

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 15, 2025**  
**Monadnock Regional Middle/High School, Swanzey, NH**

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

**Administration Present:** J. Morin, Business Administrator.

- 1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER at 7:00 PM:** S. Peters called the meeting to order.
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.
- 3. #celebrateMRSD:** S. Peters explained that he toured MTC. He said it was very exciting. He saw a lot and asked a lot of questions. Some of the ceilings are going up. The mechanicals are inside the building and easy to maintain. It is pretty exciting.

It was mentioned that wrestling is a new sport at the high school.

**4. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:**

**a. Policies for First Read:**

- i. JFABE: Education of Children in Foster Care**
- ii. JKA: Corporal Punishment**
- iii. JLCC: Head Lice/Pediculosis**
- iv. JLCC-R: Communicable Diseases - Retire**
- v. JRA: Student Records and Access (FERPA)**
- vi. JRA-A: Student Records and Access - Retire**
- vii. JIC: Student Conduct**
- viii. JLCK: Physical and Emotional Well-Being Students**
- ix. JLIA: Supervision of Students**
- x. IMAH: Daily Physical Activity**
- xi. EBB: School Safety**
- xii. EBCH: Chemical Safety and Chemical Hygiene Plan:** K. Noonan said

that there are a lot of policies because some of them did not make the last packet. The committee cleaned up a few policies, then the bulletin policies, and then required by law. S. Peters would suggest K. Noonan and L. Spencer discuss the policies regarding the handbook. The Board could schedule a special meeting or assume they are going to pass with a vote.

**b. Committee Report: Finance & Facilities:** C. McDaniel-Thomas explained that the committee did not meet due to lack of quorum. She did mention that the committee discussed Cutler Building and agreed to get it appraised. The water filtration system at Emerson is not part of the renovations and is in need of being replaced. J. Morin explained that they have received

estimates. T. Breen has received 4 bids. The funds will come from the School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust. The administration would recommend The Water Store for the water filtration system in the amount of \$29,322.00. **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to award the bid for the Emerson Water Filtration System to The Water Store in the amount of \$29,322.00 to be paid from the School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust. **SECOND:** L. Steadman. **DISCUSSION:** The water will be tested and a proposal will be sent to the State. **VOTE:** E. LaPlante-abstain and remaining members-yes. **Motion passes.** The tiles in the 700s and the 800s will be pulled up and replaced at no cost to the district.

**c. Board Goal Review:**

**i. Fin/Fac: By October 1st 2025-Update the CIP for MRMHS and the SAU Campus:** The committee was not able to discuss the CIP for Monadnock or the SAU due to lack of quorum. J. Morin and T. Breen know what has to be done. J. Rathbun would like to talk to his team and discuss education regarding the CIP. There are no major projects now. C. McDaniel-Thomas had mentioned at the meeting a 5-7-year maintenance plan for the newly renovated schools.

**ii. CRC: By February 1st 2026 To deliver at least two communications to the public regarding district happenings and budget/voting information.** H. Blood reported that the committee would like to do their first Live Facebook the first week in September to interact with the public. Invite students and teachers at the beginning of the year to let the public know what is happening. The committee hopes to get involved with the Behavior Committee regarding the rollout of the cell phone policy for support. In November, the committee will put together a budget-related Q & A. After the budget meeting in December, communicate with the public regarding budget-related action dates and times. Lastly, the committee would like to meet with the Ed. Committee targeting questions from the Dept. of Ed. Report Card. The CRC is thinking of ways to welcome the 7th grade students to MRMHS and ways to increase Husky Pride. Possibly hand out swag.

**iii. Education: By October 1st 2025-Assess the district's current ELO opportunities and recommend options to enhance ELO in the 2026/27 School Year:** The Ed./Tech Committee will be discussing the ELO at their August Meeting. S. Peters and J. Rathbun spoke about Beyond the Bell regarding funding. This will be a topic at the August Board Meeting.

**d. NHSBA Resolutions:** L. Steadman explained that the NHSBA Resolutions are due August 1, 2025. She explained the process for a resolution from this Board. L. Steadman proposed the following resolution to be brought forward: **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to approve L. Steadman to write a resolution proposal for NHSBA in the vein of allowing Board Members with ADA qualified disabilities to be counted towards physical quorum but they must attend the meetings remotely. **SECOND:** H. Blood. **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.**

## 5. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:

a. **Annual Approval of Policies DFA & JLDBB:** The Board was presented with Policy DFA for review. **MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to approve Policy DFA as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.** There is no action on Policy JLDBB this year.

b. **Annual Approval of the Independent Auditor:** **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to approve Plodzik and Sanderson as the MRSD independent auditors for the 2025/26 Fiscal Audit. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.**

c. **Annual Approval of Student Tuition Rate:** **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to set the annual tuition for the 2025/26 school year at \$21,249.00 and it is tied to the cost per pupil. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.**

d. **Approval of 2025-26 School Nutrition Prices:** J. Morin presented the breakfast, lunch, snack and milk prices for the elementary schools and the MRMHS. **MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to approve the 2025/26 Nutrition prices as presented by the administration. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.**

e. **Emerson Autism Program:** At a previous meeting C. Woods presented a new Autism Program to be housed at Emerson Elementary. This program needs approval by the Board. L. Steadman asked why the program is at Emerson. C. McDaniel-Thomas commented that this is C. Woods' idea. It was commented that this is an out-of-district program and it will attract Massachusetts students. The construction of the classrooms are underway. This will keep our kids in the district. It was commented that we need to utilize the space at schools or you have to offer it to a Charter School. **J. Rathbun discussed this proposal by phone with the Board..** J. Rathbun commented that Emerson has the space and that is why they chose that school. The 2 rooms are the right size based on the number of students. This is the first time for this type of program. We will not be advertising for out-of-district students this year. This is a learning curve. We would not take in students from other districts if we need the spots. The specialists are at Emerson. J. Rathbun said there will be 4 to 5 students this year. **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to approve the application and development of the NECC Partner Program for Autism as presented by the administration. **SECOND:** R. Vogt. **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.**

e. **Approve the Consent Agenda: June 17, 2025 Minutes, Non-Public Minutes and Manifest: \$ 163,021.18 for 2025, \$2,179,586.16 for 2026.** **MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to accept the June 17, 2025 Public Meeting Minutes and Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented and to approve the manifest in the amount of \$ 163,021.18 for 2025, \$2,179,586.16 for 2026. **SECOND:** H. Blood **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.**

## 6. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

- a. **NHSBA Resolution**
- b. **Policy JLDBB**
- c. **Student Handbook**

- d. **ELO Goal and Plan**
- e. **Negotiations Non-Meeting**

**7. Notifications:** S. Peters informed the Board of the new staff hired by J. Rathbun during the summer as authorized by the Board. Monica Devito-Administrative Assistant at MRMHS, Morgan Braniff-Cutler School Counselor, Sarah Wadsworth-4th grade Teacher Cutler, Lindsey Charron-MRMHS School Counselor, and Michelle Dillon-para professional Cutler.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There are no public comments.

**9. 8:14 PM ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION ( c ) : MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under 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:** C.McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.**

**10. MOTION TO ADJOURN: MOTION:** L.Steadman **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:17 PM. **SECOND:** K. Noonan **VOTE:** 7.6/0/0/5.4. **Motion passes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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

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