

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
December 15, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.**

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 Carrie Baxter, Sandra Berardy, Steve Loiler, Tom McNally, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Todd Pomazon, Deborah Reed-Iler, James Wood, and David Rowley.

Also present were Interim Superintendent of Schools James Connelly, Assistant Superintendent Brian Levesque, Director of Special Services Donna Maynard, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Laurie Pallin, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Margaret Tripp, Athletic Director Walt Sherwin, Director of Food Services Heidi Buchholtz, Administrators Lorilyn Caron, Jason Daly, Mary Jane Dix, Thomas Giard III, Mark Johnson, Clara Kalnitsky, Tatiana Patten, Sheila Reagan, Eileen Richmond, Student Board Representatives Jason Alexander and Jessica Semmelrock; Superintendent-elect Pamela Aubin, and Town Council Board Liaison Gary Murphy.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion: That the Board amends the agenda to include Item 9k. Chair's Remarks.

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

Presentation: A) Presentation of Portrait of David B. Erwin.

S. Berardy presented the formal portrait of former superintendent David B. Erwin. She read a note from D. Erwin wherein he apologized for his absence due to a Board meeting in his current district. He described the Montville School district as a "great community, of teachers and support staff that goes above and beyond to support their schools." He also had kind words for Pamela Aubin, the Superintendent-elect.

Presentation: B) Presentation of Resolution to Donald Dykes and Kendrick Strickland.

J. Wood read a resolution in honor of former Board member Donald Dykes who was not able to attend the presentation. D. Dykes served 13 years on the Board where he served as the CABE Area 9 Director and the Policy Committee chair. D. Reed-Iler presented the resolution to Kendrick Strickland who served two (2) years on the Board. K. Strickland said that he has children in the school system and that it was "wonderful to be a part of it."

D. Rowley presented S. Berardy with a gift of appreciation on behalf of the Board for having served 16 years as Board chair. S. Berardy opened her gift, a gavel, and said that she "enjoyed her years on the Board."

B. Levesque presented interim Superintendent J. Connelly with a gift, a pen, on behalf of the Board for his guidance, service, and leadership in manning the district. J. Connelly thanked the Board for the gift and said that he would not use it to veto anything.

Presentation: C) Introduction of New Superintendent.

D. Rowley introduced Superintendent-elect Pamela Aubin and then read a bio on her accomplishments in the educational field. P. Aubin then thanked the Board, the Search Committee, the Central Office staff and Margaret Tripp for her daily communications. She said it was "exciting to be here." Afterwards, she introduced her family.

Presentation: D) Recognition of Montville High School Football Team Captains: Kyle Calash, Ricky Fort, Tyler Girard-Floyd and JP Morales; Coaches: Tanner Grove and Rob Alves.

T. Amanti introduced the three (3) senior captains and players and the coaches of the MHS Football team Kyle Calash, Ricky Fort, Tyler Girard-Floyd and JP Morales; Coaches: Tanner Grove and Rob Alves, respectively. The captains and players represented the entire team who were champions of the medium CIAC division with a 10-1 record. They were also second in the Class SS division with a 9-1 record. The team tied the record of the 1986 team. The coaches thanked everyone for their support. Tyler Floyd presented the championship plaque to T. Amanti.

Presentation E) Holiday Songs by the Montville High School Select Chorus, directed by Joshua Cushing.

T. Patten introduced the MHS Select Chorus who has been busy with many singing engagements in the last few days such as the Rotary Club and the Montville Tree Lighting Ceremony. Director Joshua Cushing lead the chorus in four selections, *Carol of Bells*, *S'vivon*, *Umbrella*, and *Silent Night*. J. Cushing said the choir are in demand and have had ten (10) performances this month. He said the chorus rehearses before and after school and this year have become a more acappella chorus. Members of the Select Chorus are as follows: Louis Gaedt, JacylN Brush, Jason Alexander, Chelsea Lorraine, A. J. Lyman, L. Lamperelli, Kaitlyn Vincent, Torin Radicioni, Dan Alger, Jon Mowan, Adam Hamer, Alicia Gilbride, Anna Hilbie, Christy Hagerty, and Carlie Cave.

The meeting recessed briefly for a reception at 6:32 p.m. and resumed at 6:54 p.m.

Item 3. Citizens' comments.

