

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**August 22, 2017**  
**Monadnock Regional MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Wayne Lechluder, Dan Coffman, Wendy Martel, Doug Bersaw, Brian Bohannon, Lisa Steadman-School Board rep. , Tom Matson, Wayne LaCoste, Kristen Goodenough, Adam Hopkins, Tom Parker and Chris Fortson.

**Absent:** Unassigned Roxbury Rep. and Gilsum Rep.

**Also present:** J. Fortson, Business Manager and L. Aivaliotis Recording Secretary.

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

**2. Approval of the June 27, 2017 Budget Committee Minutes: MOTION:** T. Parker **MOVED** to accept the June 27, 2017 Budget Committee Minutes as presented.  
**SECOND:** W. LaCoste **VOTE:** 10.591/0/0/3.409. **Motion passes.**

**3. Budget Oversight:**

**a. MRSD Monthly Expense Report:** The committee reviewed the information passed out by J. Fortson. W. Lechluder asked J. Fortson the amount of surplus. She explained it is over 1 million dollars. It was about 1.2 million last year. She explained the information passed out is a comparison for year 2015, 2016 and 2017. There is not a lot of movement regarding the budget right now. She still has a few things to do before she will have the final surplus number.

**b. What major transfers occurred since the last meeting?** There have been no major transfers since the last meeting. There will be a small transfer for minor repairs to Cutler. The Administrative Assistant will be moved to the front of the building. The amount is about \$6000.00 and it will have to go to the Finance Committee. ***D. Coffman arrives.***

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

**4. Default Committee Members:** T. Parker, D. Coffman, W. LaCoste and D. Bersaw will be the members on the Default Committee.

**5. Cost per Pupil:** W. Lechluder asked if anyone would like to discuss the cost per pupil. The information passed out was a comparison of other districts. W. Lechluder commented the enrollment dropped and there was a surplus so the decision to cut at the Deliberative was not a bad idea. W. Martel asked in what school was there a decrease. J.

Fortson explained the decrease was in the MS/HS, the elementary schools increased in enrollment. She explained Troy increased due to the Preschool Program and Emerson had an increase due to the Special Ed. Program. You will see a change at Troy due to the Autism Program. She explained the cost per pupil includes Special Ed. Costs. T. Parker spoke about the cost of Special Ed. and the lack of reimbursement from the State to the District. He suggested going to the State. It was commented the Superintendent did go to the Concord. People need to go to Washington. D. Bersaw would suggest putting pressure on our representatives and telling them we need this addressed. W. Lechluder suggested bringing this back to the Board to join with other Districts to address this issue.

**6. 2018-2019 Budget vision:** L. Steadman explained the 3 CBA have received the information list prepared by this committee. She said the Negotiating Committee would like to make the process and contracts as easy as possible in order to get the contracts passed. It was commented that every person on the Negotiating Committee is or has been an educator or has a special interest. L. Steadman explained the Board is using a professional negotiator. W. Lechluder commented they have the list and if they do not pay attention to the list this committee knows what they have to do. L. Steadman said the committee is instructing the negotiator. T. Matson commented there are too many members from special interest groups on the negotiating committee. W. Martel commented these people are volunteers. The list of items for discussion is in the minutes.

**7. School Lunch Deficit:** W. Lechluder commented the Board is not doing their job with getting the funds owed to the District from students that have not paid for their lunches. The amount owed is about \$26,000.00. D. Coffman said not to put J. Fortson in that position regarding trying to collect the funds. It was suggested to change the policy. L. Steadman said we were told by law we had to change the policy.

**8. Funds Spent on Extra-Curricular vs. Athletics:** J. Fortson reviewed some of the numbers for sports and clubs. She explained T. Cote, L. Witte and herself have recorded all of the expenditures for the sports. K. Goodenough would like that information.

**9. School Administrative Budget:** The administration has been working on the budget over the summer. T. Matson commented there was a drop in students and we added an administrator. W. LaCoste said he is not sure we lost students. It was commented there are 157 teachers and last year there were 163 teachers. J. Fortson explained the number of principals in the District and what an interventionist is.

**10. School Board Liaison Report:** L. Steadman reported the chrome books were originally in a warrant and are now in the IT Dept. She explained the NEASC will be visiting in September regarding the High School's accreditation. She explained the schedule of events and invited the Budget Committee Members to participate. The cost of the visit is between \$20,000.00 and \$25,000.00. She explained M. Blair has moved to N.C. and she is now the Board Chair. L. Steadman explained negotiations are progressing and the committee has met with all of the Unions.

**11. Administration Report:** J. Fortson passed out the report prepared by L. Witte. She was not able to be at this meeting. W. Lechluder was disappointed L. Witte was not able to attend the meeting.

**12. Budget Committee Schedule:** The next meeting is on September 26, 2017.

**13. Any other item the committee wishes to discuss:** J. Fortson passed out the Budget Schedule to the members. It was commented signs should be purchased to announce the Deliberative Session. The committee discussed ways to get the word out about the upcoming meetings. J. Fortson explained 1.4 million will complete the renovations at MTC. W. Lechluder commented on the report regarding Troy and Cutler along with the large dollar amount to do the renovations. It was also commented that MTC is a large school and does not have a gymnasium. W. Lechluder commented on the Long Range Ad Hoc Committee. He said the Board needs to come up with a long range plan. The School Board needs to run the ship. J. Fortson explained Troy will cost 5 million dollars for renovations and Cutler will cost 3 million dollars. K. Goodenough would like a fact sheet to educate the voters.

**14. Superintendent Comments:** The superintendent was not present.

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

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

**17. Adjourn: MOTION:** T. Parker **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 PM.  
**SECOND:** T. Matson **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
MRSD Recording Secretary