

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
August 18, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.**

Item 1. Call to order.

Board Chair Sandra Berardy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Montville High School Library/Media Center. Board members present were Donald Dykes, Tom McNally, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Todd Pomazon, Deborah Reed-Iler, David Rowley, Kendrick Strickland, James Wood and Sandra Berardy.

Also in attendance were Interim Superintendent of Schools James Connelly, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Brian Levesque, Director of Special Services Donna Maynard, Director of Curriculum Laurie Pallin, Administrators Thomas Amanti, Lorilyn Caron, Thomas Giard III, Mark Johnson, and Jeff Newton, and Town Council Board Liaison Rosetta Jones.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3. Citizens' comments.

There were no citizens' comments.

Item 4: Letters and communications.

There were no letters or communications reported.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

Proposed by: Todd Pomazon
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 6. Unfinished business.

a. Review/discussion of trial period of field use at Montville High School.

S. Berardy stated that the discussion about the trial use of the high school athletic field was a follow up from the last Board meeting. B. Levesque reported that he met on August 10 with Mayor Joseph Jaskiewicz, T. Amanti, and M. Bialowas regarding the opening of the MHS athletic field to residents as approved by the Board at its June meeting. The field has been left open since June and checked at the beginning and the end of the day and on Monday after being open for the weekend. A fee for field use was discussed with the Mayor. The field was used three (3) times by the CT Thunder. The Mayor agreed to have the funds from field use set aside to support field upkeep. B. Levesque also said that the signs and camera are in place. K. Lamoureux is working with the Finance Director regarding the fund. T. Amanti responded to T. Pomazon that the

sign is in place on the athletic track to prevent use of the inside lane that is used for hurdles.

D. Reed-Iler commented that she was approached by a soccer association for use of the MHS field. She raised concerns about the clarity of the field use form and the Board “out pricing itself” with its present fee schedule. The cost for additional staff for field events was also discussed. J. Wood also mentioned police presence. Per the discussion, it was determined that the field use forms will be modified to include other items such as crowd control, police presence, and then given to the Board for review.

Motion: That the Board's field use forms for the MHS athletic field be revised and forwarded to the Board for review.

Proposed by: Tom McNally
Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler
Vote: Carried unanimously

b. It is recommended that the Board of Education accept and adopt final adjustments to the 2008-2009 budget as presented.

J. Connelly reported that the district staff has ended the adjustment period, and he commended K. Lamoureux for help in “getting to a positive bottom line.” A surplus of \$2,145, less than .01% of the total 2008-2009 budget, was returned to the Town. Items that were previously discussed with the Board such as prepayment of textbooks and the retirement costs were reflected in the 2008-2009 budget.

Motion: That the Board accepts and adopts the final adjustments to the 2008-2009 budget, as presented.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Todd Pomazon
Vote: Carried unanimously

c. Revised contract with NESDEC concerning the Superintendent Search (informational).

J. Connelly commented that the Board received the information in their packets regarding the NESDEC contract approved in June. He explained that the contract cost was reduced since he is on site while working on the superintendent search.

Item 7. New Business

a. It is recommended that Board of Education accept a title change from Curriculum Director to Director of Curriculum and Instruction and approve a revised job description for same.

B. Levesque explained that the position of Curriculum Director was created in 2006. The revised job description and title now reflects all of the tasks that L. Pallin has been doing. J. Connelly commented that L. Pallin was performing tasks that were not included in the original job description.

Motion: That the Board approves the title change from Curriculum Director to Director of Curriculum and Instruction and a revised job description for same.

Proposed by: Tom McNally
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

b. It is recommended that the Board of Education accept Palmer Academy, State Project #086-0083 A, as complete by the School Building Committee.

J. Connelly commented that with the completion of Palmer Academy a final application can be filed with the State so that a final audit can be done. K. Lamoureux added that the State holds back 5% until the audit is completed.

Motion: That the Board accepts Palmer Academy, State Project #086-0083 A as complete by the School Building Committee.

Proposed by: Todd Pomazon
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried unanimously

c. It is recommended that the Board of Education accept Oakdale School, State Project #086-0088 EA as complete by the School Building Committee.

Motion: That the Board accepts the Oakdale School, State Project #086-0088 E A as complete by the School Building Committee.

Proposed by: Todd Pomazon
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried unanimously

d. It is recommended that the Board of Education review/approve the agreement between General Teamsters Local No. 493 and the Montville Board of Education from September 1, 2009 – August 31, 2012.

B. Mitchell commented that the contract with the Teamsters includes a successor clause that allows the Board to check with other providers, for the first time in the negotiation process. Additionally, the contract is now a three-year contract instead of five years.

Motion: That the Board approves the agreement between the General Teamsters Local No. 493 and the Montville Board of Education from September 1, 2009 – August 31, 2012.

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

Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 8. Committee and liaison reports.

a. Policy Committee (James Wood).

J. Wood reported that no meeting was held but one will be scheduled to discuss pending issues.

b. Educational Evaluation Committee (David Rowley).

D. Rowley reported that no meeting was held.

c. Montville Education Foundation (Deborah Reed-Iler).

D. Reed-Iler reported that the MEF August 10, 2009, golf tournament was a success with a lot of community support. She thanked T. Amanti, J. Newton, B. Levesque and J. Wood for participating. The next meeting of the MEF will be on August 31.

d. LEARN (Deborah Reed-Iler).

D. Reed-Iler reported that LEARN did not meet during July and August. Its next meeting will be held on September 10.

e. CABE/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that the next CABE meeting will be in September. He also reported that he will moderate a workshop "The Data Driven Environment" at the CABE/CAPSS Conference to be held at the Mystic Marriott on November 20-21, 2009.

f. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon/James Wood).

T. Pomazon reported that the SBC Committee would meet tomorrow at 7 p.m. in Room 102 at the Town Hall.

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Tom McNally).

T. McNally reported that a meeting was held, but he did not attend.

h. Administrative Monthly Reports.

There were no Administrative Monthly Reports this month.

i. Other.

There was no other information to report.

Item 9. Superintendent's Report.

a. Report from the Director of Student Services – Ms. Maynard.

D. Maynard reported that the Special Services Department is in good shape for the start of the school year. A position for a recent resignation at Tyl will be posted. Substitutes are in place for staff members currently on maternity leave. Paraprofessional positions are in the process of being filled in addition to a few others that will be filled prior to the start of school. She also reported that two special education issues were resolved this summer. Also, the CSDE issued new guidelines for identifying children with LD and the district is ready to implement the new procedure.

b. Report from the Assistant Superintendent of Schools—Mr. Levesque.

B. Levesque thanked everyone for the “smooth transition.” He said that it was a good summer and a lot was done. He reported on a special education vacancy, a library vacancy at Mohegan, and the biggest hiring problem, a Teacher of the Deaf and American Sign Language position. B. Levesque said the position will be reposted as two separate positions, and he has been in touch with the American Academy of the Deaf regarding the same. He also reported that New Teacher Orientation will occur on August 19 and teachers that were hired after the end of the prior school year and long-term substitutes will be invited. The bus tour will also take place with Mayor Jaskiewicz and Assistant Principal Clara Kalnitsky participating. The first administrators meeting will take place this week. The CAPT and CMT scores were reviewed over the summer and the data was positive. The data will be reported to the Board at its September meeting.

c. Monthly Update.

J. Connelly reported that he has had a busy four weeks. He said that he has tried to meet with each of the principals to get an update from them. He also praised the Central Office staff for being so helpful. J. Connelly also mentioned that he has spent time with Mayor Jaskiewicz and was debriefed by former superintendents Dave Erwin and Jake Ludes. He has also had an informational meeting with members of the Police Department, Lt. Bunnell and Resident State Trooper Collins.

J. Connelly also reported that he has spoken with Patrick McCormack of the Uncas Health District who will join administrators at the all-day retreat on Thursday, August 20, that will be held within district. Time was also spent with the Fire Marshal making sure the schools are up-to-code for the start of school. He was assured the buildings will be ready. J. Connelly commented that he would be participating in the tour and was warned that it would take at least an hour. The opening of school meeting for all staff will be held at Montville High School on August 27. Dr. Marion Martinez, Associate Commissioner of Education, will be the speaker and the Board Chair and the Central Office are invited.

J. Connelly gave a report on the status of the Tyl Middle School. He reported that the contractors are behind schedule but the building will be ready for the start of school with extra cleanup crews being brought in. Some of the work at Tyl will be postponed until the long Columbus Day weekend. T. Giard added that M. Bialowas and S. Carroll have been integral to the cleanup and schedule for the same. J. Connelly also reported that

teachers would not be allowed to return to the building until August 27. Also, the roof at Mohegan School will be repaired. The repair to the Mohegan School addition will be done through the school construction project or through capital improvement allocation of \$105,000 through the Board of Education.

As to the CAPT and CMT scores, J. Connelly reported that the State has embargoed the data until August 31, but there is good news regarding AYP for the district. Also, he and B. Levesque are working on personnel issues that will be discussed with administrators on Thursday, August 20. The ability to access any and all information to fully screen potential candidates will be discussed. He also commented on the vacancies previously mentioned by B. Levesque. J. Connelly also recommends that the Board updates its 2009-2010 goals that are usually discussed at the Board's summer retreat. Also, the Board of Education website should be updated so that district openings are available and the forms to apply are available to download.

Item 10. Information items.

Information items were not reported.

Item 11. Hearing of delegates and citizens (regarding agenda items only).

Rosetta Jones expressed her gratitude to the Board for supporting the opening of the MHS athletic field to residents.

Item 12. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

Approved by: Todd Pomazon
Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler
Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sandra Berardy, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Todd Pomazon, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary
Approved _____