Kimberly Dart of Oakdale reported on an November 17, 2009, incident that occurred at Oakdale School involving her son. D. Rowley agreed to make inquiries about the incident and report back to K. Dart.

Item 4: Letters and communications.

T. McNally reported on a letter received from the State Board of Education regarding the appointment of Pamela Aubin as superintendent for the Montville School district effective January 4, 2010.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

J. Wood noted a revision to the December 8, 2009, Policy Committee minutes.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

Proposed by: Todd Pomazon
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. The National Honor Society will be hosting a 'Toys for Tots' event this week to donate toys to families in need.
2. The Bouche de Noel, a French celebration of yuletide logs, will held on December 17 after school and will include a competition among the French students to make the best dessert and a party at 2:15 p.m.
3. The Music Department has been busy this month ten (10) performances of the MHS Select Chorus more recently in the Niantic Light Parade on a float built by director Joshua Cushing (with some help), the Montville Tree Lighting Ceremony, and the Rotary Club. The band concert was held on December 10 and the choral and band section performed at the recent Holiday Dinner and will perform again at the school concert on December 23.
4. Two weeks ago, the MHS Drama Club held its production of "A Servant of Two Masters" to huge success. Auditions for the spring musical "Grease" have begun.
5. On December 9th, an Activity Fair was held where 29 clubs, programs, and activities showcased information to interested students.
6. The Poetry Out Loud Finals will take place on January 9 at the high school.
7. The junior American Studies and ECE U.S. History classes visited Florence Griswold Museum to study impressionism after a seminar with Mr. Egan. The senior American Studies classes are raising money for their New York City overnight trip in the spring to see the Broadway musical "In the Heights."
8. Blair Church, Courtney Stefano, and Kelsey MacCracken's names will be added to the CSCA All-State Girls Soccer Team, and Tyler Leeman was added to the CSCA All-State Boys Soccer Team and the New England team. The Boys Soccer Team was selected to receive the 2009 George D. Ritchie Sportsmanship Award given to only one of all 173 teams.
9. The MHS Football Team won the ECC Medium Championships and ranked second in the SS standards.
10. The Fall Sports Awards ceremony took place last night, December 14.

11. Winter sports began this week with the girls' basketball team with a record of 2-0. Boys' basketball, indoor track, and wrestling will begin soon.
12. A pancake breakfast at Applebee's in Groton on Saturday, January 9, will be hosted by the junior class with students serving customers. The Board is invited to attend.
13. The freshmen class will host a sweatshirt and jacket drive entitled "Ho-Ho Hoodies" in support of the Women's Center of Southeastern Connecticut.
14. A "Pie-in-the-Face" fundraiser will be hosted by the MHS Key Club. Money cans are circulated during the lunch waves for teacher volunteers Mrs. Delaney, Mr. Grove, Ms. Joslin, and Mr. Hayes. The teacher who collects the most money will be "pied" live on school TV on Friday afternoon, December 18. Funds collected will to UNICEF.
15. The Student Board representatives wished the Board safe, healthy, and happy holidays.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

a. Continue review of Strategic School Profiles (SSP's).

B. Levesque reported that incorrect data regarding home languages on the Strategic School Profiles (SSP's) has been corrected by the State from 38 languages to 20. The drop-out rate continues to be a concern having risen from 3% to 6%. A group met to discuss a free pilot credit recovery program that would allow students to get caught up. Some components of the program can be used at Tyl and for summer school. B. Levesque also reported that free and reduced lunches have risen within district and appear to be economically generated.

J. Connelly reported that the data for home languages, non-speaking English, was disaggregated by schools—Mohegan (21%), Oakdale (3.8%), Murphy (4.1%), Tyl (4.7%), and MHS (6.4%). The district has been trying to address and establish better communication and have been helped by local businessman John Wong and the Mohegan Tribal Council. J. Connelly praised the district's excellent ELL Program.

Item 8. New Business

a. Discussion of budget development for 2010-2011 and consideration/approval of budget assumptions, constraints, guidelines and priorities for 2010-2011.

J. Connelly reviewed the 2010-2011 budget assumptions, constraints, guidelines and priorities stating they would be used during budget preparation. K. Lamoureux added that Board goals would also be incorporated in the budget process.

