

Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)
School Board Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2025
Monadnock Regional Middle/High School, Swanzey, NH

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

Administration Present: J. Rathbun, Superintendent and 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:

a. Robotics Education Grant Award: The Middle School has been awarded the NH Yearly Robotics Grant in the amount of \$4680.00.

b. Homecoming Oct. 6th-11th: J. Rathbun explained that the Homecoming events are going great. He attended the Middle School Soccer game today. It was a great afternoon. The student athletes did an awesome job with the elementary school students at the homecoming events.

c. Sports Accolades: Payton Joslyn competed in the Moonlight Madness Invitational and set a course record and beat his personal record. Congratulations Payton!!!

d. Pumpkin Carving: Week of Oct. 13th: MTC will be carving pumpkins on October 13.

e. Other News: The Superintendent's Club will be meeting prior to the next Board Meeting. The Board is welcome to attend. This is a social event with snacks and pins will be passed out. Emerson will host a Title One coffee discussion with the principals. The Band received the Best Looking Band Award at the Fireman Parade in Keene.

4. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

a. Meeting Calendar (Oct.-Jan.): The November 4, 2025 Board Meeting will be held at Emerson. There will be a ribbon cutting and a Board tour. K. Barker and Andrew will be present for the ceremony. The Library will be a future conversation. The January 20, 2026 Board Meeting will be at MTC. J. Rathbun explained that he just emailed CRC about the scoreboard donated by the Class of 1977. The score boards will be installed the week of October 20, 2025. CRC is aware of the first home game on December 15, 2025 and the Class of 1977 will be recognized and thanked.

b. Superintendent and Board Goals:

i. By 10/1/2025 Update the CIP of the MRMHS and the SAU Campus: C.McDaniel-Thomas explained that there is nothing new with the CIP. The committee did not meet due to lack of quorum. J. Morin explained that she met with T. Breen and Bob making a list of projects. They are still waiting for numbers for some of the projects. It was commented that we need to have the list but not necessarily the numbers. S.Peters said the CIP is a placeholder. We need to have the MRMHS study and the SAU study. J. Morin commented they have an

outline for the next several years. S. Peters suggested putting the CIP for the elementary schools out 10 years. C. McDaniel-Thomas commented that the Fin/Fac did discuss a maintenance routine plan for the elementary schools. S. Peters would like a life expectancy list. He would like this for the upcoming Board/Budget Committee Joint Meeting.

ii. By 10/1/2025 Assess the District's current ELO, approve and recommend options to enhance the ELO in the 2026/27 School Year: S. Peters asked if the Board should consider the ELO goal as done. J. Rathbun commented that it is helpful to have a check in along the way. S. Peters asked if there is a cost for the ELO program. J. Rathbun explained that there is no cost, they have the position.

iii. By 2/1/2025 Deliver at least 2 quarterly communications to the MRSD Community regarding the District happenings and budget voting information: H. Blood explained that the upcoming events will fulfill the goal. She would like to have 2 or more communications to the public prior to the Deliberative and one after the vote. The committee would like to do one Facebook Live.

iv. Superintendent Goals: J. Rathbun presented the system to evaluate the administration to the Board. He explained that every one of his administrators has done the evaluation. He explained that he does not do all of the administrator's evaluations. There is a chain of command which he explained. All but 4 of the evaluations are complete. His next goal is to be visible to the students in the schools which are being done. Goal 3 is in regards to the families and the stakeholders. J. Rathbun will be preparing a portfolio. S. Peters commented that the Board has been asking for this and it is concrete. Great start.

5. MATTERS THAT REQUIRE BOARD ACTION:

a. FY 26/27 Budget Cycle-Proposed Budget Discussion: J. Rathbun commented that after the conversation with the Board it does not look like there is room for big ticket items.

i. Focus items needed for the budget (e.g new positions or grant positions to be converted): Nothing new at this time.

ii. SAU Study: The Board had discussed the \$7500.00 for the SAU Study. J. Morin and J. Rathbun are pretty sure the money is in the current budget. They would like to get this done this year.

b. Policies 2nd Read:

i. IHCA-Summer Activities:

ii. IJ-Instructional Resources & Instructional Resources Plan:

iii. IK-Earning of High School Credit-Achievement of Competencies:

iv. IKB-Homework:

v. IKFG-Career Exploration, Readiness, Pathways & Credentials:

MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** to accept the policy changes as presented by the Policy Committee. **SECOND:** J. Cesaitis **VOTE:** 11.116/0/0/1.884. **Motion passes.**

c. NHSBA Proposed Resolutions: The Board will discuss this topic later in the meeting.

d. Approve the Consent Agenda: September 16, 2025 Minutes, Non-Public Minutes, Manifest: \$ 4,196,244.09 for FY 2026 and budget transfers . MOTION: C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to accept the September 16, 2025 Public Meeting Minutes and

