

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
Tuesday, September 20, 2011 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 T. Baxter, Sandra Berardy, Deborah Reed-Iler, Steve Loiler, Tom McNally, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Todd Pomazon, James Wood and David Rowley.

Also present were Superintendent of Schools Pamela Aubin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Brian Levesque, Director of Special Services Donna Maynard, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Laurie Pallin, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Director of Facilities Matt Bialowas, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Margaret Tripp, Administrators Lorilyn Caron, Jason Daly, Mary Jane Dix, Chad Ellis, Amy Espinoza, Mark Johnson, William Klinefelter, Jr., Tanya Patten, Sheila Reagan and Eileen Richmond, Student Board Representative Matthew Clark, and Mayor Joseph Jaskiewicz, Town Councilor/Board Liaison Gary Murphy, Town Councilors Candy Buebendorf and Ellen Hillman, Town Police Lt. Leonard Bunnell, Resident State Trooper Troy Gelinias, and State Representative Dr. Kevin Ryan, 139th District.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

D. Rowley asked to have everyone remain standing after the pledge for a moment of silence in honor of Traci Hart, Grade 1 teacher at Dr. Charles E. Murphy School, who recently had passed away.

Presentation: A) Status of School Resource Officer (SRO) position for 2011-2012 – Lt. Leonard Bunnell.

Lt. Bunnell introduced Troy Gelinias, the new resident state trooper, who has 17 years of experience working with the State Police and who is replacing retiring Sgt. Michael Collins. He also stated that Officer Bruce Rockwell has resigned as the district's SRO officer. Lt. Bunnell added that there is an applicant for the vacant SRO position who must be approved by the Town Public Safety Commission and should be in place by October-November. A replacement DARE Officer will be assigned in January 2012.

Presentation: B) Reception, 2011-2012 Teacher of the Year.

P. Aubin introduced and read a biography about Heather Holmes, the 2011-2012 Teacher of the Year, who is a 2nd-grade teacher at Murphy School. She also read a letter of praise for Mrs. Holmes from former student Thomas Michael Sharp. H. Holmes introduced her family and thanked the Murphy School staff, the 2nd-grade team, the Board, P. Aubin and B. Levesque.

Mrs. Holmes was presented with a plaque by last year's Teacher of the Year, Doug Couture. A State Resolution was given to her by State Representative Dr. Kevin Ryan and on behalf of Representatives Betsey Ritter, 38th District and Tom Reynolds, 42nd District; and Senators Edith Prague and Andrea Stillman, of the 19th and 20th Districts, respectively. Mayor Jaskiewicz read and presented a proclamation to Mrs. Holmes from the Town of Montville and D. Rowley presented to her a "Golden Apple" that will be engraved with her name.

The meeting recessed briefly at 6:20 p.m. for refreshments in honor of H. Holmes and resumed at 6:42 p.m.

Presentation: C) Introduction of New Staff by Administration.

B. Levesque introduced new certified staff to the Montville School District for 2011-2012 school year as follows:

DISTRICTWIDE:

Jill Mazzalupo--Preschool/Elementary Special Services Program Leader

DR. CHARLES E. MURPHY SCHOOL:

Amy Espinoza --Principal

Jennifer Werling --Part-time Kindergarten

LEONARD J. TYL MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Jessica Hanrahan --Band

Hired after the beginning of the 2009-10 school year:

Lindsay Olock --Language Arts

MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL:

Abigail Baldino --Teacher of the Deaf & Enrichment Teacher

Trevor Sindorf--Band

Brian Sullivan -- Science/Physics

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

None

Item 4: Letters and communications. (4 – Communications/Marketing).

T. McNally reported on a letter from George Coleman, Acting Commission of Education stating that the district had met the targets for the State Performance Plan per the IDEA; a letter from Peter Bushway of Montville Parks & Recreation thanking the Central Office and staff at MHS for use of this school this past summer; and a note from Jill Konopka, Channel 3 news reporter, to P. Aubin and M. Tripp for accommodating her for an interview.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

Proposed by: Tom McNally

Seconded by: Todd Pomazon

Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.

Student Board Representative Matthew Clark gave a report to the Board as follows:

1. On September 21, an anti-bullying campaign, “Not in Our School” will kick-off in the MHS auditorium at 2:15 p.m.
2. The first day of school went smoothly despite the hurricane.
3. Auditions for the fall play were held this week and the cast list has been chosen.
4. American Studies I will be going to Old Sturbridge Village on October 4th.

