

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
SPECIAL MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
Tuesday, June 23, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.**

2014-15 Board of Education Goals:

To engage in a cycle of continuous improvement to ensure all students are educated with high standards and achieve at the highest levels of learning in the Montville Public Schools.

Item 1. Call to order.

Board Chair David Rowley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Montville High School Library/Media Center. Board members present were Deborah Reed-Iler, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Kim Navetta, Todd Pomazon, and David Rowley. Carrie T. Baxter, Steve Loiler, Valerie Smith, and James Wood were absent.

Also present were Superintendent of Schools Brian Levesque, Assistant Superintendent Laurie Pallin, Director of Special Services Mark Johnson, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Administrators Amy Espinoza, William Klinefelter, Jr., Jill Mazzalupo, Heather Mileski and Town Council Liaison Joseph Jaskiewicz.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

Item 3. Hearing of delegates and citizens (regarding agenda items only).

Chair D. Rowley asked three times for comments. There were none.

Item 4: Letters and communications. -- None

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: **That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.**

Proposed by: Bob Mitchell

Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler

Vote: Carrie; (vote 5-0)

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives. -- None

Chair D. Rowley reported that Karishma Chouhan from the junior class, will join senior Rohit Sinha, as Student Board representatives for the 2015-2016 school year.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

a. Consideration and action to reduce the 2015-2016 budget by \$28,000.

Superintendent B. Levesque explained the \$28,000 reduction to the 2015-2016 Board budget, as approved by the Town Council at its May meeting. He stated that savings from life insurance and rollover savings from new hires, comprised the budget reduction.

Item 8. New Business.

a. Consideration and action to adopt the Eureka Math K-8 program as recommended by the E&E Committee.

B. Mitchell explained that the Eureka Math program was piloted throughout the year with great results.

Motion: That the Board adopts the Eureka Math K-8 program as recommended by the E&E Committee.

Proposed by: Bob Mitchell

Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler

Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

b. Consideration and action to approve Social Studies textbooks, grades 6-8, as recommended by the E&E Committee.

Assistant Superintendent L. Pallin explained that the Social Studies textbooks align with new standards just approved and include an outstanding technical component. The textbook only has a class set of books and has licenses for students to use it at home. L. Pallin said the textbooks that are budgeted for next year will be reviewed for attaining either a 1-year or 6-year license.

Motion: That the Board approves Social Studies textbooks, grades 6-8, as recommended by the E&E Committee.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Bob Mitchell

Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

c. Reminder of Board of Education Retreat, scheduled for Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. in the Montville High School Library/Media Center.

Chair D. Rowley reminded the Board of its retreat on August 4. Superintendent Levesque commented that Patrice McCarthy of CAFE would be attending the meeting which will include dinner.

- d. Consideration and action to comply with Public Act 6-63, an act concerning Healthy Food & Beverages in School for the 2015-2016 school year.**

The Montville Board of Education elects, for the 2015-2016 school year, to permit the sale of all foods and beverages that are not legally permitted during the regular school day if the following conditions are met:

- 1) The sale of foods and beverages is in connection with an *event* occurring *after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend*.**
- 2) The sale of foods and beverages is at the *location of the event*.**
- 3) The foods and beverages are *not sold from a vending machine or school store*.**

Motion: That the Board complies with Public Act 6-63, an act concerning Healthy Food & Beverages in School for the 2015-2016 school year.

The Montville Board of Education elects, for the 2015-2016 school year, to permit the sale of all foods and beverages that are not legally permitted during the regular school day if the following conditions are met:

- 1) The sale of foods and beverages is in connection with an *event* occurring *after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend*.**
- 2) The sale of foods and beverages is at the *location of the event*.**
- 3) The foods and beverages are *not sold from a vending machine or school store*.**

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

- e. Consideration and action to approve a field trip for Montville High School, Spanish Class, Havana, Cuba, April 15, 2016 to April 23, 2016, 20 students.**

Per discussion, Board member T. Pomazon opposed the trip due to the country's leadership. Spanish teacher Victoria Galarza-Clifford stated that Cuba has opened up to students particularly those interested in attaining masters' programs. She assured the Board that the travel company would take care of all the arrangements for the trip including visas. She also said that the visiting students would be speaking in Spanish all the time as English speakers would be limited.