Non-Public Meeting Minutes as presented, to approve the manifests in the amount of \$ 4,196,244.09 for FY 2026 and the following budget transfers as presented: a request from J. Morin in the amount of \$97,512 from Troy salary and benefit lines to Emerson Salary and benefit lines, a transfer request from J. Morin in the amount of \$507,300 from MRMHS Spec. Ed health ins. line, Special Ed. Private Tuition line, Speech salaries and benefit lines to Special Ed. Contracted Services line, a budget transfer request from J. Morin in the amount of \$180,000 from MRMHS Regular instruction line. Health Ins line to Special Ed. Related Services line, a budget transfer request from J. Morin in the amount of \$101,895 from MRMHS Social Workers salary and benefit lines to the DW Social Worker/Guidance Salary line and benefit lines and a request from J. Morin in the amount of \$52,000 from the Spec. Ed. van drivers salary and benefit lines to the Special Ed. Transportation line. **SECOND: K. Noonan. VOTE: 11.116/0/0/1.884. Motion passes.**

6. SETTING NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

- a. **October 21, 2025**
- b. **Superintendent's Club**
- c. **Approve CIP**
- d. **NH Retirement Bi-Annual Rate Change**
- e. **MESSA Contract Review**

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: There are no public comments.

8. 7:44 PM Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee: MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee. **SECOND: B.Bohannon VOTE:** 11.116/0/0/1.884. **Motion passes.**

9. 7:46 PM ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION (c) : MOTION: C. McDaniel-Thomas **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: K. Noonan VOTE:** 11.116/0/0/1.884. **Motion passes.**

10. 7:51 PM ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION (i) MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under 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: H.Blood. VOTE: 11.116/0/0/1.884. Motion passes.**

11. 7:56 PM ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION (j): MOTION: K. Noonan **MOVED** to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (j) Consideration of confidential, commercial or financial information that is exempt from public disclosure under RSA 91-A:5 IV

in an adjudicative proceeding pursuant to RSA 541 or RSA 541-A. **SECOND:** R. Vogt. **VOTE:** 11.166/0/0/1.884. **Motion passes.**

12. 8:04 PM RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION: J. Rathbun and J. Morin leave the meeting:

13. NHSBA Proposed Resolutions: The Board was presented the resolutions submitted from multiple School Boards. The Delegation will be meeting on October 25, 2025. This Board will vote on each resolution and the Board representative will vote according to the Hoo Board's vote. The Board voted on the following motions: **MOTION:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **MOVED** to support the NHSBA alternative resolution regarding Resolution # 13 presented by Hanover and Dresden School Boards, Resolution # 14 presented by Dover School Board and Resolution # 15 from Oyster River Cooperative School Board. **SECOND:** R. Vogt. **VOTE:** 10.035/0/0/2.966. **H. Blood missing from vote. Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to support Resolution #16 as presented by Chesterfield School Board. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 8.951/2.216/0/1.884. **Motion passes. MOTION:** J. Cesaitis **MOVED** to support Resolution # 17 submitted by the Chesterfield School Board and do not support the NHSBA stance. **SECOND:** E.LaPlante. **VOTE:** 9.04/1.32/.995/1.884. **Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to support the NHSBA stance and recommendation regarding Resolution #18 as submitted by the Raymond School Board. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 4.356/6.811/0/1.884. **Motion fails. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to support the NHSBA stance on Resolution #19 as submitted by the Raymond School Board. **SECOND:** J. Cesaitis. **VOTE:** 9.843/1.323/0/1.884. **Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to support the NHSBA stance on Resolution #20 as submitted by the Concord School Board. **SECOND:** J. Cesaitis. **VOTE:** 11.116/0/0/1.884. **Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to support the NHSBA stance on Resolution #21 as submitted by the Concord School Board. **SECOND:** J. Cesaitis. **VOTE:** 10.084/1.118/0/1.884. **Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to support the NHSBA recommendation for an alternate resolution for Resolution #22 as submitted by the Hooksett School Board. **SECOND:** H. Blood. **VOTE:** 8.745/2.424/0/1.885. **Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to support the NHSBA recommendation not to support Resolution # 23 as submitted by the Hooksett School Board. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** 10.035/0/1.132/0. **Motion passes. MOTION:** K. Noonan **MOVED** to support the NHSBA recommendation for an alternate resolution for Resolution # 24 as submitted by the Monadnock Regional School Board. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** 11.166/0/0/1.884. **Motion passes.**

14. MOTION TO ADJOURN: **MOTION:** J.Cesaitis **MOVED** to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:47 PM. **SECOND:** H. Blood **VOTE:** 11.116/0/0/1.884. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis
Recording Secretary

VOTING KEY:Yes/No/Abstain/Absent