5. On October 6, Maritime Studies will be going to Mystic Seaport.
6. Sports teams are going strong and more information and stats will be mentioned at a later date.
7. On Tuesday, October 4th, from 6 p.m.—8 p.m., Tendai Chisowa will host an evening with UConn School of Medicine for students interested in pursuing the study of medicine or science.
8. MHS has a lab utilizing NovaNet for course credit recovery by students making up credits for failure or absences. Students will use Naviance to help in college research and SAT preparation.
9. Back-to-School Night will be Thursday, September 22, from 6:30 p.m.—8:45 p.m.
10. Rachael's Challenge, a program held last year at Tyl, will be held this year on Friday, November 18.
11. The National Honor Society is collecting donations of towels, toiletries, and other items for donation to the Women's Shelter in October.
12. Administration met with all four classes and reviewed basic guidelines, policies, and procedures at the high school.
13. Twelve ELL students plan to attend either a two-year or four-year school or college. They are also involved in community service activities such as tutoring students at Mohegan and Murphy Schools, voter registration for the Town, volunteering at the Senior Center and at the youth center and translating for parents at parent-teacher conferences.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

a. Report of spring and summer maintenance projects as submitted by the Director of Facilities. (1—School Safety/Positive Climate)

The Board was given a summary of spring and summer maintenance projects completed by M. Bialowas.

b. Consideration and action to accept and adopt final adjustments to the 2010-2011 budget, as presented.

P. Aubin reported that for the FY 2010-2011, \$2,446.95 was returned to the Town, the balance from last year's budget.

Motion: That the Board accepts and adopts the final adjustments to the 2010-2011 budget, as presented.

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

Motion: That the Board adds agenda Item 8f and approve minutes of the July 12, 2011, drafted Board goals discussed with Patrice McCarthy.

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

Item 8. New Business.

a. Consideration and action to approve the Annual Report for 2010-11 and forward it to the Mayor. (4—Communication/Marketing)

Motion: That the Board approves the 2010-11 Annual Report and forwards it to the Mayor.

Proposed by: Tom McNally

Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler

Vote: Carried unanimously

- b. Consideration and action to approve the re-opening of the Agreement between General Teamsters Local No. 493 (transportation) and the Montville Board of Education for the contract year beginning September 1, 2009. (5—Positive Community Relationships)**

P. Aubin commented that the contract has been ratified by the Union.

Motion: That the Board approves the reopening of the agreement between General Teamsters Local No. 493 (transportation) and the Montville Board of Education for the contract year September 1, 2009.

Proposed by: Sandy Berardy

Seconded by: Tom McNally

Vote: Carried unanimously

- c. Report of the 2011 CMT/CAPT testing. (2—Student Achievement)**

B. Levesque reported that the AYP reports for the 2011 CMT/CAPT testing were embargoed until September 11 and the Board would get a written report. He said the all schools in the district failed to make AYP as did many schools in CT. The data from these tests will be used by teachers and administration to promote the individual growth of the students. B. Levesque also said that the district showed movement toward the federal goal to have 100% of schools at 100% proficiency by 2014. L Pallin gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, "Who are students; Where are they; and What do they need to move forward." B. Levesque and L. Pallin spoke about how Aspen data, Vertical School Analysis, and Vertical Scale and Performance Levels will be used to predict, track and evaluate student achievement and growth.

- d. Update on CABE/CAPSS Convention, November 18-19, 2011, Mystic Marriott Hotel, Groton, Connecticut. (6—Advocacy)**

D. Rowley commented that he believed the Board had been corresponding with M. Tripp and that all Board members were registered for the convention.

- e. Review of 2011-12 school calendar.**

P. Aubin apprised the Board of revisions to 2011-12 school calendar as a result of Hurricane Irene.

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

- a. Policy (James Wood). (1 – Advocacy)**

No meeting was held.

- b. Educational Evaluation (Robert Mitchell). (5 – Monitoring District/School Improvement)**

No meeting was held.

c. Montville Education Foundation (Deborah Reed-Iler). (7 – Positive Community Relationships)

D. Reed-Iler reported that nearly \$9,000 was raised from the golf tournament. She also said nearly \$5,000 in grants will be awarded soon. D. Reed-Iler added that the MEF is looking for new Board members.

d. LEARN (Deborah Reed-Iler). (1 – Advocacy)

D. Reed-Iler reported that the tuition rate for the Marine Science Magnet School was increased from \$4,500 to \$5,525 as fewer students than anticipated enrolled. She also said that many loved the district's "Montville Marvels" and its relation to Board goals.

e. CABE/NSBA (Robert Mitchell). (1 – Advocacy)

B. Mitchell reported that CABE Board of Directors met with the State Board of Directors last week. He also said that the next NSBA conference will be held in Boston, MA, and registration for it began today.

f. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon/Donna Jacobson). (6 – School Health/Safety)

T. Pomazon reported that the Committee cleaned up some old bills. D. Rowley asked about a ribbon cutting ceremony for the high school and S. Berardy asked about the location of a sculpture done by Bill McCloy.

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Tom McNally). (8 – Communication/Marketing)

T. McNally reported that the next meeting is tomorrow, September 21, 2011.

h. Montville Youth Services Bureau (Robert Mitchell). (7 – Positive Community Relationships)

B. Mitchell reported that the Board met two weeks ago and thus far 17 slots have been filled.

i. Administrative Monthly Reports. (5 – Monitoring District/School Improvement)

These reports were submitted to the Board in their packets. D. Rowley commented "keep them coming."

j. Chair's Remarks.

