

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
September 15, 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, David Rowley, Kendrick Strickland, James Wood and Sandra Berardy. Board member Deborah Reed-Iler was absent.

Also in attendance were Interim Superintendent of Schools James Connelly, Assistant Superintendent Brian Levesque, Director of Special Services Donna Maynard, Director of Curriculum Laurie Pallin, Business Director Kathy Lamoureux, Director of Facilities Matt Bialowas, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Margaret Tripp, Administrators Thomas Amanti, Lorilyn Caron, Jason Daly, Mary Jane Dix, Thomas Giard III, Mark Johnson, Joan Joplin, Clara Kalnitsky, Jeff Newton, Tatiana Patten, and Sheila Reagan, Food Services Director Heidi Buchholtz, Student Board Representatives Jason Alexander and Jessica Semmelrock, Town Council Chair Catherine Buebendorf and Mayor Joseph Jaskiewicz.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation: B) Introduction of New Staff by Administration.

New staff was introduced by Administrators as follows:

Montville High School:

Jason Daly.....Assistant Principal
Rebecca Alfonso.....Physical Education
Jennifer Collins.....Life Management
Joshua Cushing.....Music
Cheryl Luginsland.....Spanish
Stephen Temelini.....Business Education

Leonard J. Tyl Middle School:

Daniel Peterson.....Technology Education

Mohegan School:

Alicia Potash.....Physical Education

Oakdale School:

Holly Steinke.....Speech/Language Pathologist

The new staff was welcomed to the district at a dinner held earlier this evening in the MHS cafeteria.

Presentation: A) Reception, 2009-2010 Teacher of the Year – Anna Wojick.

J. Connelly made remarks about the 2009-2010 Teacher of the Year Anna Wojick describing her as a “quality professional.” He read a summary of her achievements highlighting comments made by her peers, one of whom called A. Wojick “a master of her craft.” J. Connelly introduced Brenda Severino, last year’s Teacher of the Year who presented the “Montville Teacher of the Year” plaque to A. Wojick. The plaque will be displayed in A. Wojick’s classroom during the year.

M. Johnson joined by C. Kalnitsky read a State resolution presented to A. Wojick on behalf of State Representatives Tom Reynolds of the 42nd District, Dr. Kevin Ryan of the 139th District, and Betsy Ritter of the 38th District and Senators Edith Prague of the 19th District and Andrea Stillman of the 20th District. None of the legislators were able to attend. C. Kalnitsky said that she was “fortunate to work with Anna and supports her commitment to kids.” Mayor Jaskiewicz then welcomed the new staff and gave a Certificate of Appreciation to A. Wojick on behalf of the Town of Montville. Following through with tradition, S. Berardy presented to A. Wojick the “golden apple” that will be engraved with her name once her standing in the State Teacher of the Year Contest is known.

A. Wojick thanked the Superintendents, the Board of Education, staff and guests. She gave a brief history about her student teaching in 1973, the implementation of the “We Love our Schools” signs and the district’s metamorphosis to the current renovated schools. She said, “As a parent, teacher and resident... [Montville] has developed into a formidable leader in education.” The public was invited by S. Berardy to partake of refreshments in honor of A. Wojick.

The meeting briefly recessed at 6:18 p.m. and resumed at 6:25.

Item 3. Citizens’ comments.

There were no citizens’ comments.

Item 4: Letters and communications.

T. Pomazon reported on a letter from CAFE on the district’s decision to continue its membership. A letter was also received from Mark McQuillan, State Commissioner of Education, approving the appointment of James Connelly as interim superintendent for Montville Public Schools as of July 20, 2009.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

Proposed by: Tom McNally
Seconded by: Jim Wood
Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.

Student Board Representative Jake Alexander introduced Jessica Semmelrock from the junior class, and they gave a report to the Board as follows:

1. There was a great opening to MHS and maintenance did a great job getting the school ready for use.
2. The new cell policy was introduced at assemblies for the student body. Cell phones are banned in all instructional settings.
3. Students are able to register online for the twenty-four colleges that will visit the Career Resource Center from September 22 – November 5.
4. In support of International Coastal Clean-up Day, the Environmental Club and the Key Club will be cleaning up the Montville Conservation Center all day on September 19.
5. Members of the ESOL participated in the Eastern CT Multicultural Fair at Norwich Inn and Spa on Saturday, September 12.
6. Auditions were held on September 14 for the fall production of the Drama Club entitled “The Servant of Two Masters” by Carlo Goldoni. A car wash to support the production will take place on September 26, on Route 163.
7. At a competition on Saturday, September 26, the marching band will introduce its new show, “Westward.”

Item 7. Unfinished business.

- a. **It is recommended that the Board of Education review the report regarding spring and summer maintenance projects as submitted by the Director of Facilities.**

M. Bialowas, Director of Facilities, summarized his report on spring and summer maintenance projects. He said that all of the schools’ systems are now being electronically monitored and controlled by computer. He also said that cameras installed can be monitored from his office. M. Bialowas also reported that asbestos abatement was completed in 27 classrooms at the high school.

Item 8. New Business

- a. **It is recommended that Board of Education set tuition rates for 2010-2011 as follows:**

	<u>General Education</u>	<u>Special Education</u>
Elementary	\$8,950	\$23,840
Middle School	\$9,370	\$22,830
High School	\$9,780	\$21,860
	Preschool	\$22,930
	Other	Negotiable

J. Connelly reported that tuition rates set for the 2010-2011 school year reflect an increase of 1% over the rate for this year. Presently there are sixteen students outside of the district attending school in Montville. There are five students from Bozrah,

seven students from Sprague, one student from Brooklyn and one student from Norwich.