Motion: That the Board approves the budget assumptions, constraints, guidelines, and priorities for 2010-2011.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Carrie Baxter
Vote: Carried unanimously

- b. It is recommended that the date of Saturday, February 20, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. be approved by the Board of Education to hear the proposed 2010-2011 administration's budget.**

Legislators will be invited to attend the budget meeting.

Motion: That the Board approves the date of Saturday, February 20, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to hear the proposed 2010-2011 Administration's budget.

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

- c. It is recommended that the Board of Education consider and approve the Personal Finance Course, as recommended by the Educational Evaluation Committee at the December 8, 2009, meeting..**

B. Levesque explained to the Board that there is normally a month's time for the Board to review a policy. He asked for the Board's support of the course so that it could be added to the course catalog for the upcoming semester. He added that this method would not set precedent for future policies. B. Mitchell commented that the existing course is being made a graduation requirement to be online with the State Board's aims. B. Levesque said that the half-credit course would reduce undesignated credits to 5.5 instead of 6.0. Sixty books are needed for the course and will be paid for incrementally over two (2) years.

Motion: That the Board approves the Personal Finance Course, as recommended by the Educational Evaluation Committee at the December 8, 2009 meeting.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

- d. It is recommended that the Board of Education consider and approve the Honors Accounting Course, as recommended by the Educational Evaluation Committee at the December 8, 2009 meeting.**

B. Mitchell reported the Honors Accounting course will be targeted for the honors student who wants to be challenged. The full-year course, a pilot program, is being subsidized through a grant with Three Rivers Community College.

Motion: That the Board approves the Honors Accounting Course, as recommended by the Educational Evaluation Committee at the December 8, 2009 meeting.

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

- e. **It is recommended that the Board of Education consider and approve the Grade 9 Social Studies Curriculum, as recommended by the Educational Evaluation Committee at the December 8, 2009 meeting.**

B. Mitchell reported that the grade 9 Social Studies Curriculum is being split into two (2) courses for more in depth instruction in western and non-western civilization so that freshmen will have more choice. There will be no impact on staff or a need for textbooks.

Motion: That the Board approves the Grade 9 Social Studies Curriculum, as recommended by the Educational Evaluation Committee at the December 8, 2009 meeting.

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

- f. **It is recommended that the Board of Education consider and approve revisions to Policy 5156.4 (combined Policies 5156.4, 5125.1, and 1120.2) Instruction: Student Internet Privacy Policy, as recommended by the Policy Committee.**

J. Wood reported that the Committee met last week and earlier this evening to discuss changes to Policy 5156.4. B. Levesque added that the policy regarding student images was also reviewed.

Motion: That the Board approves Policy 5156.4 Instruction: Student Internet Privacy Policy (combined Policies 5156.4, 5125.1, and 1120.2), as recommended by the Policy Committee.

Proposed by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Todd Pomazon
Vote: Carried unanimously

- g. **It is recommended that the Board of Education consider and approve revisions to Policy 6146, Instruction: Credit Requirements, as recommended by the Policy Committee.**

J. Wood reported that the Committee heard a “great presentation” and a great opportunity for the class of 2014.

Motion: That the Board approves Policy 6146 Instruction: Credit Requirements, as recommended by the Policy Committee.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
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 met earlier this evening and approved Policies approved by the Board this evening. The Committee also agreed that it would review Policy 5118: Non-Resident Attendance at its January 2010 meeting.

b. Educational Evaluation Committee (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that no meeting was held. D. Rowley congratulated B. Mitchell on being elected chair of the Committee.

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

D. Reed-Iler reported that the MEF is now on the web at montvilleeducationfoundation.org as of today. Eighteen thousand dollars were raised in fund raising efforts this year per the first annual report and \$9,000 in grants for 2009-2010. B. Levesque added that he and Linda Heller would be presenting this year's grants tomorrow morning, December 16.

d. LEARN (Deborah Reed-Iler).

D. Reed-Iler reported that the LEARN Advisory Council had its annual meeting. Capped at \$43, the cost for the Regional Multicultural Magnet School will increase to \$75. In 2012, there will be a Marine Science Magnet School in Groton.

e. CABA/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that the CABA/CAPPS Convention at the Mystic Marriott was successful. He also reported the Waterford Board Chairman was elected the CABA chair. Legislative breakfasts were held and there has been a ruling from the Ethics Committee that lobbying with legislators has been reduced to one time per year. The CABA Day on the Hill is March 3rd at the Bushnell. B. Mitchell said he hoped that students would be able to attend.

f. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon/Carrie Baxter).

