



MONTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 10, 2026

6:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Montville High School, Library Media Center

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

Carol Burges
Donna Funk
Tina Grove

Wills Pike
Timothy Shanahan
Angela Sherbanee

Erika Striebel
Robert Mitchell, Jr.

ABSENT:

Joseph Socha

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Dianne Vumback (Superintendent), Andrea Flynn, Deb Martin, Kristin Brewer, Willie Quinones, David Gollsneider, Rob Alves, Amanda Brown, Jill Mazzalupo, Liz Dumond, Will Klinefelter.

ABSENT: Ken Daniewicz, Greg Gwudz and Jessica Lilienthal

- I. Call to Order, Board Chair
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence
- III. Consent Agenda
 1. E&E Minutes – January 13, 2026
 2. Board Retreat Minutes – January 7, 2026
 3. Financial Reports - October 2025
November 2025
December 2025

Motion by Tim Shanahan and seconded by Robert Mitchell, Jr. to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. The Motion passed unanimously. (8 -0).

- IV. Communications – *None*
- V. Public Comment – *None*
- VI. Student Representatives' Report
[BOE Student Rep. Reports](#)

D'Mitri Charles provided the Board with updates of events taking place throughout the district.

- VII. Superintendent's Report
 1. Marvels Presentation-
Dr. Charles E. Murphy Elementary, Presented by Mrs. Dumond.
Principal Dumond asked that her presentation be deferred until next month, as her Marvel was not present.

Mohegan Elementary, Presented by Mr. Klinefelter

Oakdale Elementary, Presented by Mrs. Mazzalupo to

2. Personnel Report – *Superintendent Vumback shared that she intends to keep the Board apprised of any updates with certified staffing throughout the year:*
 - *Retirement Lee Landeck; Special Education Teacher, 20 Years*
 - *Resignation Theresa Gouveia – Special Education Supervisor, 5 Years*

District Update – *Superintendent Vumback*

Our work with LEARN on H/R

We continue to make strong progress in our work with LEARN on Human Resources working to streamline HR practices, strengthen job descriptions and better define H/R responsibilities within Central Office. One of the most exciting developments is the creation of a comprehensive employee handbook, which represents the first step in standardizing employee benefits and contractual language across the district. The foundational work will help ensure consistency, clarity and compliance in our H/R practices.

We are also streamlining job responsibilities, particularly those tied to H/R functions, to improve efficiency and better support our district staff. This work is closely connected to our review of central office job descriptions, which has required us to update existing roles and create new descriptions where they were missing. In addition, we have been building clear systems and structures around key HR processes, such as procedures for overtime and workflows for new hires.

Another priority is updating district unaffiliated contracts to ensure they are legally sound and aligned with district policies, our vision and Board goals.

I want to thank the Board for its support of this initiative with LEARN; I truly believe it will result in cost savings and strengthen collaboration, equity, and overall organizational effectiveness.

Proud Achievement!

Congratulations to our Girls Indoor Track team, who captured their third consecutive ECC Division II Indoor Track Championship! Montville earned its third straight title with an impressive 127 points, followed by Ledyard with 84 and Stonington with 56. A special shout-out goes to our very own student board representative, Tiana Bamber, who contributed to the victory with a standout win in the 55-meter dash, finishing in 7.40 seconds. We are incredibly proud of our team and their continued excellence!

K Waiver

Connecticut requires children to turn five years old on or before September 1 to enroll in kindergarten, though parents of children born between September 2 and January 1 may request a waiver for early enrollment. This waiver process involves submitting a written request to the school principal and completing a developmental assessment, which our district begins administering in April. It is important to note that, effective July 1, 2027, the state-wide waiver process will be eliminated.

Social Media Post

CT Live Police posted that a man was arrested for exposing himself to school busses in Montville. Please note that there were no children on these busses. However, our poor bus drivers were exposed. The police did indeed make an arrest and our drivers will be cooperating with the police.

3. Budget Discussion – *Superintendent Vumback asked that board members be mindful of the fact that next month's March 17th meeting, may in fact be moved up a week. Information will be provided as soon as available.*

VIII. Director of Finance & Operations Report

1. 2025-2026 Year to Date Financial Report - *Deb Martin provided a budget update:*

- *Current budget \$47,284,831.00 (including Special Appropriation)*
- *\$22,510,996.00 (Spent)*
- *\$16,570,434.00 (Encumbered)*
- *\$8,216,401.00 (Uncommitted)*

We are currently in a good position to have all expenses covered and land within budgeted funds.

2. HVAC Update - *Willie Quinones provided an update to board members.*
 - *Murphy & Oakdale Schools – remaining DOAZ units will be installed over Spring Break. Reinforcement steel work will take place over this upcoming long weekend.*
 - *Mohegan & MHS – Nutmeg Companies have been on site. They will be completing some work over this upcoming long weekend.*
 - *Tyl Middle – Finalizing scope of work review with lowest 2 bidders. They will meet next week.*
 - *Palmer School – Finalizing project parameters. Will go out to bid once complete.*
3. Report on Non-Lapsing account SY 2025-2026 *Deb Martin reported that at the end of 6/2025, the balance was \$706,871.00. The Board approved the following projects to be paid from the 2% Fund in the amount of \$333,909.00:*
 - a. *Murphy Stairs (to be completed Spring 2026)*
 - b. *MHS Wireless Access points*
 - c. *Murphy Water Heaters*
 - d. *School ERP Pro Cloud Conversion*
 - e. *Softball & Baseball Field Repairs*
 - f. *LEARN Human Resource Help*

Board Members Donna Funk and Tina Grove raised concerns about the end result of work done on the MHS Softball field. Willie Quinones clarified that the work done should address the drainage concerns and if there are issues once the snow is gone, they can go back to the contractor to resolve outstanding matters.

Board Member Pikes asked when the unspent funds from the 24-25 budget would be available. Deb Martin informed the Board that the audit is not yet complete, and once it is, she will provide appropriate response.

Board Member Donna Funk asked if the Tyl Middle School stairs had been factored in as necessary improvements. Willie Quinones provided information regarding aluminum caps that

have been ordered to reinforce the stairs until further steps are determined.

4. 2026-2031 Capital Plan Proposal and Discussion - *Deb Martin distributed packets to board members and identified a few updates that had been made. Please see available link on BOE web page.*

Board Member Wills Pike made a recommendation the Board consider absorbing the following costs as a show of good faith to the Town: #38, wall repair and asbestos removal. Pike further asserted that if the Town doesn't approve the necessary work at the Bus Garage for the tank removal/replacement, he recommends hiring a grant writer to apply for a grant to address the matter. With regard to the school busses, Board Member Pike stated that if the Town does not pay for them, then the Board needs to buy them.

Asst. Chair Erika Striebel asked Willie Quinones for clarification on a timeline for when the tank needs to be removed. Quinones confirmed it needs to be completed by 2027. Discussion was had about the feasibility of using the Town gas depot in the future and whether the tank could be emptied, cleaned and left. Deb Martin and Willie Quinones committed to getting necessary information.

IX. Committee Updates

1. Policy – *Wills Pike shared that the committee met tonight, and that he had been appointed Chair. Items reviewed at the meeting will be included in next month's agenda and made available online for review prior to that date.*
2. E&E - *Tim Shanahan reported that they met last month, and that as discussed there were items on the agenda this evening.*
3. MEF - *Carol Burgess reported the committee met on 2/9/26. They are planning the upcoming Golf event and getting ready for yet another Grant Cycle (applications due 4/30/26).*
4. LEARN –*Bob Mitchell reported that the committee did not meet yet.*
5. CABE/NSBA –*Carol Burgess reported that the next event to consider is the Day on the Hill, on 3/11/26. Board members are encouraged to attend. A registration link was shared via email.*
6. Montville Youth Services Bureau – *Tim Shanahan reported that the committee will not meet again until next month.*

X. Action Items

1. Act on proposed Precalculus course as recommended by the E&E committee
Motion by Tim Shanahan and seconded by Wills Pike to approve proposed Precalculus course as recommended. The Motion passed unanimously. (8-0).
2. Act on proposed AP Precalculus Course as recommended by the E&E committee
Motion by Tim Shanahan and seconded by Robert Mitchell, JR to approve proposed AP Precalculus course as recommended. The Motion passed unanimously. (8-0).

XI. Board Information Items

Superintendents proposed budget presentation at March 17 Board meeting, special meetings tentatively scheduled for March 23, March 26 and March 30.

XII. Adjournment

Motion by Robert Mitchell, Jr and seconded by Wills Pike to adjourn. The Motion passed unanimously. (8-0). Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Terni (Board Clerk)