

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**October 1, 2024**  
**Monadnock Regional Middle/High School, Swanzey, NH**

**School Board Members Present:** Scott Peters, Lisa Steadman, Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, Betty Tatro, Kristen Noonan, Jeff Cesaitis via Zoom, Hannah Blood, Brian Bohannon, Eric Stanley, Dan LeClair and Jennifer Strimbeck. **Absent:** Gina Carraro and Edmond LaPlante.

**Administration Present:** J. Rathbun, Superintendent and J. Morin, Business Administrator.  
**Also present:** Owen Higgins, Student Government Representative.

1. **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER at 7:00 PM:** L.Steadman called the meeting to order.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no Public Comments.
3. **#celebrate MRSD:** J. Rathbun commented on the first month of the school year. He said Homecoming week was great. There were a lot of proud students, athletes, parents and community members in attendance. E. Stanley commented that there were about 200-300 students at Homecoming. *H. Blood arrives.*

**4. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION**

**a. Standing agenda: Student Government Report:** O. Higgins explained that the Student Government had met twice since the new school year. He said they were discussing the courtyard. They would like for the seniors to be able to have lunch out in the courtyard. He would also like to get feedback on having designated senior parking in the parking lot. The Student Government would like to have elections before Homecoming. This would help with their fundraising.

**b. Standing agenda: Superintendent Goals Update:** J. Rathbun explained one of his goals is to keep the Board up to date and discuss the Elementary School Building Project. He said that they are beginning to build with structural steel. The softball field has been seeded, the softball announcing booth has been built and the dugouts are complete.

**c. Standing agenda: Board Meeting Calendar & Goals Update:**

**i. Goal by Goal Status Update:** CRC has submitted their survey to the Board for review and the administration has sent out the Marzano Survey, The Education Committee is working on the Cell Phone Policy, Finance/Facilities will meet next week and the Policy Committee will meet on October 29, 2024.

**d. Standing Agenda: School Resource Officer (Status Update):** J. Rathbun explained that he has heard back from the Sheriff's department and as much as they would like to help they are not able to. He also mentioned another officer in Swanzey had just left.

**e. Standing Agenda: Staff Update:** There is no significant update.

**f. Troy School Construction Plan:** J. Rathbun explained that this discussion has nothing

to do with the renovations to Troy but what to do with the students when the renovations begin. The construction will start in June. In the Fall they would like to move grades one through 6 to the classrooms that are already there and to move the Pre-K-K to Emerson. Emerson has the space. There will be an office trailer on the classroom side. The construction area will be fenced in. At Troy there will be a covered walkway to the cafeteria and a fenced walkway to get to the playground. The kitchen will be part of the tear down and the meals will be provided by Emerson School. T. Walsh and his staff are very comfortable with this plan. There will be a disruption with the staff but not the students. To move the Troy kids to Cutler will be worse for them. We will inform the community and then Hutter can move ahead. ***S. Peters takes over the meeting.*** They are working on a timeline for Emerson. The team is meeting tomorrow morning to discuss. The hope is to have Emerson done by August.

**g. Engagement Surveys:** J. Rathbun explained that the District will be sending out the Marzano survey. The company will send out the survey, gather the information and analyze the results. This will go out to the elementary parents first then the Middle and High School students. The survey will focus on climate and culture. Each year they will send out the survey with a different topic. This is an opt in survey. J. Cesaitis said the CRC has developed a survey. J. Rathbun asked what is different from the Marzano Survey. J. Cesaitis said the survey is to see if the voices within the schools are being heard. L. Steadman felt that some of the questions in the Marzano survey are the same as in the CRC Survey. The Marzano Survey recently went out. Some people received it and some did not. J. Rathbun will make sure the survey goes out tomorrow.

## **5. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:**

### **a. Policies 2nd Read**

- i. ACE: Procedural Safeguards Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability**
- ii. ACN: Accommodation of Lactation Needs**
- iii. JLDBB: Suicide Prevention and Response Plan**
- iv. BDA -R Catalog of Recurring School Board Policies**
- v. JIE/IHBCA: Accommodation of Pregnancy and Related Medical**

**Conditions: Students: t**

### **vi. GBAM: Accommodation of Pregnancy-Related Medical Conditions:**

**Personnel: MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to approve the 6 policies as presented on behalf of the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **DISCUSSION:** The committee made sure that the information in Policy GBAM was the same in the contract. **VOTE:** 11.677/0/0/1.323.

**Motion passes.**

**b. \* NHSBA Proposed Resolutions (motion to support): MOTION:** C.McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to support the NHSBA recommendation on Resolution # 21 which was submitted by the Hooksett School Board. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **VOTE:** 11.677/0/0/1.323. **Motion passes. MOTION:** D. LeClair **MOVED** to support the recommendation of the NHSBA

not to adopt Resolution # 22 as submitted by the Mascoma Valley Regional School Board.

**SECOND:** K. Noonan. **DISCUSSION:** J. Rathbun said that this test is given to the high school, not the Middle School. This test is paid for by the State. This is a very intrusive survey. **VOTE:** 9.843/1.834/0/1.323. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to support the NHSBA recommendation not to support Resolution # 23 which was submitted by the Keene School Board. **SECOND:** D. LeClair. **VOTE:** 11.677/0/0/1.323. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to support the alternative language presented by the NHSBA for Resolution #24 which was presented by the Keene School Board. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 4.493/5.195/1.989 /1.323. **Motion fails** **MOTION:** D. LeClair **MOVED** to support Resolution #24 submitted by the Keene School Board. **SECOND:** J. Cesaitis. **VOTE:** 11.677/0/0/1.323. **Motion passes.**

**c. \* Approve the Consent Agenda**

**i. September 17, 2024 Minutes**

**ii. Manifest: \$ 1,231,507.29** **MOTION:** B.Tatro **MOVED** to accept the September 17, 2024 Public, the Non-Public Meeting Minutes and to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,231,507.29 as presented. **SECOND:** B. Bohannon. **VOTE:** 10.545/0/1.132/1.323. **Motion passes.** **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to approve the SEALED September 17, 2024 Non-Public Meeting Minutes (i) as presented. **SECOND:** K. Noonan. **VOTE:** 9.477/0/1.132/2.421. **(J. Cesaitis did not vote).** **Motion passes.**

**6. SETTING NEXT MEETING’S AGENDA:**

- a. October 15, 2024 Superintendent’s Club**
- b. Academic Achievement**
- c. Draft of Proposed Budget**
- d. Education Support Day**
- e. MTC, Cutler, Troy and Emerson Renovation Project**
- f. Finance/Facilities Report**
- g. Unapproved Leave**

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.

J. Morin explained the DOE report and the MS25 reports. She explained that the DOE goes to the Department of Education and the MS25 goes to the Department of Revenue. These documents report last year’s general fund and grants. The forms are used to set the tax rates.

**8. 8:30 PM Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3 II (i) Consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carrying out of emergency functions, including training to carry out such functions, developed by local or state safety officials that**

**are directly intended to thwart a deliberate act that is intended to result in widespread or severe damage to property or widespread injury or loss of life.**

**MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3 II (i) Consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carrying out of emergency functions, including training to carry out such functions, developed by local or state safety officials that are directly intended to thwart a deliberate act that is intended to result in widespread or severe damage to property or widespread injury or loss of life. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 11.677/0/0/1.323. **Motion passes.**

**9. 8:52 PM Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting.**

**MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. **SECOND:** H. Blood **VOTE:** 11.1677/0/0/1.323 **Motion passes.**

**10. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION:** J. Rathbun informed the Board that the Van drivers are joining the MESSA Union. There are no financial negotiations. There will be a MOU prepared because of the mid contract. **MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to accept the MOU for the Van Drivers to the MESSA Bargaining Unit. **SECOND:** L. Steadman **DISCUSSION:** There are no health benefits. We were advised not to say no by the PELRB. **VOTE:** 11.677/0/0/1.323. **Motion passes.**

**11. MOTION TO ADJOURN: MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM. **SECOND:** L. Steadman. **VOTE:** 11.677/0/0/1.323. **Motion passes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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

**VOTING KEY:Yes/No/Abstain/Absent**