Motion: That the Board sets tuition rates for 2010-2011 as follows:

	<u>General Education</u>	<u>Special Education</u>
Elementary	\$8,950	\$23,840
Middle School	\$9,370	\$22,830
High School	\$9,780	\$21,860
	Preschool	\$22,930
	Other	Negotiable

Proposed by: Dave Rowley
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

b. Report of the 2009 CMT/CAPT testing.

B. Levesque and L. Pallin gave a PowerPoint presentation of the results for the 2009 CMT/CAPT testing. B. Levesque reported that the goal per NCLB is to have students 100% proficient by 2014. AYP targets will increase by approximately 10% beginning 2010-2011. New this year, administrators commented on measures that are or will be implemented to improve student scores and other points of interest. Strand analysis is a tool that highlights problem areas that need attention. Cohorts, groups of students, can be monitored as they move up through the grades. All of the district schools made AYP this year. L. Pallin commented that the *Imagine It* reading program had no affect on CMT scores. In the elementary schools, grade 6 scores in reading and writing showed that fewer students were achieving. At the middle school, grade 8 reading, science, and math scores were at the lower end of the DRG and made AYP this year through the safe harbor list. In the high school, grade 10 writing scores were at the top of the DRG. A reading intervention program at the high school will be started to offset the loss of the reading consultants. At the alternative school, all students come with IEPs and collaboration with subject area teachers continues.

c. Interim Superintendent of Schools entry plan and report (part of the report will take place in executive session.)

J. Connelly proposed that Item 8c is moved to the end of the agenda.

Motion: That the Board moves Item 8c to the end of the agenda for discussion in executive session.

Proposed by: Ken Strickland
Seconded by: Todd Pomazon
Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

a. Policy Committee (James Wood).

J. Wood reported that the Policy Committee did not meet but would before the next Board meeting to review the Computer Use Policy and Board goals. A meeting will be set for Tuesday, September 29.

b. Educational Evaluation Committee (David Rowley).

D. Rowley reported that no meeting was held.

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

B. Levesque reported in the absence of D. Reed-Iler that the Montville Education Foundation had a meeting and will meet with each faculty to present the grant applications.

d. LEARN (Deborah Reed-Iler).

There was no report for the LEARN Advisory Committee.

e. CABE/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that the next CABE meeting is on September 23. He asked that the Student Board Representatives attend the Day on the Hill in March 2010. S. Berardy commented that the entire Student Government should be asked to attend the event.

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

T. Pomazon reported that the School Building Committee cancelled its September 16 meeting and will meet instead on September 24 at 7 p.m. in Room 102 at the Town Hall.

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Tom McNally).

T. McNally reported that the next meeting of the MetroCast Communications Advisory Council will be held on September 17 at 5:30 p.m.

h. Administrative Monthly Reports.

There were no Administrative Monthly Reports for this month.

i. Other.

There was no other information to report.

Item 10. Superintendent's Report.

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

D. Maynard reported that SRBI is well underway. She said that 360 doses of the seasonal flu vaccine were received by the nurse. There has been no word on the H1N1 vaccine. D. Maynard also reported that she received notice from the State Department of

Education that the district's designation of time with disabled peers is below the standard. Although the district is not being sanctioned, it must develop a treatment plan and keep the State notified of its progress. She also said that there are three legal issues pending.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Levesque.

B. Levesque encouraged everyone to log on to the district website to view the changes that he, J. Connelly and N. Savoie have implemented. He also asked that comments be sent to him. B. Levesque reported on a Library Media Specialist vacancy. He was also notified by T. Amanti that one student is competing with the East Lyme swim team as a Team of One.

c. Monthly Update.

J. Connelly praised the quality of the CMT/CAPT presentation given earlier this evening. He said that the district administration is loaded with instructional leaders, and they should be complemented. He also referenced the harassment policies for students and personnel that were approved by the Board. The staff is being trained about these policies, and all employees will receive a notice included with their paychecks that must be signed and returned. Student harassment training for principals and counselors is set for September 30 with participation by legal and criminal justice experts. Another training session will take place in October at Tyl.

J. Connelly also reported that he, N. Savoie, and B. Levesque have been working on a cyber harassment policy that will be referred to the Policy Committee for review and consideration. The changes to the website will include specific areas for parents, students, and staff to visit. Cancellation notices due to inclement weather will be posted on the website. J. Connelly said the Board website would also become a platform for the superintendent search so that the public and potential candidates will know what steps are in process for the search. He also said that the alterations to the website are being done at minimal cost.

Item 11. Information items.

Information items were not reported.

Item 12. Hearing of delegates and citizens (regarding agenda items only).

There were no hearing of delegates and citizens.

Motion: That the Board goes into executive session to discuss the Interim Superintendent of Schools' entry plan and report.

Proposed by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded by: Jim Wood
Vote: Carried unanimously

The Board went into executive session at 7:54 p.m.

Motion: That the Board comes out of executive session.

Proposed by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

The Board came out of executive session at 8:24 p.m.

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

Approved by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sandra Berardy, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Todd Pomazon, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary
Approved _____