

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
January 19, 2010, at 6:00 p.m.**

Item 1. Call to order.

Board Chair David Rowley called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. in the Montville High School Library/Media Center. **Board members** present were Sandra Berardy, Steve Loiler, Tom McNally, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Todd Pomazon, Deborah Reed-Iler, James Wood and David Rowley. Carrie Baxter was absent.

Also present were Superintendent of Schools Pamela Aubin, Assistant Superintendent Brian Levesque, Director of Special Services Donna Maynard, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Laurie Pallin, Business Director Kathy Lamoureux, Administrators Thomas Amanti, Jason Daly, Sheila Reagan, Thomas Giard III, Mary Jane Dix, Mark Johnson, Clara Kalnitsky, Jeff Newton, Joan Joplin, Peter DeLisa, and Eileen Richmond, Student Board Representatives Jake Alexander and Jessica Semmelrock; MEA President Joel Farrow, Town Councilor/Board Liaison Gary Murphy.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation: A) Montville Marvels.

It is recommended that the Board of Education acknowledge the following students, teachers, and community members in the areas noted:

Mohegan School: Assistant Principal Peter DeLisa assisted by Donna Maynard recognized Jill Mazzalupo, Lisa Halloran, Betty Waselik, Karen Moorehead, the Shirey Family, Mr. and Mrs. Mowan, Margaret Tripp, and Angela Sherbanee for their assistance in helping to bring joy to families in the community during the holiday season. Shwu-Ching Wang (who was not present) was recognized for her continuing efforts to support the Chinese students and families at Mohegan Elementary School. Board member Jim Wood presented these certificates.

Oakdale School: Principal Mark Johnson and Assistant Principal Clara Kalnitsky recognized Alison Cook, representing the Holiday Bazaar Team, for all of their hard work and endless hours shopping and organizing, providing affordable prices, a welcoming and positive environment, and an event that was all about the children. Gennaro Davis was also recognized for the gains he made in all areas over all the years he has been at Oakdale School. Board member Bob Mitchell presented these certificates.

Dr. Charles E. Murphy School: Principal Jeff Newton and Assistant Principal Joan Joplin recognized Mary Pat Johnson for all her dedication and hard work over the years at Dr. Charles E. Murphy School. Also recognized was Russell and Denise Banta for the countless hours, dedication, and hard work that they put into fundraising for new playground equipment. Board member Steve Loiler presented these certificates.

The meeting recessed briefly at 6:15 p.m. and resumed at 6:21 p.m.

Presentation: B) “SOS” Program (Support One Student) – Dr. Charles E. Murphy School.

Principal J. Newton, Assistant Principal J. Joplin, and staff Elizabeth Bryer, Pamela Greene, and Heather Holmes gave a presentation on the “SOS” or Support One Student Program. The program, introduced last spring, is a mentoring program comprised of staff that focuses on each student and is based on a pyramid of interventions with academic and behavioral components. Seventeen students and sixteen staff members are involved in the program. The book “Whatever it Takes” was the premise for the program.

Item 3. Citizens’ comments.

There were no citizens’ comments.

Item 4: Letters and communications.

There were no letters and communications to report.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

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 junior class raised nearly \$1,000 at a pancake breakfast at Applebee’s in Groton on January 9.
2. An XBOX-Madden Tournament to benefit the sophomore class of 2012 will be held on January 22.
3. A Poetry Night will be held at 6 p.m. on February 11 in the MHS Library/Media Center for students who want to recite their own or famous works. The Board is invited.
4. Junior Alexis Sanchez, a founding member of the MHS Write Club, placed 3rd in the December Poetry Slam competition sponsored by the Windham Arts Collaborative and the Young Poets of Willimantic.
5. Over 250 students who received honors or high honors on their first quarter report cards were honored at an annual breakfast on December 18.
6. Students in Ms. Bonner’s Digital Imaging II second semester class will participate in the Connecticut College New Creativity grant, part of the International Arts and Technology Symposium held in March.
7. Auditions for the spring musical “Grease” were held and the cast selected. Tickets will go on sale February 17 and the Board was encouraged to purchase their tickets early.

8. On January 8-9, the 47th annual CMEA Eastern Regional Music Festival was held at UConn. Eight MHS students, six members of the Eastern Regional Chorus and two of the Eastern Regional Orchestra, attended.
9. Senior Ricky Fort was named the Player of the Year by *The Day* for the 2009 football season.
10. Midterms will begin on Wednesday, January 20 through January 25.
11. The MHS staff and students welcome new Superintendent of Schools Pamela Aubin to the district.

Responding to a question by D. Rowley, J. Semmelrock explained how she became a Student Board Representative.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

a. Continued discussion of budget development, 2010-2011.

P. Aubin said that during her two weeks in the district that she, B. Levesque, and K. Lamoureux have met to discuss the 2010-2011 budget that will be presented to the Board in February. Board forums have begun with good feedback.

Item 8. New Business

a. Designate Pamela W. Aubin, Superintendent of Schools, and Kathy Lamoureux, Business Manager, as authorized signatures to file claims for reimbursement under the Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs.