Motion: That the Board approves a field trip for Montville High School, Spanish Class, Havana, Cuba, April 15, 2016 to April 23, 2016, 20 students.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Bob Mitchell

Voice Vote: In favor – D. Reed-Iler, K. Navetta, D. Rowley, B. Mitchell
Opposed – T. Pomazon
Vote 4-1; motion passed

f. Appraisal of field trip, Montville High School, FLBA National Competition, Chicago, IL, June 29, 2015 to July 2, 2015, 5 students.

The Board was apprised of this trip.

g. Consideration and action to approve new Policy #3524, Hazardous Materials in Schools, as approved by the Policy Committee at its last meeting.

Motion: That the Board approves new Policy #3524, Hazardous Materials in Schools, as approved by the Policy Committee at its last meeting.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Kim Navetta

Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Superintendent B. Levesque commented that all of the policies tonight have been reviewed by the Policy Committee and fully endorsed.

h. Consideration and action to approve revisions to Policy #3524.1, Hazardous Materials in Schools – Pest Management/Pesticide Application, as approved by the Policy Committee at its last meeting.

Motion: That the Board approves new Policy #3524.1, Hazardous Materials in Schools – Pest Management/Pesticide Application, as approved by the Policy Committee at its last meeting.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Bob Mitchell

Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

i. Consideration and action to approve revisions to Policy #3524.2, regarding Green Cleaning Programs, as approved by the Policy Committee at its last meeting.

Motion: That the Board approves Policy #3524.2, regarding Green Cleaning Programs as approved by the Policy Committee at its last meeting.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

- j. Consideration and action to approve new Policy #5141.7 (a), Students, Student Sports – Concussions, as approved by the Policy Committee at its last meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves Policy #5141.7 (a), Students, Student Sports – Concussions, as approved by the Policy Committee at its last meeting.

Proposed by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Board member D. Reed-Iler commented that the policy was a great move that includes a parent and student component. B. Mitchell added that all of the coaches have been doing online training and received feedback from the CIAC as to what is best for students.

- k. Consideration and action to transfer \$56,000 from Tuitions (560-563) to Transportation Contracted Services (510).**

Motion: That the Board approves the transfer of \$56,000 from Tuitions (560-563) to Transportation Contracted Services (510).

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Per discussion, Superintendent B. Levesque commented that the transfer is to cover Special Education transportation.

- l. Consideration and action to transfer \$48,700 from Salary Accounts (111-130) to Property Accounts (730-739) for the replacement/upgrade of server and switches.**

Motion: That the Board approves the transfer of \$48,700 from Salary Accounts (111-130) to Property Accounts (730-739) for the replacement/upgrade of server and switches.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Per discussion, Superintendent B. Levesque commented that the funds for the transfers this evening represent rollover savings from last year due to retirements, insurance, and salaries. He added that the servers need updating as they are 8 years old and well beyond warranty, and as well, N. Savoie has been unable to obtain replacement parts for them.

- m. Consideration and action to transfer \$22,950 from Salary Accounts (111-130) to Property Accounts (730-739) for the replacement of office computers throughout the district.**

Motion: That the Board approves the transfer of \$22,950 from Salary Accounts (111-130) to Property Accounts (730-739) for the replacement of office computers throughout the district.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Per discussion, Superintendent B. Levesque commented that all of the secretaries' computers which are as old as the servers, will be replaced.