D. Rowley commented on the following:

- Heather Holmes will tape a segment for the cable Channel 22 on being honored as Teacher of the Year.
- C. Baxter will tape a Channel 22 segment about full-day kindergarten.
- Amy Espinoza will tape a Channel 22 segment on being a new principal in the district.
- D. Rowley said that the goal is to tape a new cable Channel 22 segment every two weeks.

k. Other.

None

Item 10. Superintendent's Report.

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

D. Maynard reported the following:

- Much of what we do is confidential and that has been the case with much of the work that has consumed her time since the start of the school year.
- The special education data is due October 1st. She has completed about 95% of its validation.
- She has been meeting with staff and working with new staff to ensure that programs are running properly and that staffing is adequate.
- She will be gone for the first half of next week on a NEASC visitation to South Kingston High School in Wakefield, RI.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Levesque.

B. Levesque reported on the following:

- The new teacher orientation has held in late August and teachers were integrated with all things Montville.
- Mayor Jaskiewicz conducted the bus tour for the new teachers and he did such a good job that he will be asked back next year.
- Training for Aspen continues.
- It is grant time and the Title 1 grant report is due soon.
- The district will participate in an Aspen pilot program called Cognite and is the only school in CT asked to participate. The program will map curriculum and will be piloted at Tyl and MHS. The district will receive a discounted rate for the same.

c. Monthly Update.

P. Aubin reported on the following:

During the August Retreat, all District Principals presented a reflection of their school progress relative to their School Improvement Plans including progress on school climate and student discipline, attendance, professional development and the results of the CMT/CAPT and district benchmark assessments to their colleagues at our August retreat. The principals then provided this overview to the staff at their Back to School staff meeting. Each school has a School wide Data Team that is in charge of reviewing results and making needed modifications and monitoring implementation of their School Improvement Plan. The team designs strategies to address emerging needs.

- Enrollment:
 - Total District Enrollment=2,575. Last year: 2,681. Difference: 106 fewer students. Primarily due to declining kindergarten enrollment-low birth rate year.
 - Enrollment Summary as of 9/9/2011 benchmarked against last year's 9/3/2010 enrollment:
 - Montville High School (including Palmer Academy/Homebound/self contained): 791 as compared with 788 in 2009-2010= 3 more students. Reduction of .35 positions.
 - Tyl Middle School: 643 as compared with 656=13 more students. No new positions.

- Mohegan Elementary School: Typically the most difficult to predict. As of 9/9 there were 385 students as compared with 420 students the previous year: 35 fewer students. This year we reduced 1.0 FTE Kindergarten. This was predicted based upon NESDEC Enrollment projections.
- Oakdale: This year enrollment is at 397 as compared with 433 last year=36 fewer students. In anticipation of the enrollment projections we eliminated a .5 kindergarten position.
- Murphy: This year there are 359 students enrolled at Charles E. Murphy Elementary School as compared with 384 students last year=24 fewer students. In anticipation of the enrollment projections we eliminated a .5 kindergarten position, however due to a very large kindergarten class moving to first grade, we added a 1.0 FTE first grade and eliminated 1.0 third grade position and a 1.0 FTE Gr. 4 position. Net change=Reduction of 1.5 FTE.
- NOTE: All reductions were due to normal retirements/resignations.

CLASS SIZE RANGES DISTRICTWIDE ELEMENTARY:

- K: 12-17
 - GR. 1: 13-18
 - GR. 2: 16-19
 - GR. 3: 17-21
 - GR. 4: 16-23
 - GR. 5: 18-23
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- The definition of parent involvement is transforming within the district with the continuation of implementation of the Parent Portal to all parents of high schools students. Parents have been provided with directions/passwords so that they can stay apprised of student grades, attendance and assignments.
 - The Administrative Council will be meeting on Thursday to discuss the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to explore the creation of a report to submit to the Board on the feasibility of Full Day Kindergarten. Principals have already identified teachers and parents who would like to serve on the committee.
 - Our office has submitted the following reports to the State Department of Education including, ED 001 End of Year School Report (financial), Title I Evaluation, Out of Town Magnet School Transportation ED 021.
 - This year one of our teachers at Tyl, Ellen Carena has agreed to participate in the ORCA (On line Reading Comprehension Assessment) research study with Donald J. Leu, PhD Director of the New Literacies Research Lab from the University of Connecticut. This study has been funded by the U.S. Dept. of Education and has been approved by the University of Connecticut Internal Review Board. Students will not be allowed to participate without a signed parental permission slip that outlines their involvement and rationale for the study. It will be beneficial to the district in that we can use the information provided in our planning as we move toward the Common Core State Standards.

- The final administration of CMT/CAPT has been scheduled for spring 2014. The new assessment is presently under development by a consortium of 29 states called the Smarter Balance Consortium. All of these states have agreed to the same Common State Standards.

Item 11. Information items.

None

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

Gary Murphy commented that the Town gets a housing report every month, and he noted that some owners have walked away from their homes while others were foreclosed. He praised the district for the excellent job it did during Hurricane Irene, especially the high school. G. Murphy also said it was good to return after his recent back injury.

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion: **That the meeting is adjourned.**

Proposed by: Tom McNally

Seconded by: Jim Wood

Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

David Rowley, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Tom McNally, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved: _____