

**Monadnock Regional School District  
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2018**

**Monadnock Regional MS/HS Library, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Wayne Lechluder, Douglas Bersaw, Wayne LaCoste, Jillian Exel, Colleen Toomey, Dan Coffman and Joanne Daris. **Absent:** Tom Matson, Adam Hopkins, Brian Bohannon, School Board Rep. Thomas Parker, Open Seat for Swanzey and Open Seat for Gilsum

**Also Present:** L. Witte, Superintendent, J. Swanson, Business Administrator and L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary.

**1. Public Comments:** Dan Coffman would suggest all materials passed out to the Budget Committee and the Board be available online.

**2. Budget Oversight:**

**a. Monthly Expense Report:** L. Witte explained it has not been a full month since the last report. There is no new report yet.

**b. What major transfers have occurred since the last meeting:** L. Witte explained there has been no major transfers since the last meeting.

**c. What transfers are anticipated prior to the next meeting?:** L. Witte informed the committee there are no major transfers anticipated.

L. Witte reported the GMR at a rate of 9.2%. She explained that rate is higher than we have seen in a while. The rate is lower than in this area. It has been low for a few years so this increase is to be expected.

The student enrollment reported to the State was 1673.

**3. Default Committee:** D. Bersaw explained the committee has divided the schools and sections and will be looking at their sections line by line. W. Lechlinder will then get the information the committee has found to J. Swanson. They would like information back on December 19, 2018. L. Witte had received information on the Default from J. O'Shaughnessy and passed it to the committee. W. Lechlinder said we can take out one-time expenses. L. Witte said replacement equipment and text books are not a one-time expense. W. Lechlinder said that is where L. Witte and he differ. The Default Committee would like to know the actual spent and the amount raised. D. Bersaw would like a short report on new equipment, textbooks and replacement from J. Swanson by November 29, 2018. W. Lechlinder would like to discuss the \$275,000.00 for chromebooks. L. Witte explained the administration would like to make sure they are being budgeted in the correct accounts. We may not be identifying the chromebooks correctly.

**4. Operating Budget Breakdown:** W. Lechlinder would like to have a breakdown on the surplus. L. Witte said the surplus breakdown will be discussed on the December 1, 2018 at the Joint Meeting. W. Lechlinder would also like the balances on the Special Education Expendable Trust, the Emergency Fuel Fund and the Building Maintenance Fund. L. Witte will email those balances to the committee.

**5. Operating Budget Direction:** W. Lechlinder asked L. Witte if B. Drugg was asked to attend the Joint Meeting to discuss the Funding Formula. L. Witte explained the Board will be discussing the Funding Formula on December 4, 2018. At a previous meeting R. Young passed an updated spreadsheet to the Board with the information provided by L. Witte. The committee asked if the Board would like to have a resolution. L. Witte explained the Board has the information. They are not sure. The Public Hearing is the deadline for the Funding Formula. January 8, 2019 is the last day for petitioned articles. The Public Hearing is on January 10, 2019. W. LaCoste asked if the Board sees this is a priority. L. Witte explained they do along with the rest of the priorities. W. LaCoste said a lot of work was done by the previous committee and we are down to the wire.

**6. MTC Building Renovations:** L. Witte explained there is discussion at the Board level to remove the portables at the MS/HS. The work to remove the portables at MTC will begin in March and will be completed for the opening day of school. W. Lechlinder would like to have the design information in case it is asked for by the public.

The committee asked L. Witte about the late start time at Keene and if it would effect Monadnock. L. Witte explained there has not been much discussion by the Board nor anyone from the public to request this.

D. LaPointe is looking into getting a list of Health and Safety items for a warrant.

The committee asked about an armed SRO. L. Witte explained the Board had asked legal counsel about this issue.

**7. Administration Report:** L. Witte does not have any additional information. The committee asked if there was any new information on the contracts. L. Witte responded they are still at the table. L. Witte explained the budget schedule is online. The budget books will be available for December 1, 2018. The committee will have them prior to the Dec. 1, 2018 meeting. **J. Swanson arrives.** J. Swanson explained the Special Ed. Expendable Trust has a balance of \$319,934.83, the Emergency Fuel Fund has a balance of \$55,511.54 and the Building Maintenance Fund has a balance of \$63,959.61. The Facilities Committee is discussing the Emerson Boiler cost overage and where the funds will come from.

W. Lechlinder asked J. Swanson about preparing the default budget. He said it is bare bones and nothing new. We feel the chromebooks are a one-time expense. J. Swanson said the chromebooks are a regular expense that we are purchasing each year. We do use the textbooks in certain subjects, not all classes have chromebooks. She explained online textbooks have a user fee. W. LaCoste commented the chromebooks should have had a savings in the textbook line.

- 8. Approval of the October 23, 2018 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes: MOTION:** D. Bersaw **MOVED** to approve the October 23, 2018 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** C. Toomey. **VOTE:** D. Coffman-abstain, W. LaCoste-abstain and 5-yes. **Motion passes.**
- 9. Budget Committee Schedule:** December 1, 2018 Joint Meeting, December 19, 2018 and Public Hearing in January 10, 2018 per RSA.
- 10. Superintendent Comments:** L. Witte had no additional comments.
- 11. Chairperson Comments:** W. Lechlinder had no additional comments.
- 12. Adjourn the Meeting: MOTION:** D. Bersaw **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. **SECOND:** D. Coffman. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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