

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
Tuesday, October 18, 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., James Wood and David Rowley. Todd Pomazon was 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 Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Administrators Lorilyn Caron, Jason Daly, Mary Jane Dix, Chad Ellis, Amy Espinoza, Mark Johnson, William Klinefelter, Jr., Sheila Reagan and Tanya Patten, Student Board Representatives Matthew Clark and Rachel Orbe, Town Council Board Liaison Gary Murphy, MEA president Joel Farrior.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the pledge, D. Rowley asked a moment of silence in memory of Carol Beaulieu, a long-time secretary in Montville, who passed.

Presentation: A) Montville Marvels.

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

Leonard J. Tyl School: Principal Mary Jane Dix and Assistant Principal Will Klinefelter, Jr. recognized Corey Schwartz for his kind and courageous spirit. Jessica Lilienthal, Mark McGuire, Jill Paglino, and Amy Richter were also recognized for bringing Rachel's Challenge to Leonard J. Tyl Middle School and for sponsoring the Chain Links Club. Certificates were presented by Board member Sandy Berardy.

Montville High School: Principal Chad Ellis and Assistants Principal Jason Daly and Tanya Patten recognized Carley Prokop for her active involvement in community service work and for being an excellent, hardworking, and dedicated student. Glen Mathieu was also recognized for being the organizer and project manager for the Montville Community Rally and Motorcycle Run for the past two years. Board member Bob Mitchell presented the certificates.

Palmer Academy: Principal Sheila Reagan recognized Stacey Mailhoit for the progress she has made during the past year, attending classes at both Palmer Academy and Montville High School and working a part-time job. The certificate was presented by Board member Jim Wood.

Presentation: B) Stress Management Through Movement—Palmer Academy.

S. Reagan introduced the staff at Palmer Academy, Ed Lilienthal, Stacy Pryor, Dawn Guntner, and Kim Jaskiewicz instrumental in the Stress Management Through Movement program that they reviewed with a PowerPoint presentation. By using weight training, Latin/Ballroom dancing, hiking at Devil's Hopyard, and team circuit/interval training, students and staff alike participate in these stress reducing activities. This effort has

occurred over a 4-month span and will be surveyed for its effectiveness by the students upon its completion. S. Reagan added that portions of these activities can and are included in the daily routine of the students. The program was funded by a Montville Education Foundation Grant.

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

None

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

T. McNally reported on letters from the following:

1. A letter from the State Department of Education congratulating Heather Holmes for being recognized as the Montville School District Teacher of the Year and the awards ceremony to be held at The Bushnell on November 17, 2011, from 5-7 p.m.
2. A card or thanks from Heather Holmes to the Central Office and the Board for being honored as Montville's Teacher of the Year at the September Board meeting and for the reception that followed.
3. A letter from P. Aubin to all district custodians and maintenance workers thanking them for the "exemplary job" that they did over the past year during several weather-related events.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler

Seconded by: Tom McNally

Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.

D. Rowley welcomed new Student Board Representative Rachel Orbe, a junior at MHS. Student Board Representatives M. Clark and R. Orbe gave a report to the Board as follows:

1. The following is a list of field trips that students attended:
 - American Studies 1: Olde Sturbridge Village – October 4
 - Maritime Studies: Mystic Seaport – October 4
 - American Studies 2: Battleship Cove – October 7
 - Girls Soccer Team attended a game at University of New Haven to watch MHS alumnus Courtney Stefano play
 - Environ-thon members and AP Environmental Science class went on a field trip to Hole in the Wall Beach in Niantic yesterday, October 17.
 - On October 27, Mrs. Glover's Civics class will go on a field trip to Boston to see the Freedom Trail.
2. On October 1, the Aspen Parent Portal was opened to parents and students. Letters with login information were mailed and the system thus far is running smoothly.
3. Nova-Net Lab is up and running and is being used for student credit recovery and for the Counseling Department as well as to help students with the Naviance College and career software. Some students are completing work started in summer school.
4. The "Not in our School" campaign met at the beginning of the month, and on October 5, peer mediators held a pledge activity where students pledged to not be

mean to each other and to report any mean behaviors. Future activities are being planned and the event was covered by *The Day*, *The Bulletin*, and *Montville Patch*.

5. Spirit week began today and will continue to October 21 when a Pep Rally will be held. The Homecoming Dance is Saturday, October 22 and tickets are currently on sale for \$10.
6. On October 24, the girls soccer team is participating in the “Montville Kicks Cancer” game against NLHS and partial proceeds will benefit the Passionately Ping for the Cure initiative of Susan G. Komen Foundation.
7. The boys and girls soccer teams will play in the annual ALS Cup game against St. Bernard’s and the proceeds will benefit “Head for Cure” for Lou Gehrig’s disease.
8. ELL students have been actively participating in community service projects by assisting the Asian and American Lions Club of Eastern CT, performing traditional dances and songs at the Old Mystic Village Diversity Day and participating in New London’s Fourth of July parade. They will appear again soon at Old Mystic Village to help with their breast cancer program.
9. A new Tibetan ELL student, who is a Tibetan Monk, will be attending MHS, and we wish her the best of luck. Dr. Phillips, Mr. Thorn and Principal Ellis are arranging special student awareness activities to broaden knowledge about diversity at the high school.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

a. Report and update of the Ad Hoc Kindergarten Feasibility Committee. (8—BOE Knowledge)

P. Aubin reported that the Full-Day Kindergarten Committee met today to organize into subgroups with accompanying investigation topics. Research and data were shared with the group. The committee consists of Carrie Baxter as the BOE representative, Pam Aubin, Brian Levesque, Donna Maynard, Laurie Pallin and Kathy Lamoureux from Central Office, all of the elementary principals, Jill Mazzalupo, kindergarten teachers: Barbara Gaudette, Robin Tamburrino, Jennifer Werling, ESL teacher Lisa Kaplan, Language Arts Consultant Suzanne Lopresto and Sherry Howard, Director of Transportation. Parent representative is Jackie Meislitzer from Oakdale Elementary School. Jackie served on the Deep River committee for full-day kindergarten.

b. Discussion of Board members’ attendance at the 72nd Annual Conference of NSBA, Boston, MA, April 21-23, 2012.

A summary of the expenses to attend the NSBA 2012 event was given to the Committee by B. Mitchell. P. Aubin said that \$4,500 is budgeted for the event. S. Berardy commented that in the past, the funds were divided so that more Board members could attend. Her suggestion was discussed and Board members interested in attending the conference were identified.

Item 8. New Business

a. Report and update on X2 Aspen—Brian Levesque and Laurie Pallin. (7 – Technology)

B. Levesque and L. Pallin gave a PowerPoint presentation that gave a snapshot of the parent portal. Students and parents have “read-only” access rights for the software. Tyl has the parent portal up and running, but the portals for the elementary schools are a year away for use. With the software, the following lists some of the data that can be tracked and reviewed: attendance, CMT/CAPT scores, student calendar, graduation summary,

program of study. The web-based software can be accessed from home by staff, students, and parents. B. Levesque reported that he has been asked to serve on the X2 Advisory Board and has been asked to present at a technology conference in the spring. X2 Aspen expects to roll out 900 new feature items. P. Aubin commented that the software fills the need for immediate data for data driven decision making.

b. Consideration and action to 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 Pamela W. Aubin, Superintendent of Schools, and Kathy Lamoureux, Business Manager, as authorized Signatories to file claims for reimbursement under the Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs.

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

c. Consideration and action to appoint delegates to the CAFE Delegate Assembly, November 17, 2011, Mystic Marriott, Groton. (6—Advocacy)

Motion: That the Board appoints Bob Mitchell to serve as a delegate at the CAFE Delegate Assembly, November 17, 2011, at Mystic, Marriott, Groton.

Proposed by: Steve Loiler
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried unanimously

Motion: That the Board appoints Sandy Berardy as an alternate delegate to the CAFE Delegate Assembly, November 17, 2011, at Mystic, Marriott, Groton.

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

d. Report and update on MAA Negotiations. (5—Positive Community Relationships)

Motion: That the Board moves Item 8d to Item 12a, executive session.
Proposed by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried unanimously

e. Consideration and action for the Board to resolve to support legislation that shifts the Burden of Proof standard in due process to the party initiating the action, in alignment with IDEA and 48 other states. (6—Advocacy)

P. Aubin commented that the current state statute is a costly situation for districts in Connecticut. D. Maynard added that the rationale for the current statute was to have districts settle rather than go to due process.

Motion: That the Board resolves to support legislation that shifts the Burden of Proof standard in due process to the party initiating the action, in alignment with IDEA and 48 other states.

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

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

a. Policy (James Wood). (6 – Advocacy)

J. Wood reported that the Committee met earlier this evening and improved revisions to the district health manual and the bullying policy. Each will be brought to the full Board next month for approval. The Committee heard from a parent who asked for relief for transportation to the Marine Science High School in Groton. He said that if transportation is provided, the district would take on liability, as discussed with K. Lamoureux. It is hoped that LEARN will take more of an active role in transportation.

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

B. Mitchell reported that no meeting was held.

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

D. Reed-Iler reported that the grant cycle closes at the end of October. Soprano tickets are still available for February 25-26, 2012. Also, new volunteers are needed.

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

D. Reed-Iler reported that a prospective was given on CMT scores for magnet schools. Professional development was also discussed.

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

B. Mitchell reported no meeting was held but things are gearing up for the CABE Convention next month. He said that he would be moderating 2 or 3 workshops.

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

There was no report, but P. Aubin said that a ribbon cutting ceremony for the high school is scheduled for November 3rd at 4:30 p.m. She also reported that the sculpture that S. Berardy inquired about has been found.

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

T. McNally reported that the \$500 grant routinely given will be used for scholarships. He also said that he has been nominated to chair the council next year. In other business, he reported that Town of Montville Capitol Improvement Committee is being revitalized.

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

B. Mitchell reported that a Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, October 23rd at the Mohegan Firehouse from 8-12 noon. The prices are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children. Funds are being sought for a Penny Drive and the proceeds will be used for support of the tornado victims of Alabama and Georgia.

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

D. Reed-Iler commented on the Oakdale School report that talked about students getting references for school jobs. These reports were submitted to the Board in their packets.

j. Chair's Remarks.

D. Rowley commented on the following:

- He recently interviewed Amy Espinoza, the new principal at Murphy School, on Cable Access Channel 22.
- On October 19th on Channel 22, he and D. Maynard will tape an interview with Jill Mazzalupo.

k. Other.

J. Wood and D. Reed-Iler spoke with Marjorie Gatheral of the Town Economic Development Commission about a historic tour that is being developed. He asked whether the high school history classes may somehow be linked with the same.

Item 10. Superintendent's Report.

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

D. Maynard reported the following:

- To help the state effort to revise the 1999 outdated document titled: Guidelines for Occupational Therapy in Educational Settings, Dorothy Ford-King will represent the district in an area forum in November. Efforts will focus on providing guidance reflective of occupational therapists' work, and the needs and characteristics of the school settings in which services and supports to children age three through 21, are given.
- Montville High School has been selected to participate in a federal grant, Project Unify. This grant will support a Unified Sports program to include students with disabilities in after school competitive sports programs. She will meet with Walt Sherwin and high school staff on Wednesday.
- On Wednesday, she will have the pleasure of accompanying Dave Rowley with his Channel 22 interview of Jill Mazzalupo.

- Betty Waselik and Mark Johnson have been interviewing nurses to fill a full-time school nurse position and a part-time position for special needs.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Levesque.

B. Levesque reported on the following:

- TEAM: He attended two TEAM training sessions in the past two weeks. The first was for TEAM District Facilitators and the second was for Reflection Paper Reviewers. Both sessions were a review of the important components of the program. At the training the final module (#5) was presented. This module focuses on ethical and professional behavior. We have 10 teachers participating in TEAM this year, and five of them will finish this year. He will be holding a meeting on Thursday to review the TEAM process with all mentors and mentees.
- NEASC Visit: He will be a part of the visiting team to Middletown High School from October 31—November 2, 2011. The visit is a great opportunity for him to learn more about the new evaluation standards. C. Ellis will be attending a conference with two teachers from MHS in November to begin preparations for the next high school visitation in the 2016-2017 school year.

c. Monthly Update.

P. Aubin reported on the following:

- Since our last meeting, she has participated in the SRO Interview. Karen Moorehead was the unanimous choice of the committee.
- Preparations for negotiations have consumed a large measure of time. An update will be provided later in the meeting.
- All principals' goals meetings have been finalized.
- Classroom visits: She has read to the Grade 2 students at Oakdale.
- She visited all Grade 2 classrooms and observed *Imagine It* and the use of SmartBoards in curriculum embedded instruction.
- DARE is on track to begin in Grade 5 in January 2012. Mike Collins, the retired Resident State Trooper, will be the DARE Officer for Montville Public Schools.

Item 11. Information items.

- North Stonington High School Feasibility Study.

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

G. Murphy thanked the Board for allowing him to sit in on their meetings and said that he appreciated everything done by P. Aubin and staff. He said that learned a lot, and it was an honor to be a part of the meetings. He also commented that last week he was able to sit in on a SmartBoard presentation at Oakdale School and to view his grandchildren's use of the Aspen system—he was very impressed.

Motion: That the Board goes into executive session to discuss Report and update on MAA Negotiations, per C.G.S. 1-200, subsection 6., and invite in the Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and the Business Manager.

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

The Board went into executive session at 7:39 p.m.

Motion: **That the Board comes out of executive session with no votes taken.**
Proposed by: Steve Loiler
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried unanimously

The Board came out of executive session at 8:02 p.m.

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion: **That the meeting is adjourned.**
Proposed by: Steve Loiler
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 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: _____