T. Pomazon reported that the School Building Committee would meet tomorrow, December 16. He said that there are still accounting issues to resolve as to what the Town spent as opposed to what was expensed for payment by the Committee.

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Tom McNally).

T. McNally reported that no meeting was held.

h. Capital Improvement Committee.

T. McNally suggested that the Town Council be notified that the Committee be restarted.

i. Montville Youth Services Bureau.

B. Mitchell reported the last meeting of the Montville Youth Services Bureau was the holiday dinner. He said the next meeting is in February 2010.

j. Administrative Monthly Reports.

Board members received the Administrative Monthly Reports in their packets.

k. Chair's Remarks.

D. Rowley reported that he attended the Children's First meeting in Montville and the CABA Board Leadership Conference this month. On January 13, 2010, he will attend the CABA Board Chair Roundtable. He will also work with B. Levesque and Superintendent-elect P. Aubin regarding the Race to the Top. As reported by a citizen at the November meeting regarding Item 12, Hearing of Delegates and citizens, D. Rowley commented that the Board meeting hours has been changed on the Town's website to reflect the 6:00 p.m. start time and agendas will be placed by the door for easy access to attendees.

l. 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 she attended the Children's First SE Connecticut Legislative Breakfast at Tyl on December 3. She also said that a press conference was held on December 14 regarding early care. D. Maynard praised the nurses for doing a good job with daily reporting and handling of students regarding the H1N1 issue within district. Also, special education data reporting for grants is due by December 18 although funding is unsure.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Levesque.

B. Levesque reported that he is working with K. Lamoureux on the budget for 2010-2011 and is awaiting data from the schools. He also reported that the Adventure Outing Club wants to go on a field trip and snowboarding trip in February –March 2010. Students and staff have been participating annually in this venture. B. Levesque also commented that the Title II D Technology grant is due by December 31. He said the funds from the grant would be used for professional development. Also, TEAM, the former BEST program, has joined the regional cooperative and is awaiting approval. He will attend an update

seminar on the program on January 7, 2010. Also, LEARN has opened up 200 slots with 100 in-district.

c. Monthly Update and Exit Report.

J. Connelly reported that the H1N1 issue with in district subsided after the Thanksgiving break. He praised the nurses and principals for doing a “yeoman's job.” He also said that the district is working with Ocean Community YMCA in Westerly to open after school child care sites at Murphy and Mohegan Schools. The YMCA is getting licensed for both sites. The partnership with the YMCA is enhanced with its scholarship program and the sites are expected to open after the February 2010 break.

J. Connelly also reported that the district has been working with expanding and opening new dialogue with the Eagleview Child Care Center. D. Maynard visited the Center last week and met with the Educational Director. The district is supporting a grant that the Mohegan Tribal Council applied for to address obesity in children paid by stimulus funds. Students in district would be surveyed regarding health issues. S. Berardy asked if the district is providing educational plans to the Council staff but was told that it is a collaborative arrangement.

J. Connelly added that the district is working with John Wong of the Chinese-American Cultural Association as a conduit for communicating with parents regarding school cancellations and other issues. Global Connect is not being used per complaints from parents of the 5 a.m. call. The Mohegan Sun staff volunteered to help notify district parents. He also reported that he and K. Lamoureux met with Mayor Jaskiewicz last week regarding the district's capital improvement plan.

In closing, J. Connelly thanked the Board and the staff for its support over the past five months with “learning the culture” of the district. He thanked S. Berardy and D. Rowley as chairs, and former Board members Don Dykes and Ken Strickland. He also thanked Margaret Tripp who he described as a “true treasure in institutional history and setting one in the right direction.” He said that he was proud and honored to serve as superintendent for almost six months and to turn over the leadership of the district to P. Aubin. D. Rowley thanked J. Connelly for his hard work and dedication.

Item 11. Information items.

Food services was thanked for doing a marvelous job and all were asked to take home some of the leftover food that was prepared.

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

There were no hearing of delegates and citizens.

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

Approved by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Carrie Baxter
Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

David Rowley, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Todd McNally, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved: _____