff in the reconfiguration which the Board approved previously for the 2019-2020 school year. L. Witte spoke about the specials. She said the idea was to blend the classes together. They do not want to add anything extra for the specials staff. N. Mosher would like to see what the towns feel about the combined classes and see the tracking as well. N. Mosher would like to see the progress of a school with combined classes and single classes. L. Witte explained the staff will look at the individual students and the class as well. This will be on the next agenda. K. Wheeler asked if the administration was going to try the combined classes at Cutler and MTC. L. Witte explained it is a school specific decision. S.Peters asked with the number of expanded classrooms are we sacrificing any space. L. Witte replied no. L. Witte is not sure of the lay out with the new addition to MTC. She will ask M. Suarez. With the new configuration the principals have plans for

the staff and students with no overcrowding issues and no challenges. She is confident this is a good move. She commented moving the 6th graders to the MS/HS is inappropriate.

6. OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

a. Superintendent Evaluation Committee Update: It was explained L. Witte had sent a few items to B. Bohannon regarding the process for her evaluation. B. Tatro said the committee will try to get together. She suggested the committee use the previous evaluation process and then come up with a new one for next year. S. Peters explained Policy CBI and CBI-R are outdated and the committee will be taking them up in June or July.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. April 16, 2019 Minutes: MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to approve the April 16, 2019 School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** K. Noonan-abstain and unanimous for the remaining members present. **Motion passes. MOTION:** W. Wright **MOVED** to approve the April 16, 2019, 9:20 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** N. Mosher-abstain and unanimous for the remaining members present. **Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to amend the April 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes which were just passed. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559 **Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Wheeler **MOVED** to approve the April 16, 2019, 9:40 PM Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Wright. **VOTE:** N. Mosher-abstain and unanimous for the remaining members present. **Motion passes.**

b. April 2, 2019 Sealed Minutes: MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** to approve the April 2, 2019 Sealed Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler **DISCUSSION:** N. Mosher asked to add his name to the comments as a friendly amendment. **VOTE:** S. Peters-abstain and unanimous for the remaining members present. **Motion passes.**

c. Manifest: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the manifest in the amount of $2,759,076.12. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559. **Motion passes.**

8. Setting Next Agenda:

1. **Municipal Resources Inc. Input on SSO**
2. **Administrator and Non-Affiliated Contracts & Compensation**
3. **Education-Split grades**
4. **Classroom layout by building**
5. **April 16, 2019 Sealed Minutes**
6. **Staff Recommendations**

9. Public Comments: Some staff in the audience thanked the Board for the Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon.

10. 8:35 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION: B. Tatro **MOVED** to enter into 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:** N. Mosher **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559 **Motion passes.**

11. 8:46 PM Non-Public Session: MOTION: N. Mosher **MOVED** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee. **SECOND:** K. Wheeler **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559. **Motion passes.**

12. ADJOURNMENT: MOTION: K. Wheeler **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 6.441/0/0/6.559. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary