Monadnock Regional School District Education/Technology Meeting Minutes February 12, 2025(corrected 4.2.2025) SAU Conference Room, Swanzey, NH

Members Present: Hannah Blood and Scott Peters Absent: Edmond LaPlante and Gina Carraro

Also Present: Erin Kelly, teacher, Becky Russell, HS Assistant Principal, Yvonne Peters, teacher, Paul Goodhind, MS Vice Principal, via Zoom and L. Aivaliotis, Recording Secretary.

- 1. Call the Meeting to Order: H. Blood called the meeting to order.
- **2. Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
- 3. Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes. MOTION: S.Peters MOVED to approve the November 13, 2024 and the December 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes as written. **SECOND:** H. Blood. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**
- Receive and review feedback from administration, Employees on Cell Phone Policy: 4. S.peters commented that the committee met with the staff members to discuss the proposed Cell Phone Policy on January 29, 2025. It was commented that the Legislature is trying to ban cell phones from schools. Currently it is in committee. This could help us but it could also take a while. P. Goodhind said that the Governor is in support. S.Peters presented the proposed Cell Phone Policy on the screen. H. Blood took notes from the January 29th meeting and would like to address the concerns. H. Blood said some of the wording is not consistent. B. Russell reviewed the house bill to see if the wording was the same. The committee preferred "personal devices". Another concern was with apple watches. The committee added language. Headphones and earbuds are also a concern. They can connect to Bluetooth and no cell phone would be needed. B. Russell is concerned the student may not hear the teacher as well as a safety issue. E. Kelly wants to see them all gone. It was commented that if it is part of a 504 and a student has documentation they would be allowed to have the headphones or earbuds in school. There was a concern about a bathroom pass swap for the cellphone. P. Goodhind talked about a phone in the office being available and the cell phones in a locked area. P.Goodhind said it is hard to police the phones to go to the bathroom. It will be a management challenge. B. Russell commented that we know this will be a challenge. P. Goodhind said this is a training investment. It was commented that staff would use cell phones with common sense. B. Russell asked what are the steps for discipline if a staff member violates the policy. P.Goodhind suggested progressive discipline. E. Kelly commented that no cell phones from bell to bell also cover the hallways. Confiscate the phones if they do violate. In the policy the committee changes the hours to academic hours for no cell phone use. The committee reviewed the rest of the Proposed Cell Phone Policy. MOTION: H. Blood MOVED to approve the Proposed Cell Phone Policy as amended and to send it to the full Board as a first read. SECOND: S.Peters. VOTE: Unanimous for those present. Motion passes.

- **5. Discussion next steps, execution, pending Board approval of Cell Phone Policy:** S. Peters said that the Board will have the first read on February 18, 2025 and the second read on March 4, 2025. This policy will go into effect on July 1, 2025. S.Peters would encourage the staff and administration to attend the March 4th Meeting to explain the process for this policy. He would ask B. Russell and P. Goodhind to take this proposal to J. Rathbun to discuss and speak about it.
- **6. Discussion-next Philosophy:** For a future meeting.
- 7. Other Business: The committee would like to have Policy IKL in effect soon.
- 8. Assignments and agenda for next meeting: February 26, 2025.
- **9. Public Comments:** S.Peters thanked B. Russell, P. Goodhind and E.Kelly for their work on the policy.
- **10. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** S.Peters **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM. **SECOND:** H. Blood **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary