

**Monadnock Regional School District
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2023
MRMHS Library, Swanzey, NH**

Members Present: Dan Coffman, Edward Sheldon, Wayne Lechliden, Nancy Carney, Jon Hoden, Adam Hopkins, Betty Tatro, School Board liaison, Doug Bersaw, Robert Audette, Anne Marie Osheyack and Richie HKS Thackston. **Absent:** Robert Young, Unassigned seat for Gilsum and Unassigned seat for Roxbury.

Also Present: L. Walker, Superintendent via Zoom, J. Morin, Business Administrator and L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary

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

2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

a. **July 27, 2023 School Board/Budget Joint Committee Meeting Minutes:** **MOTION:** J. Hoden **MOVED** to approve the July 27, 2023 School Board/Budget Joint Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** W. Lechliden **VOTE:**. R. Audette-abstain and remaining members present-yes. **Motion passes.**

3. **Administration Report:**

a. **Transfer/expense:** The Budget Committee reviewed the 4 transfers that were presented by J. Morin and approved by the Board. There were 2 budget transfer requests from C. Woods, one from J. Rathbun and one from L. Spencer.

b. **Budget Tracking Report:** The committee did not have any questions about the detailed report that J. Morin had provided prior to the meeting.

c. **Monthly Financial Report:** The committee did not have any questions about the detailed report that J. Morin had provided prior to the meeting.

d. **Unallocated Fund Balance Update:** The committee asked if J. Morin had a number for the surplus. She explained there are 1 or 2 checks runs to come. The auditors have finished their field work and soon the District will be filing the DOE 25. A. Hopkins asked for maybe an estimate. J. Morin emphasized that it is only an estimate. Due to positions not being filled she might estimate the surplus around 1 million dollars. The District ended up with more Medicaid than anticipated. **E. Sheldon arrives.** J.

Morin explained that regarding the fund balance at the upcoming September Board Meeting the Board will vote on retaining a portion of the funds or not. ***D. Bersaw, A.M. Osheyack and D. Coffman arrived.***

e. Staffing

i. Vacancy Update: L. Walker reported that overall the District is in a better position regarding open positions than last year. Since she shared the report multiple changes had been made. The area of need is regarding the lack of paraprofessionals. D. Bersaw commented that the number of vacancies that had been filled is better than in the past couple of years. E.Sheldon asked if with the increase in the support staff hourly pay did L. Walker notices more paras being hired. L. Walker said she has fewer candidates leave after they heard the hourly pay. Due to only one Spanish teacher there were some combined classes and scheduling changes. They are trying to be creative to give the students what they need. J. Hoden noticed that the District is still searching for a nurse. L.Walker explained that the District is searching for a MSHS nurse. There is a District Nurse who is available to the MSHS. It is very difficult to fill that position. The nurse is now required to have a BA and there is no waiver. J. Hoden asked if there are any candidates down the pipeline. L. Walker explained that the principals and staff have stepped up to fill in the gaps. They may be filling in a few more of the vacancies but not all of them.

4. School Board Liaison Comments:

a. Bond Next Steps Update: J. Morin explained that the next step is for the architect and his team to complete the detailed drawings. It should take about nine months. They will be ready to break ground at MTC next Spring. They will be moving the softball field to the high school side this Fall.

b. Superintendent Search Update: B. Tatro informed the committee that the Board is working with the Bryan Group on the Superintendent Search. K. Noonan, C. McDaniel-Thomas and L. Steadman are the 3 Board Members on the committee. The meetings are open to the public. The next Superintendent Search Committee Meeting is scheduled for Sept. 14, 2023.

c. Other Business: J. Morin explained that the windows had arrived, had been put in the 700 and 800 Wings and the classrooms were ready for the students.

5. Superintendent Comments: L. Walker explained that the students will be arriving tomorrow and everyone is very excited to welcome them back.

J. Hoden asked if the number of students enrolled had gone up or down. A. Hopkins explained that the official number is in October.

6. Chairperson Comments: A. Hopkins did not have any additional comments.

7. Next Meeting Agenda: The next meeting of the Budget Committee is on September 26, 2023.

8. Public Comments: J. Hoden hoped for a good opening day. Best of Luck. L. Walker thanked him.

9. Motion to adjourn: MOTION: W. Lechliden **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM. **SECOND:** A. Hopkins **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary