

**Monadnock Regional School District**  
**School Board/Budget Committee Joint Meeting Minutes**  
**June 28, 2022**  
**MRMHS Library/Zoom, Swanzey, NH**

**Budget Committee Members Present:** Wayne Lechliden, Dan Coffman, Adam Hopkins, Ed Sheldon, Phyllis Peterson, Richard HKS Thackston, Jon Hoden, Nancy Carney, Anne Marie Osheyack, Robert Audette and Doug Bersaw. **Absent:** Scott Peters, School Board Liaison, Open Seat for Roxbury and Open Seat for Gilsum.

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

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
  
2. **Approval of the May 24, 2022 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** R. HKS Thackston **MOVED** to approve the May 24, 2022 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** J. Hoden **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present **Motion passes.**
  
3. **Administration Reports:**
  - a. **Transfers/expenses:** J. Morin reviewed the budget transfers. The first transfer was requested by L. Spencer in the amount of \$32,600 for new cameras for MRMHS. The funds will be transferred from the Regular Instruction Health Insurance line and will be moved to the Security line. The second transfer is being requested by J. Morin in the amount of \$26,900 for transportation to support student testing and fuel surcharge. The funds will be transferred from the Property Liability Line and the Workman's Comp Insurance line to the Student Transportation line. She explained in the transportation contract any additional fuel charge over what was agreed on will be paid by the district. She said First Student could have gone back further than April to charge us.
  - b. **Monthly Expense Report/Budget Tracking Report:** The committee had reviewed the Budget Tracking Report provided by J. Morin and they had no questions for her. D. Bersaw commented that there is a little over 1 million in the unallocated fund balance. J. Morin explained that there are more bills to come. There is the second bill for the CCC which is almost \$30,000.00. She said it will go down due to more bills coming in. The auditors will be doing a preliminary audit during the 3rd week in July. She mentioned that the Building and Grounds Fund and the Vehicle Fund will receive funds at the end of the year per the warrant article voted on by the voters. T. Breen is currently getting the propane pricing. We are not locked in and next year we will probably be over in those lines. J. Morin and T. Breen are reaching out to local suppliers and asking local districts what they are doing in regards to the fuel costs. There is an emergency fuel fund which has about \$58,000.00 in it. Cutler and Gilsum are oil and the others are propane. B. Audette asked if the district was concerned about the increase in electricity. J. Morin explained the district is locked in for a few more years. The Budget Committee asked about the electricity agreement. J. Morin will bring the additional information to the next meeting. D. Coffman asked about the annual electric cost. J. Morin said it is in many lines within the budget. W. Lechliden said the Budget Committee should have the information because we are asking for a bond and people will be receiving higher bills. We will need that information.

c. **Vacancy Numbers (staff):** Information was given to the committee regarding the vacancies. E. Sheldon commented that it does look better, 14 of the positions have been filled. There are 31 still to be filled. J. Morin explained that the tech position, maintenance, para and others have been filled.

d. **What are the challenges to full openings?**

e. **Summary of those off step/experience levels:** The committee is requesting information on MESSA regarding the average seniority. There are 20 people offstep and they would like to know the motivation. They are getting paid \$12.50 an hour yet they are staying, possibly the compensation package.

f. **Health Care Plan enrollment percentages by employee steps:** The committee would like the healthcare percentage by step for the MESSA group.

**4. Review:**

a. **Test Score Data:** The committee was provided the test results for K-6 grade by buildings for the ELA and Math. The standards were also provided for the committee to review. The I Ready Test was discussed. The test is given to K-7 grades. It is an assessment computerized tool. As the student continues taking the test the questions get harder. When the student gets the questions wrong the program will stop. D. Coffman commented that if the test is done at the beginning and then at the end we should see a dramatic increase in scoring. D. Coffman would like the administration present at the next meeting to help this committee read the information provided. A. Osheyack said that there is a summary on page 125 of the packet. B. Audette would like an executive summary and not have to go through 125 pages. J. Hoden is concerned with the amount of red on the chart regarding the Middle School. W. Lechlinder commented if we know the reason and what it means we will get behind it. P. Peterson asked what has been cleaned up, is there a plan and are there areas where we can help. J. Morin explained that J. Rathbun and L. Witte are at a very critical conference and are not able to attend this meeting. W. Lechlinder would like this on the next agenda.

b. **Budget Committee By-Laws:** E. Sheldon would like to table the By-Laws until the next meeting.

5. **Superintendent's Comments:** The Superintendent was not present.

6. **School Board Liaison Comments:** S. Peters was not present.

7. **Chairperson Comments:** There were no comments from the Budget Committee Chair.

**8. Next Meeting: July 26, 2022**

**Agenda Items:**

a. **Electricity Rates**

b. **MESSA Seniority Chart**

c. **Context Explanation of Test Results**

d. **MESSA-hire date, years of service, health care plan, enrollment %family plan, %individual plan and %buyout. All Unions**

e. **Issues Staffing. Plans to fix areas of concern and funds to fix it.**

Bob would suggest a survey for the staff on why they stay. He asked if the district tracks the staff when they leave.

J. Morin explained the 4 new classrooms look great with no cost overrun. The 700 and 800 Wings will be done over the next summer. The work will not impact the 4 new classrooms. The doors are being installed shortly.

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

**10. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** D. Bersaw **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:14PM.  
**SECOND:** R. HKS Thackston **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Laura L. Aivaliotis**  
**Recording Secretary**