Motion: That the Board designates Superintendent Pamela Aubin and Business Manager as authorized signatures to file claims for reimbursement under the Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs.

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

b. "Race to the Top" update.

P. Aubin reported the Board approved the "Race to the Top" initiative and that 120 out of 184 districts, RESCs or Charter Schools have signed a memorandum of understanding for the same. The initiative will help support school improvement and high school reform. B. Levesque added that the plan will tie into the district improvement plan. The plan must be submitted within 90 days.

c. Apprise of a field trip: Montville High School, Adventure Club, Wildcat Mountain, Jackson, NH, 20 students, February 12-14, 2010.

The Board was apprised of this trip.

d. Apprise of a field trip: Montville High School, Adventure Club, Highland Center, NH, 20 students, March 5-7, 2010..

The Board was apprised of this trip.

e. Superintendent's Entry Plan.

P. Aubin has conducted a series of interviews where she has been listening and learning and getting to know the district and its needs and concerns. She and B. Levesque have scheduled full day visits to each school as a team with administrators which will include meeting with a small group of parents, visiting classes, reviewing school improvement plans and meeting with staff. Comments from the meetings will be used to form a strategic action plan for the district. P. Aubin expects to have the information available for the Board's retreat in July 2010. She also recently attended that district's Legislative Breakfast.

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

a. Policy Committee (James Wood).

J. Wood reported that the Policy Committee met before the Board meeting this evening and reviewed Policy 5118: Non-resident Attendance, particularly as it relates to seniors whose family moves out of district. Each situation would be reviewed on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Superintendent. The Committee will begin the review of the Board's bylaws. Electronic mail communication and a paperless system were proposed as a cost-saving ways to send Board meeting information.

Motion: That the Board approves the revisions to its Policy 5118: Non-resident Attendance, as proposed by the Policy Committee at its January 2010 meeting.

Proposed by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler
Vote: Carried unanimously

b. Educational Evaluation Committee (David Rowley).

D. Rowley reported that the Educational Evaluation Committee meeting was canceled.

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

D. Reed-Iler reported that the MEF met recently and awarded two grants. She also spoke about upcoming fundraising events such as the golf tournament, the May 1 art show at the high school, and a comedy night that is being planned.

d. LEARN (Deborah Reed-Iler).

D. Reed-Iler report that she missed part of the recent LEARN Advisory Committee meeting. She spoke about a presentation given by the East Lyme Superintendent of Schools about educating the whole child.

e. CABA/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reminded the Board about the CABA Day on the Hill on March 3, 2010. The Board members were asked to contact M. Tripp if they plan to attend. The NSBA conference will be held in Chicago on April 10-12, 2010. Students can attend for free.

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

T. Pomazon reported that the School Building Committee cancelled its January meeting and will meet tomorrow, January 20, at 7 p.m.

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Tom McNally).

T. McNally reported that a meeting was not held.

h. Capital Improvement Committee (Tom McNally).

T. McNally reported that the Committee has not been revived.

i. Montville Youth Services Bureau (Robert Mitchell).

B. Dwyer reported that the Bureau does not meet in January or February. The next meeting is in March.

j. Administrative Monthly Reports.

The reports were distributed to the Board in their packets. D. Rowley mentioned that in the reports the *Imagine It* program was mentioned ten times; student recognition at MHS is a big incentive; and Palmer Academy students are working with Pennell's Auto. He also said he wanted to know more about the positive behavioral support team.

k. Chair's Remarks.

D. Rowley commented that he wanted to keep track of the Board's goals in relation to district initiatives. He referenced Goal 5, 6, and 7 that concern CABA involvement, communication via Cable Access Channel 22, and grants and funds to the district such as "Race to the Top," respectively. D. Rowley said he spoke with Mrs. Dart who attended the December meeting and updated her on her son's situation. He also watched the practice of the rifle team who were recently written up by *The Montville Times*.

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 the *Imagine It* program is being considered for adoption into the pre-school program. She also said that the nurses in the district will be available next week to inoculate staff with the H1N1 vaccine. D. Maynard also said there is one pending issue regarding a possible reallocation of funds. P. Aubin praised D. Maynard for doing an excellent job maintaining program services within district.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Levesque.

B. Levesque reported that he, L. Pallin and T. Giard would be attending a Power School demonstration in an effort to find the type of student information system that would best suit the district. Nova-Net, a pilot credit recovery program, will aid students with attendance and academic issues. Staff will be trained for this program in February. The district has signed on for Pro-Traxx, the State's provider for tracking continuing education units, as the company currently being used no longer supports its product. B. Levesque will also attend a meeting on January 20 concerning CAPT/CMT administration.

c. Monthly Update.

P. Aubin also spoke about Nova-Net, adding that the program will help with the district dropout rate at the high school through credit recovery. She also has begun meetings with the Central Office staff on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. to coordinate activities with the Central Office Leadership Team. P. Aubin stated that she has established an open door policy regarding communication, when appropriate.

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.

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,

David Rowley, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Tom McNally, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved: _____