- n. Consideration and action to transfer \$32,300 from Salary Accounts (111-130) to Property Accounts (730-739) for the purchase of imaging software.**

Motion: That the Board approves the transfer of \$32,300 from Salary Accounts (111-130) to Property Accounts (730-739) for the purchase of imaging software

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Per discussion, Superintendent B. Levesque commented that the software would be used to put new images on the computers. B. Mitchell added that the software is a fast, efficient way to load software, typically within an hour.

- o. Consideration and action to waive the bid process for Environmental Tank Technology (current vendor) and transfer \$44,000 from Employee Benefits (204-222) to Purchase Services (423) for the replacement of gas pumps at the Transportation Facility.**

Motion: That the Board approves waiving the bid process for Environmental Tank Technology (current vendor) and transferring \$44,000 from Employee Benefits (204-222) to Purchase Services (423) for the replacement of gas pumps at the Transportation Facility.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Per discussion, Superintendent B. Levesque passed around pictures of the existing gas pumps. He explained that the gas pumps failed a pump test and that they are critical for fueling the buses.

- p. **Consideration and action to waive the bid process and to transfer \$95,000 from Employee benefits (204-222) to Purchase Services (423) for paving the transportation facility parking lot. The vendor will be awarded the work based on receiving competitive pricing.**

Motion: That the Board waives the bid process and transfers \$95,000 from Employee benefits (204-222) to Purchase Services (423) for paving the transportation facility parking lot. The vendor will be awarded the work based on receiving competitive pricing.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Per discussion, Superintendent B. Levesque said that the work on the facility parking lot should be put out for bid, but the lot needs to be paved/completed before school reopens. Photos of the lot were handed out for the Board to view. B. Levesque stated that the parking lot is a critical issue as employees have fallen and during a mock evaluation done by the insurance company, the Board was cited for the condition of the lot. Multiple quotes for the project will be sought as the cost will be significant.

- q. **Consideration and possible action to provide transportation to the Science and Technology Magnet High School in New London.**

Motion: That the Board acts to provide transportation to the Science and Technology Magnet High School in New London.

Proposed by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler
Voice vote: In favor – K. Navetta
Opposed – D. Reed-Iler, B. Mitchell, T. Pomazon, D. Rowley

Vote 1-4 – motion defeated

Per discussion, Chair D. Rowley reminded the Board that students and parents advocated for transportation to the school at a prior Board meeting. K. Navetta inquired about the cost to provide transportation. Superintendent B. Levesque commented that if the district can provide transportation, the students could ride-share with students who currently attend and are transported to the Regional Multicultural Magnet School (RMCMS). At present, the marine science school has a different start time than that of the RMCMS. In addition, the tuition costs to the district would increase by 30% next year. If transportation could be provided at no cost to the district, it would be.

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

a. Policy (James Wood). – None

b. Educational Evaluation (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported there was not a quorum so a meeting was not held.

c. Montville Education Foundation (Steve Loiler).

In the absence of S. Loiler, B. Levesque reported that the MEF will hold its annual golf tournament on Monday, August 10, 2015, and foursomes are being recruited.

d. LEARN (Carrie Baxter). --None

e. CABE/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that the current legislative update in Hartford on June 9th was a “great day.” The CABE Summer Leadership Workshop for superintendents and administrators will occur at the Old Saybrook Inn on Monday, July 27 from 2:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. followed by a dinner.

f. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon). -- None

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Todd Pomazon).

T. Pomazon reported that the Council would meet next in July.

h. Montville Youth Services Bureau (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that there were a few new cases before the Juvenile Review Board. Superintendent B. Levesque reported that at the last meeting, two (2) new cases were heard and one (1) reviewed. In the last three years, over 100 cases were reviewed and one was sent back.

i. Administrative Monthly Reports.

Chair D. Rowley commented on the Tyl School promotion ceremony and other activities cited in the reports.

j. Chair's Remarks.

D. Rowley reported that he attended the Murphy School Dare ceremony.

k. Other. -- None

Item 10. Superintendent's Report.

a. Report from the Director of Student Services – M. Johnson.

