

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2017 (corrected)
Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Wayne Lechluder, Dan Coffman, Wendy Martel, Doug Bersaw, Brian Bohannon-School Board rep., Wayne LaCoste, Adam Hopkins and Tom Parker.

Absent: Chris Fortson, Kristen Goodenough, Tom Matson, Unassigned Roxbury Rep., Swanzey Rep. and Gilsum Rep.

Also present: L. Witte, Superintendent, J. Fortson, Business Administrator and Assessment and L. Aivaliotis Recording Secretary.

1. Public Comments: There were no Public Comments.

2. Approval of the August 22, 2017 Budget Committee Minutes: MOTION: W. Martel **MOVED** to accept the August 22, 2017 Budget Committee Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** A. Hopkins
DISCUSSION: The committee asked about the extra-curricular spending versus athletics. J. Fortson explained the spending for athletics is \$270,000 plus \$80,000 for bussing. J. Fortson will send the information on the spending by email to the committee. It was suggested to unite the School Board and other Boards along with the NHSBA to address the funding issue. L. Witte explained the Budget Committee can submit a resolution to the School Board and the Board could submit it if they would like to. The School Board had previously submitted a resolution regarding funding and they denied it.
VOTE: 8.128/0/.216/5.656. **Motion passes.**

3. Budget Oversight:

a. MRSD Monthly Expense Report: J. Fortson reported there is 92.51% of the budget remaining. The salaries have not been encumbered. She will wait until October 1. We are still in need of staff. J. Fortson compared the numbers for the past 3 budget years.

b. What major transfers occurred since the last meeting? J. Fortson reported there was a major transfer in the amount of \$7115.00 for the relocation of the main office for efficiency and safety. There was also a transfer in the amount \$4440.00 to purchase student enriching software.

c. What major expenses are anticipated for next month? There are no anticipated transfers.

4. Default Committee Members: D. Coffman reported the committee met earlier this evening. The proposed default number is \$31,215,000.00 plus \$561,000.00 more than last year. There is a possibility that the number could be \$350,000.00 less depending on a number of items. The next meeting is on October 24, 2017 at 6:15 PM.

5. 2016-2017 Final Budget: J. Fortson explained the unassigned balance is \$1,592,710.00 unless the State sees an error. She explained how she estimates the revenues in the budgeting process. She also explained the surplus will reduce the amount to be raised by taxes. J. Fortson explained the amount of

substitute pay for a teacher, paraprofessional, custodian and secretary. She also explained the 30-hour work week. J. Fortson will send an email out with the list of items that total the surplus.

6. 2018-2019 Budget vision: W. Lechliden asked what we want the administration to look at as a budget number. The current budget is \$31,776,272.00. D. Bersaw commented at the Deliberative Session the budget was increased by 1.5 million. Is the administration going to spend it? What is the plan for the administration and the School Board to spend the 1.5 million? L. Witte explained we budgeted \$90,000 less than what was passed. L. Witte explained based on the numbers we reduced staff but there was a need to increase a .5 English teacher. L. Witte explained staff left over the summer due to lack of a contract. Hopefully we will have a contract. **MOTION:** W. Lechliden **MOVED** to suggest \$30,500,000.00 as the 2018-2019 Budget as a directional target, as a starting point and a consideration by the A Team. **SECOND:** D. Coffman **DISCUSSION:** B. Bohannon commented on the Long Range Committee and the lack of participation. The committee discussed the suggested number. **VOTE:** 6.988/.216/1.14/5.656. **Motion passes.**

7. School Board Liaison Report: L. Witte reported the NEASC Team will be arriving on Sunday to meet the teachers, School Board, Administration and the A Team. For the next three days the Team will spend time in the school meeting the SAU Team, the administrative team and the representatives from the Unions. They will be visiting classroom and shadowing students. There will be a staff meeting to share comments. The report will be in a draft either in January or February and the final report will arrive in the spring. The District budgeted \$25,000.00 for the NEASC visit.

Negotiations are underway and they are making progress.

8. Superintendent Report: L. Witte reported it was a great start to the new school year. There was a staff meeting and at one point the entire staff went outside to observe the eclipse. She had asked the staff prior to this first staff meeting to share pictures of what is right in their world. She had received several hundreds of pictures and put them in an album. The pictures were shared with the staff. It was a focus on building positive relations. Justice Broderick will be at the HS speaking to the students on October 4, 2017.

9. Budget Committee Schedule: The next meeting is on October 24, 2017.

10. Any other item the committee wishes to discuss: The Gilsum, Emerson and part of the MS/HS Evaluation and Assessment Reports are on the website.

11. Chairperson Comments: There were no additional comments from the Chair.

12. Public Comments: There were no public comments.

13. Adjourn: **MOTION:** W. Lechliden **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 PM. **SECOND:** D. Coffman **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
MRSD Recording Secretary