

Approved: _____

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
March 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.**

Item 1. Call to order.

Board Chair David Rowley called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Montville High School Library/Media Center. Board members present were Sandra Berardy, Deborah Reed-Iler, Steve Loiler, Tom McNally, Todd Pomazon, James Wood and David Rowley. Carrie T. Baxter and Robert Mitchell, Jr. were absent.

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 Director Kathy Lamoureux, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Margaret Tripp, Administrators Jason Daly, Mary Jane Dix, Chad Ellis, William Klinefelter, Jr., Tanya Patten, and Eileen Richmond, Student Board Representatives Jessica Semmelrock and Matthew Clark, and Town Council Liaison Gary Murphy.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation: A) Recognition of Board of Education Members – Pam Aubin.

P. Aubin honored the Board for their contributions and services to the school district that exceed beyond regular monthly meetings, such as negotiations and budget meetings. She also thanked them and gave each a token of appreciation. Board members also commented on the honor.

Presentation: B) Poetry Out Loud – Montville High School.

Wendy Halsey spoke on the Poetry Out Loud program that began in the district in 2003 as a means to encourage youth to learn poetry. She introduced Ashley Sgandurra who will represent the district at the state competition on Wednesday, March 16, at 8:30 p.m. at Southern Connecticut State University. Ashley's win at Southern would give her the opportunity to speak at the national competition in Washington, D.C. Ashley regaled the Board with her reading of a poem.

The meeting recessed at 6:13 p.m. for refreshments and resumed at 6:23 p.m.

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

None

Item 4: Letters and communications. (8 – Communications/Marketing)

T. McNally reported on a letter from the State Board of Education regarding the number of students participating in AP testing.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

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

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.

Student Board Representatives Jessica Semmelrock and Matthew Clark gave a report to the Board as follows:

1. This is the second week of CAPT testing.
2. The Poetry Out Loud competition was held on February 24th and the winners were 1st place senior Ashely Sgandurra, 2nd place freshman Joan Miller, and 3rd place freshman Dan Linkenhoker. Ashely will represent MHS at the state competition in Hartford.
3. ELL seniors Wen Jing Lu and Tashi Lhamo have received multiple acceptance offers from a number of universities and they each have spent countless volunteer hours at Mohegan and Tyl.
4. Junior Jimmy Chen recently won \$600 in an essay contest given by Charter Oak Federal Credit Union where he opened a college fund.
5. MHS has been the highest achieving ELL Program in CT for the past nine years.
6. The Robotic Team made the semi-finals at the CT Manchester Vex Competition, a warm-up to the New England Vex Competition and the CT Vex State Championship.
7. GSA attended the annual True Colors Conference on Friday, March 11 and participants were welcomed for the first time in eighteen years by the Governor of CT.
8. Leo's Club is hosting a Battle of the Bands at Camp Oakdale on June 11th.
9. Pennies are being collected by the Human Development classes for "Pennies for Peace" that supports education in Pakistan and Afghanistan.
10. Green carnations will be sold by the Key Club during lunch on Thursday, March 17.
11. Art and culinary students are participating in the "Empty Bowls Benefit" that helps to feed the hungry in New London County. The event is on April 14th from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. and Board members are welcome to make a bowl for the cause.
12. Forty-five units of blood were collected at a recent Blood Drive.
13. More than 100 students participated in the Chips and Salsa Contest and 1st place traditional salsa winners were Grace Boszum and Ashley Jacques and 2nd place Arianna Ramos and Caitlin Marsh. Fruit salsa winners were Connor Leeman and Andrew Fratoni in 1st place and Kayla Satiro and Carley Forbes in 2nd place.
14. The girls basketball team participated in the ECC tournament.
15. The cheerleading squad competed at the 2011 Compete for a Cure on February 25th and took 1st place in division and grand champs. At the ECC competition, they captured the Class M Division for the 2nd year in a row and the highest score for the entire tournament in all divisions. Kayla Simon, Kellie Wong, and Gabby Iaconiello were recognized as 2011 ECC Allstars and Tissy Bogan and Taylor MacCracken were honorable mention.
16. Wrestling's record for the ECC was 24-8 and State record 19-7. Dan Kurasz took 3rd place, Dayton Wynn took 4th, Ryan Murtha took 5th at the state open. At the ECC tournament, we had 12 kids place in different weight classes: Wynn took 2nd, Kurasz, Nick Caskey and Kyler Fricke took 3rd, Joe Rainville and Brian McMahon took 4th, Nick Bellerose, Ryan Hewitt, John Rogers, and Devin Bedard took 5th, and Murtha 6th.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

- a. **Update on 2011-2012 budget. (3—Budget/Resources)**

- **Public Hearing on Board of Education Budget, Wednesday, April 27, 7:00 p.m. Council Chambers, Montville Town Hall.**
- **Public Hearing on Town Government Budget, Thursday, April 28, 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, Montville Town Hall.**

P. Aubin commented about the budget forums that are now complete and questions posed at the forums. S. Berardy suggested that meetings be arranged during the year with the seniors, other than at budget time. D. Rowley will speak at the Senior Center in May.

Motion: That the Board goes into executive session to discuss personnel matters and invite in P. Aubin and B. Levesque.

Proposed by: Tom McNally

Seconded by: Steve Loiler

Vote: Carried unanimously

The Board went into executive session at 6:35 p.m.

Motion: That the Board comes out of executive session, with no votes taken.

Proposed by: Todd Pomazon

Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler

Vote: Carried unanimously

The Board came out of executive session at 6:40 p.m.

Item 8. New Business

D. Rowley commented that the New Business, Items A-G, are based upon budgetary matters and not performance. P. Aubin added that the 2011-2012 adopted budget increase of 1.43% does not require a reduction in force. A reduction in force would only be necessary if further reductions are made by the Town Council's approved budget.

- a. Consideration and action to approve the motion that the contract of employment of David Autencio, not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)**

Motion: That the Board approves that the contract of employment of David Autencio, not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Proposed by: Jim Wood

Seconded by: Tom McNally

Vote: Carried unanimously

- b. Consideration and action to approve the motion that the contract of employment of Rebecca Curtin, not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)**

Motion: That the Board approves that the contract of employment of Rebecca Curtin not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Todd Pomazon

Vote: Carried unanimously

- c. Consideration and action to approve the motion that the contract of employment of Brenda Hankard, not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Motion: That the Board approves that the contract of employment of Brenda Hankard not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Tom McNally

Vote: Carried unanimously

- d. Consideration and action to approve the motion that the contract of employment of Johanne Haynes, not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Motion: That the Board approves that the contract of employment of Johanne Haynes not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Proposed by: Tom McNally

Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler

Vote: Carried unanimously

- e. Consideration and action to approve the motion that the contract of employment of Jennifer Lopez, not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Motion: That the Board approves that the contract of employment of Jennifer Lopez not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Tom McNally

Vote: Carried unanimously

f. Consideration and action to approve the motion that the contract of employment of Robin Slane, not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Motion: That the Board approves that the contract of employment of Robin Slane not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Proposed by: Tom McNally

Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler

Vote: Carried unanimously

g. Consideration and action to approve the motion that the contract of employment of Annmarie Vancleave, not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Motion: That the Board approves that the contract of employment of Annmarie Vancleave not be renewed for the following year upon its expiration at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to advise this individual in writing of this action. (3 -- Budget/Resources)

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Jim Wood

Vote: Carried unanimously

h. Appraisal of a field trip: Montville High School, American Studies II, New York, City, 44 students, April 3-4, 2011. (4 – Student Achievement)

Board members were apprised of this trip.

i. Apprise of field trip: Montville High School, Spanish Classes 4, 4H and ECE, Barcelona, Spain, 10 students, Spring Break 2012, (4 – Student Achievement)

Board members were apprised of this trip.

j. Discussion of enrollment projections. (3 – Budget/Resources)

P. Aubin summarized the factors by which enrollment projections are based and referred to the enclosed NESDEC projections. She also commented that it is critical that educational quality be maintained to attract families to Montville. A marketing strategy including competitive tuition rates, a comprehensive curriculum, preferable class size appropriate to the grade level/program, pre-school options, and an updated website are ways to promote Montville Public Schools to districts who may be interested in sending students to Montville. D. Reed-Iler commented on the magnet schools and the potential cost for transportation as opposed to keeping students within district.

k. Consideration and action to set tuition rates for 2011-2012 as follows:(3 – Budget/Resources)

	General Education	Special Education
Elementary	\$9,080	\$24,180
Middle School	\$9,510	\$23,160
High School	\$9,920	\$22,180
Preschool		\$23,260
Other Services		Negotiable
Palmer Academy		Negotiable

Motion: That the Board sets tuition rates for 2011-2012 as follow: (3 – Budget/Resources)

	General Education	Special Education
Elementary	\$9,080	\$24,180
Middle School	\$9,510	\$23,160
High School	\$9,920	\$22,180
Preschool		\$23,260
Other Services		Negotiable
Palmer Academy		Negotiable

Proposed by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Steve Loiler
Vote: Carried unanimously

l. Consideration and action to observe the week of May 2-6, 2011, as National Teacher Appreciation week and an opportunity to recognize all of its employees. (8 – Communication/Marketing)

Motion: That the Board observes the week of May 2-6, 2011, as National Teacher Appreciation week and an opportunity to recognize all of its employees. (8 – Communication/Marketing)

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

m. Consideration and action to appoint a Board member to serve on the custodial negotiating committee. (7 – Positive community relationships)

T. McNally volunteered for the appointment.

Motion: That the Board appoints Tom McNally to serve on the Custodial Negotiating Committee. (7 –Positive community relationships)
Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried 6-1; J. Wood recused

n. Consideration and action to appoint a Board member to serve on the transportation negotiating committee. (7 – Positive community relationships)
D. Rowley reported that B. Mitchell volunteered for the appointment.

Motion: That the Board appoints Bob Mitchell to serve on the Transportation Negotiating Committee. (7 –Positive community relationships)
Proposed by: Tom McNally
Seconded by: Steve Loiler
Vote: Carried unanimously

o. Consideration and action to approve Policy 5131.1, Bus Conduct, as recommended by the Policy Committee at this evening’s meeting. (6 – School Health/Safety)
The Policy Committee amended the policy at its meeting earlier this evening.

Motion: That the Board approves Policy 5131.1, Bus Conduct, as amended and recommended by the Policy Committee at this evening’s meeting. (6 – School Health/Safety)
Proposed by: Tom McNally
Seconded by: Jim Wood
Vote: Carried unanimously

p. Consideration and action to approve Policy 5141.21, Administration of Medication as recommended by the Policy Committee at this evening’s meeting. (6 – School Health/Safety)
D. Maynard commented that policy language was changed to reflect changes in State regulations.

Motion: That the Board approves Policy 5141.21, Administration of Medication as recommended by the Policy Committee at this evening’s meeting.
Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Jim Wood
Vote: Carried unanimously

q. Discussion of pending claims and litigations.
This agenda item was discussed earlier in executive session.

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

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

J. Wood reported that the Committee met earlier this evening and discussed revisions to the School Resource Officer job description with Lt. Leonard Bunnell and Sgt. Michael Collins in attendance. Also discussed were revisions to the communicable and infectious diseases policy and discussion on a new policy regarding social networking.

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

The E & E meeting for this evening was cancelled.

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

D. Reed-Iler reported that the last MEF meeting was cancelled as a quorum was not present. She added that new members are being sought and volunteers are needed for the annual golf tournament.

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

D. Reed-Iler reported that Patrice McCarthy from the State Department of Education spoke at the last meeting.

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

D. Rowley reported that it was good to speak with area legislators and others in Hartford at the Day on the Hill.

f. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon/Jim Wood). (6 – School Health/Safety)

T. Pomazon reported that a meeting was not held.

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

T. McNally reported that the Advisory Council meets every other month and that a \$2,500 grant will be shared with area schools, \$500 each, as it does each year for technical equipment.

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

No report.

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 reported the following:

- He attended the Day on the Hill with the Student Board Representatives.
- The discussion with Principal Chad Ellis, P. Aubin and D. Rowley ran on Cable Access Channel 22 for nearly two weeks.

- Discussed possibility of having future discussions on Channel 22 about the functions of the Policy and Educational Evaluation Committees.
- He attended the budget forum at the Senior Center.
- Presented with seniors in Human Development at MHS regarding the 20th century school project.
- On April 1, he, MJ Dix, and B. Levesque will discuss the implementation and features of X2 Aspen, the new student management system, with Board Chair, Dave Rowley on Ch. 22.

k. Other

None

Item 10. Superintendent's Report.

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

D. Maynard reported on the following:

- A district “snapshot” conducted by Medicaid on March 14.
- Extended school year being reviewed and discussed.
- Data cleanup conducted per a warning from the State.

D. Reed-Iler proposed having a discussion on Channel 22 with D. Maynard and E. Richmond on special education.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Levesque.

B. Levesque reported on the following:

- Reported that the district is “in the home stretch” with CAPT and CMT testing and that he has kept the State Department on speed dial should problems arise.
- The X2Aspen data software parent portal will be available at Tyl by the end of March. MHS and Tyl schedules will be built and by mid-April data conversion for special education will begin.

c. Monthly Update.

P. Aubin reported on the following:

- The article, [The Myth of Charter Schools](#), by Diane Ravitch.
- I met with Len Bunnell and Mike Collins to discuss plans for the next School Resource Officer. I have submitted the SRO job description to the Policy Committee for review and have invited both Officers to attend so that the description can be updated as we approach selection.
- Laurie Pallin and I attended the LEARN Curriculum Network meeting and decided on next steps to begin planning for Regional Professional Development. This resulted in a meeting today with over 20 participating districts to begin planning for the two common PD days in 2011-2012.
- Nic Savoie, Brian Levesque and I have selected a website vendor to redesign and host our district/schools website so that it presents a more professional image to the public as the first step in our marketing strategy.
- On March 9th, I attended Day on the Hill and had an opportunity to meet with Senator Stillman to provide insight into key legislation that has a direct impact on our schools including: proposed kindergarten age range and start date, oversight of the Vo-tech schools, and ECS funding.

- I will be convening a committee to review and revise the Administrator Evaluation Plan on Thursday morning.
- Please note that LEARN will be hosting an Informational Session on the establishment of a LEARN Insurance Consortium. We have forwarded this invitation to the Mayor.

Item 11. Information items.

The “Meet the New Principal” event for Principal Chad Ellis previously postponed due to inclement weather has been rescheduled for March 30.

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

Gary Murphy commented that he is awaiting the Mayor’s budget to the Town Council.

Item 13. Adjournment.

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

Proposed by: Jim Wood

Seconded by: Tom McNally

Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

David Rowley, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Tom McNally, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary