



MONTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 31, 2026

4:30 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING

Montville High School, Library Media Center

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

Carol Burges, Wills Pike, Erika Striebel, Tina Grove, Bonnie Bacon, Bob Mitchell, Donna Funk, Timothy Shanahan, and Angela Sherbanee

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Dianne Vumback (Superintendent), Andrea Flynn, and Deb Martin

I. Call to Order, Board Chair

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

III. Action Items

1. Montville Public Schools list of requests for PTA Lane to submit to the Town. – Discussion and possible action

Motion by Bob Mitchell and seconded by Wills Pike to approve recommendations of the Superintendent for PTA Lane for submission, copying Town Council and Mayor.

The Motion passed unanimously. (9-0)

Add cc: Mayor and Town Council

1. Bus Fleet – conditions for immediate and future planning

Board Members requested data on how often the “spare” buses are used? Could they be utilized to get us through the end of the year? Deb Martin will research these questions and provide additional information.

The anticipated repair expense to bus #57 was discussed, the quoted cost for the repair is \$44,500.

No Action was taken pending additional information

Board Chair Burgess invited Mayor Bunnell to address the Board.

Mayor Bunnell Shared “I know I am not on the agenda but in complete transparency I have been working on my budget, your decision to support PTA Lane is the reason why when it does go to vote it will add significant income to our needs. I wanted to do this now because when I first took office I waited too long to tell Laurie and Kathy what I was going to do and they needed to be pulled off the ceiling, it was a shock and they had to scramble. What I am about to tell you know is going to cause you to scramble. We are looking at a 4.7 mil increase, we made our cuts and adjustments and we are still looking at a 3.4 mil increase which. A 3.4 mil increase requires a \$300,000 cut from the BOE and a \$200,000 cut from the general budget with no further cuts to your capital. Going back to the buses, one option would be to add another bus, spending 40K on a used bus does not make much sense to me. We know electric buses are coming but we don't know when. I will be in touch with you tomorrow, my apologies

we will get through this, it is not easy on either end.”

IV. Adjournment

Motion by Bob Mitchell and seconded by Wills Pike to adjourn.

The Motion passed unanimously. (9-0).

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Montville Board of Education