M. Johnson reported to the Board on the following:

- Special Education Hiring: We are almost done with our hiring for our special education extended school year. I have my last interview on Monday and all of our work, in preparation for this interview indicates that we will be able to recommend a candidate for hire.
- LSCI: I have been attending Life Space Crisis Intervention (LSCI) training at LEARN this week. We are partnering with LEARN for the training so we have ten staff members from the Pathways and PBL programs while LEARN has sent 10 of their staff. One of our staff members is from Charles E Murphy where we will be implementing a Pathways philosophy in a classroom next year for the elementary level.

LSCI approaches children in crisis as a time for learning. It operates around understanding an event, creating a motivation to change, and creating a confidence in adults for students. There are 6 stages, the first three being diagnostic and the other three being reclaiming or learning stages. This is what sets it apart, it is giving us the ability to use this as not only a diagnostic tool but also a teaching tool. We plan to write individual education plans for goals and objectives, based on the concerns and needs that arise from our work through the stages.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mrs. Pallin.

L. Pallin reported to the Board on the following:

- June 17 PD – The PE teachers provided PD on team building, focusing on the approach which team members use to solve problems. This will serve as a springboard for our goal work on problem solving next year. Many thanks to Kathleen Franchi, PE teacher at Tyl, for proposing the idea and preparing activities for use at each of the buildings.
- June 18 Professional Learning Session with Nancy Boyles – We used funds from one of our Common Core Mini-Grants to bring Nancy Boyles in for a full day to work with grades 2-6 teachers and ELL and special education teachers on continued work aligned our Imagine It program to common core standards and SBAC claims. She did a fantastic job clearly articulating areas of focus and providing examples to guide our work in developing new assessments to measure students' reading comprehension.
- Summer Curriculum Work – We began our work last week and have a number of projects underway. Teachers are developing unit plans, revising scope and sequence, creating assessment items, and organizing electronic binders of instructional resources at all grade levels.
- Summer Professional Learning – We will use grant funds this summer to ensure that all of our special education teachers and reading consultants have been trained in Lindamood-Bell intervention programs. We have found these programs to be highly effective with some of our most struggling readers and I am pleased we are able to fully adopt it in district for use with Title I and special education students. We are also sending two high school teachers to Eureka math training, in hopes that our struggling math students will benefit from implementation of models to support their understanding of more complex mathematics.

c. Monthly Update.

B. Levesque reported on the following:

- Graduations: The graduation ceremonies for the 5th grades, Tyl Middle School, Montville High School, and Palmer Academy were all great. The high school ceremony was held indoors while the Palmer graduation was held outside. The high school students walked through the gymnasium, which allowed family members to take pictures more easily.
- Margret Tripp Retirement & Replacement: M. Tripp's official last day is this Friday, June 26th. Jennifer LeMay will transition to Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent on a full-time basis beginning June 29th. She is currently training her replacement for payroll. Secretary Brenda Kollwitz will soon retire as well. He and L. Pallin are reviewing applications for her position.

- Negotiations: B. Levesque reported that a tentative agreement was reached with both the Paraprofessional and Secretary Unions. Both groups will hold meetings in August to ratify. We should be able to finalize at the August BOE Meeting.

Item 11. Information items. -- None

Item 12. Citizens comments (non-agenda items only).

Town Council Liaison J. Jaskiewicz apologized for his tardiness and said he had questions later for Superintendent Levesque.

Item 13. Additional New Business.

Motion: That the Board goes into Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. for discussion and possible action regarding the Athletic Director position, and invites into Executive Session Superintendent Levesque and Assistant Superintendent Pallin.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Motion: That the Board comes out of Executive Session at 6:47 p.m. with no votes taken.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Todd Pomazon
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Motion: That the Board approves moving the Athletic Director position from the Montville Education Association (MEA) to the Montville Administrators' Association (MAA) and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to conduct a search, hire for the position, and negotiate the salary with the MAA.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell

Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

David Rowley, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Carrie T. Baxter, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved: _____