

**Monadnock Regional School District
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2023
MRMHS Library, Swanzey, NH**

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

Also Present: J. Morin, Business Administrator and L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments. **D. Coffman arrives.**

2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

a. **March 28, 2023 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes: MOTION:**

W. Lechlida **MOVED** to approve the March 28, 2023 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** J. Hoden **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present.

Motion passes.

3. **Administration Report:**

a. **Transfer/expense:** J. Morin explained that at the last Board Meeting the Board approved a transfer in the amount of \$44,385.00 requested by L. Spencer and C. Czifrik for upgrading PC's in CAD Lab to support updated curriculum.

b. **Budget Tracking Report:** J. Morin had emailed the Budget Tracking Report to the Budget Committee Members. There were no questions on the information provided.

c. **Monthly Financial Report:** J. Morin had emailed the Monthly Expense Report to the Budget Committee Members. There were no questions on the information provided.

d. **Staffing**

i. **Vacancy Update:** L. Witte had emailed information to the Budget Committee on the vacancies in the district. J. Hoden asked about the additional 10 vacancies that are on the report. J. Morin explained that it is her best guess that the retirees are the additional vacancies. She also mentioned that she does believe an

Assistant Principal was hired. She also explained that there are a number of vacancies that are filled with contracted service employees. The district would like to fill those but they are counted as a vacancy. B. Tatro explained that if there is no change in the vacancy count a new report will not be generated. If there is a change L.Witte will provide that information. D. Coffman would like a Staffing Report on a monthly basis and an administrator in attendance who is able to explain it. J. Hoden would like to receive a report monthly even if there are no changes. A big part of concern is the Staffing Report.

4. Agenda for Board/Budget Committee Joint Meeting May 16, 2023: A.

Hopkins commented that there is an agenda for the Joint Board/Budget Committee Meeting on May 16, 2023 and S.Peters asked if there are any items the Budget Committee would like to have on the agenda. Staffing was mentioned. W.Leachlinder asked about the process for the Superintendent Search. J. Hoden asked how hard it would be to fill the spot. There was a lot of push back with the incentive bonus. A. Hopkins explained the Superintendent position is not part of the Teacher's contract. B. Tatro explained that the NHSBA has reached out to offer their services for the search. There is a fee but she is not sure of the cost. A. Hopkins would like to ask the Board to have a member of the Budget Committee on the Superintendent Search Committee. W. Lechlinder would volunteer if possible. The committee would like to discuss the Superintendent Search, Specialists Contract, Renovation Project and the CIP. J. Morin explained nothing has changed regarding the Renovation Project. We are waiting for the State. We have moved from the third spot to the second spot to reserve funds. J. Hoden asked about the roof repair at the MRMHS. J. Morin explained that the Board voted to have Melanson Company do the roof. The work will start as soon as the funds are released on July 1, 2023. The biggest concern is to have it done by the beginning of school. She mentioned that the 700 and 800 wings will be worked on this summer and all of the furniture will need to be moved. J. Hoden commented that there are coaches that are concerned with not being able to use the gymnasium over the summer for night practice. It was commented that this was for adult practice.

5. Superintendent Comments: The Superintendent is not present.

6. School Board Liaison Comments: B. Tatro said that she feels that the committees missed the boat on the letter to the Legislature. J. Morin believes L. Witte will have the letter at the Board Meeting on Tuesday for the Board to sign. B. Tatro

explained that at the next Board Meeting J. Rathbun will be reviewing the data from the iReady testing. She invited the Budget Committee to Zoom in if they are interested and the iReady from last time is also available. D.Coffman wants a high-level summary. He wants to see if it is worth the money and should we continue to support it. A.M.

Osheyack suggested to be clear in what he is asking for. D. Coffman commented that someone who could explain the information should have been in attendance. We want a high-level summary. He does not want decisiveness. Relative to the budget he would like an executive summary. D. Coffman would ask L.Witte and J. Rathbun what they would like to report to the Budget Committee. A.M. Osheyack commented that it is vague for what you are asking for. D. Coffman commented and asked what are the overall results. D. Coffman would like an executive summary. He said L.Witte knows how to do this. J. Hoden is looking for highlights. What is the action plan? A.M.

Osheyack asked if we want growth or proficiency. A. Hopkins would like an executive presentation. They are the professionals. A.M. Osheyack said don't you think they give that information at the Board Meetings. A. Hopkins said the committee would like the information in an executive overview. We want a Budget Committee Member on the Search Committee. We set the budget. Superintendent should be here each month to present the report. R. Audette commented that the overview should be something that the public can understand. A. Hopkins commented that the administration should understand what is presented to the Education Committee is not the same as the public presentation. We should not have to explain what we want. A.M. Osheyack would suggest being clear on what you want. B. Tatro explained that she would be able to gather the information and present a report to the committee. A. Hopkins said we are paying the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent over \$300,000.00 and you should not have to do the work. D. Coffman is looking for a summary of the elementary students iReady data results. A.M. Osheyack explained that the high school does not have the iReady. They do the PSAT and SAT. W. Lechliden would like to see the history. R. Young commented that the history should be on the website.

7. Chairperson Comments: A. Hopkins would like to see the annual end of the year warrant article report, articles with balances and articles that are still open, what work was done and remaining balances.

8. Next Meeting Agenda:

i. **Staff Vacancy Report:** J. Hoden asked where J. Morin feels the District will end up regarding the budget. J. Morin reported that there is 1.6% of the budget remaining. There are a lot of items to still be paid such as the retirements and the wellness payouts. MRMHS has a lot of vacancies and furniture for the 700 and 800 wings. It is difficult tonight to give a number but she imagines it is close to 1 million dollars due to vacancies. J. Morin also explained that the District will be receiving the final Adequacy Payment and the towns have been paying their portion each month. She explained the \$970,000 from the Nutrient Grants and Federal Grants. It is a revenue and an expense. You get what you need.

The GMR will be 6.6%. This is not a savings. This was the percentage quoted. It is a good thing we budgeted for 6.6%.

9. **Public Comments:** There are no public comments.

10. **Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** J. Hoden **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:03PM. **SECOND:** D.Coffman **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary