

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.**

2014-15 Board of Education Goals:

To engage in a cycle of continuous improvement to ensure all students are educated with high standards and achieve at the highest levels of learning in the Montville Public Schools.

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, Deborah Reed-Iler, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Kim Navetta, Valerie Smith, James Wood and David Rowley. Board members Steve Loiler and Todd Pomazon were absent.

Also present were, Assistant Superintendent Laurie Pallin, Director of Special Services Mark Johnson, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Administrators Jason Daly, Mary Jane Dix, Amy Espinoza, Jill Mazzalupo, Heather Mileski, Tanya Patten, Allison Peterson, Jennifer Russell, and Jeff Theodoss; Student Board Representatives Hannah Marchini and Rohit Sinha, and Town Councilor Liaison Joseph Jaskiewicz. Superintendent of Schools Brian Levesque was absent.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

Presentation: A) Montville.

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

Leonard J. Tyl Middle School: Principal M. J. Dix recognized Kara Beaupre, McKinley Bond, Megan Daley, Alexis DeLucia, Haley Kerwin, Kiera MacCracken, Michaela MacCracken, Alexis Meehan, Olivia Meehan, Elise Minas, Jillian Murallo, Ellen Myshka, Peyton Netopski, Eva Peltier, Katelin Price, Lauren Ross, Kendall Turney, Lauren Velazquez, Kylee Waite, and Sydney Winakor for having an amazing, undefeated season in Girls Soccer with zero goals scored against them. These certificates were presented by Board Member Valerie Smith.

Montville High School: Principal Jeff Theodoss and Administrators Jason Daley and Tanya Patton recognized Ashley Bonagura for her tireless work ethic and commitment to the special education students at Montville High School. He also recognized Kelly Brooks for her leadership and her participation on multiple school committees at Montville High School. Board Member Jim Wood presented these certificates.

Palmer Building: Since Bradley Farr could not attend, he will be presented with his certificate at the next Board meeting.

Presentation: B) The Evolution of the PBIS Program at Dr. Charles E. Murphy School.

Principal Amy Espinoza and staff member Pam Green gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board on the 11-year history and evolution of the Positive Behavioral Intervention Support Program (PBIS). The aim of the program is to let students know what behavior is expected of them in every aspect of the school environment with responsibility, outstanding effort, citizenship, and kindness as described by the acronym Murphy "R.O.C.K.S." Over the years, other components have been added to PBIS as a motivator to student behavior—mascot, "Charlie Rocker," the "Golden Plunger," the "Golden Tray," the "Golden Bus," and "Rock" tickets and are awarded based on behavioral ratings. The Student Rock Council for 5th graders requires that students submit applications and interview for appointment to the council. Teachers from each grade participate in the program which involves a check-in/check-out component where a daily goals chart and point system are used for students who need special attention. Future goals for PBIS are to mesh the PBIS Team with School Safety/Climate Team, develop a Parent Outreach Team, and diminish the rewards associated with the program over time.

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

Chair D. Rowley asked three times for comments. Town Councilor Liaison Joseph Jaskiewicz commented on the Board's invitation to attend the recent CABE Conference. He spoke about the importance of the conference for him and said that he felt that more people from the municipality should be invited to the conference to understand the Board of Education perspective. Town Councilor Jaskiewicz also stated that he attended an intense workshop on school safety and was impressed with the number of people who attended it. Board member B. Mitchell said that he has been pushing for municipal members to attend the event and would take the thought back to CABE for consideration.

Item 4: Letters and communications.

There were none to report.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

Proposed by: Jim Wood

Seconded by: Bob Mitchell

Vote: Motion carried - 6-0-1 – Deb Reed-Iler abstained

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.

- **Introduction of Rohit Sinha, Junior Class**

The student representatives Hannah Marchini and Rohit Sinja reported as follows:

1. The marching band concluded its competitive season with a performance at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey. They are preparing for the Montville Holiday Light Parade and Tree Lighting and getting ready for the winter concert on December 15th.
2. The Montville Carolers are preparing for their inaugural season and will perform at venues throughout southeastern Connecticut including the Montville Senior Center, Smith Harris House in Niantic, and Olde Mistick Village. The winter choir concert will take place on December 17th.
3. On October 23rd, the annual 7th and 8th Grade Orientation was held to obtain information about the academic and extra-curricular activities at MHS. Nearly 200 parents and students attended that night and visited the fair, sampled snacks provided by the Culinary Arts and Bakeshop classes, and listened to the Marching Band and Choir.
4. The International Club recently held *One World, One Dance* to celebrate dance around the world. The club demonstrated dances, and snacks were provided in the Senior Court after school on October 28th.
5. The MHS Drama Department will perform its fall play, *Theophilus North*, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, November 20 – 22. A special performance will take place on Friday morning, November 21, for the 7th and 8th grades students at Tyl.
6. The English Department is sponsoring a basket raffle this week to benefit its scholarship fund. Winning tickets will be chosen on Saturday, November 22nd after the final performance of *Theophilus North*.
7. A lockdown drill was conducted at MHS on Friday, November 14th in conjunction with canine police units to perform a search of the building.
8. MHS was honored by the College Board on the Annual AP District Honor Roll for increasing access to AP coursework while simultaneously maintaining/increasing the percentage of students earning scores of 3.0 or higher on AP Exams.
9. Representatives from MHS recently visited Sayles School in Baltic, a small K-8 school, to encourage students to enroll at MHS. Typically, 5-6 students from Baltic attend MHS annually.
10. The School Governance Council will sponsor a tag sale on Saturday, November 29th at Fair Oaks School. The proceeds from the event will help fund clubs and activities at the high school.
11. The Montville High School English Learners were guests of Mayor Ron McDaniel for a tour of the Montville Waste Water Treatment Plant. After the tour of the facility, the students were treated to lunch at the Kingdom Chinese Buffet.

12. Maritime Studies is headed to Mystic Seaport on Thursday, November 20th to tour archives and receive their first lesson in navigation.
13. AP and ECE classes took a field trip to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts to observe and learn about modern and past art.
14. Montville Boys Soccer finished the regular season ranked 6 in the Class M Tournament. They defeated Woodland Regional by a score of 6-2; however, in the next round they were defeated 1-0 by Tolland who ended up being the runner up in the entire tournament.
15. Montville Girls Soccer finished the regular season ranked 17 in the Class M Tournament but were defeated by Sheehan with a score of 1-0 in the final minutes of the game.
16. The MHS football team still has two remaining games in its regular season. The Indians are currently 5-4 and anticipate finishing the season 6-4 with two games left against Fitch and Saint Bernard's.

Item 7. Unfinished business. -- None

- a. Consideration and action to approve the district and schools' safety and security plans.**

Assistant Superintendent Laurie Pallin said that the State provided a model and guidance for the district and schools' safety and security plans. She explained that the administrators met as a whole and within their schools to craft the plans that were finalized by B. Levesque and M. J. Dix and put in Dropbox for the Board's review.

Motion: That the Board approves the district and schools' safety and security plans.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 8. New Business.

- a. Consideration and action to adopt the proposed schedule of Board of Education meetings for 2015, and file the schedule with the Town Clerk prior to December 31, 2014.**

Motion: That the Board adopts the proposed schedule of Board of Education meetings for 2015, and file the schedule with the Town Clerk prior to December 31, 2014.

Proposed by: Valerie Smith
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

- b. Consideration and action to approve Policy #5144.1, Restraint and Seclusion as recommended by the Policy Committee at their October 21 2014, meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves Policy #5144.1, Restraint and Seclusion as recommended by the Policy Committee at their October 21 2014, meeting.

Proposed by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

Board member J. Wood said the purpose of the policy is to prevent a student from endangering himself/herself and others and to have training and put procedures and administrative regulations in place. Director of Special Services M. Johnson said that it is important that the district continues to train for the safe handling of students. He also responded to Board member C. Baxter's question about the handling of students who witness incidents and Board member D. Reed-Iler's question concerning the number of trained staff in the building.

- c. Consideration and action to review/approve the Agreement between the Montville Board of Education and the Montville Administrators' Association (MAA), reopened for the purpose of negotiating health and salary for the final year of the Agreement (2015-16)*.**

Motion: That the Board approves the Agreement between the Montville Board of Education and the Montville Administrators' Association (MAA), reopened for the purpose of negotiating health and salary for the final year of the Agreement (2015-16)*.

Proposed by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

- d. Consideration and action to review/approve the Agreement between the Montville Board of Education and the Montville Education Association (MEA).**

Motion: That the Board approves the Agreement between the Montville Board of Education and the Montville Education Association (MEA).

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Valerie Smith
Vote: Carried unanimously

e. Discussion of district calendar for 2015-16.

Assistant Superintendent L. Pallin explained that approval was not being sought tonight. She spoke about the proposed 8-day advance in the start of school and the alignment of vacation and professional development days with other districts.

f. Consideration and action to approve the new System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED) rubric for submission to the State Department of Education.

Motion: That the Board approves the new System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED) rubric for submission to the State Department of Education.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Carrie Baxter
Vote: Carried unanimously

Assistant Superintendent L. Pallin reported that the evaluation rubric was revised by a district committee so that teachers can meet and exceed their goals although students may not have met the assessment targets in order to recognize teachers' efforts.

g. Consideration and action to transfer \$125,000 from Salaries (various – 111 – related to retirements/resignations) to Tuition/Private Schools (1200-562).

Motion: That the Board approves the transfer of \$125,000 from Salaries (various – 111 – related to retirements/resignations) to Tuition/Private Schools (1200-562).

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Bob Mitchell
Vote: Carried unanimously

Business Director K. Lamoureux stated that budgeting was done more aggressively and resulted in a surplus for IEP placements out-of-district.

h. Consideration and action to transfer \$80,000 from Tuition/Agency Placed Private (1200-563) to Tuition/CT School Districts (1200-560) – reallocation of tuitions to reflect placements.

Motion: That the Board approves the transfer of \$80,000 from Tuition/Agency Placed Private (1200-563) to Tuition/CT School Districts (1200-560) – reallocation of tuitions to reflect placements.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Valerie Smith
Vote: Carried unanimously

K. Lamoureux stated that the transfer reflects a student that got placed after the budget.

- i. Consideration and action to transfer \$145,000 from Tuition/Agency Placed Private (1200-563) to Tuition/Private Schools (1200-562) – reallocation of tuitions to reflect placements.**

Motion: That the Board approves the transfer of \$145,000 from Tuition/Agency Placed Private (1200-563) to Tuition/Private Schools (1200-562) – reallocation of tuitions to reflect placements.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Valerie Smith
Vote: Carried unanimously

Business Manager K. Lamoureux stated that there were a lot of state placements last year and that the transfer reflects the move from state to district placements.

Item 8. Committee and liaison reports.

a. Policy (James Wood).

J. Wood stated that a meeting was not held this month but the Committee would continue for the next several months to review current and past policies for possible updates.

b. Educational Evaluation (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that the Committee met this evening and reviewed and proposed for approval by the Board this evening a new physics textbook that meets AP requirements and is Common Core compliant—60 books at a total of \$3,936.60. D. Reed-Iler commented that the book is great for students' use in mechanical areas and not just college bound students.

Motion: That the Board approves the new physics textbook as proposed by the Educational Evaluation Committee at its meeting this evening.

Proposed by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded by: Valerie Smith
Vote: Carried unanimously

c. Montville Education Foundation (Steve Loiler/Brian Levesque).

M. Johnson reported on the MEF stating that it has begun strategic planning, last done eight (8) years ago, to review its strengths and challenges and where it wants to be in five (5) years. He also said that the Foundation has matured even with heavy turnovers and has continued to succeed due to its strong core belief and commitment to its mission. M. Johnson also stated that the proposed plans have been drafted and sent out for later discussion. He also reported on a fundraising event on February 21, 2015, at the Montville Polish Club at a cost of \$50 per person for dinner & entertainment.

d. LEARN (Carrie Baxter).

C. Baxter reported that LEARN met last Thursday, November 13th and heard a fiscal report and one on how school districts view magnet schools as competition, a topic that will be discussed later with individual Boards.

e. CABA/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell commented that he hoped everyone enjoyed the CABA Convention last weekend adding that the workshops given at the convention were timely for things going on in district. He also reported that the 2015 NSBA Convention will be held in Nashville, TN and the 2016 convention in Boston, MA. C. Baxter commented that she enjoyed the CABA workshop on contracts.

f. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon). – No report

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Todd Pomazon). – No report

h. Montville Youth Services Bureau (Robert Mitchell).

Board member B. Mitchell stated that it has been a quiet time at the Bureau. He reported on the recent pancake breakfast, a holiday dinner in December, and the next meeting that will be held in February 2015.

i. Administrative Monthly Reports.

Board member D. Reed-Iler thanked J. Theodoss and the high school for the new video posted on the website promoting the high school. D. Rowley thanked Principals A. Peterson and J. Mazuluppo for the Veterans Day programs at their schools. He also commented to A. Peterson about the plans for courtyard improvements at Mohegan which will hopefully be funded by a Tools for Education grant due on November 15. The courtyard improvement project will be student-directed with assistance from S. Carroll, Director of Facilities. D. Rowley called the "History Rock" at Tyl "wonderful" stating that he had a good time with the students who had attained honor roll status in all

trimesters. He also reported that he has received positive feedback from the community on the internships.

j. Chair's Remarks.

D. Rowley stated that he interviewed Sheila Bedard and Robin Tamburrino on Cable Access Channel 22.

k. Other. -- None

Item 9. Superintendent's Report.

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

M. Johnson reported to the Board on the following:

- Reading in Special Education Programs: Jen Russell, Denise Dunning, Laurie Pallin, and I will be working with the Reading Consultants to audit the reading interventions that are used with special education students and to determine the need for revisions and or training.
- IEPs: We continue to work on our district-wide goal of writing promising practice IEPs throughout the school district for our special needs students. Through the audit of IEPs and working directly with staff members, we have established the need to focus on present levels and the impact statements that lead us to our specially designed instruction.
- Evaluative Tools: Jen Russell, Denise Dunning, Pam Green, and I have established the list of special education evaluative tools we have in district. We will develop a list of evaluations that are valid and reliable and current. We will establish a matrix that will suggest certain evaluations for a particular set of present levels and impact statement. Future professional development plans include work with the Kansas Center for Research on Learning and the Strategic Instruction Model, executive functioning issues with students, and the integration of assistive technology in our education plans.
- Website: Nic Savoie, Sara Desirey and I have been researching possible additions and or revisions to the special education page on the Montville Public School website. We will be making changes to our existing page to better serve the Montville community.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mrs. Pallin.

L. Pallin gave a report to the Board on the following:

- CABE/CAPSS Convention: Brian and I attended the CABE/CAPSS Convention last Friday and Saturday and saw the Board recognized by CABE as a Board of Distinction (an honor they have received annually since 2009). The workshops this year were outstanding and gave us some ideas to bring back to the administrators. We are awaiting materials which we requested from the Center for Leadership in Education.
- Montville High School Advanced Placement: MHS was recently cited by the College Board as one of 547 schools across the US and Canada to be named to the Advanced Placement District Honor Roll. We were recognized for increasing access to Advanced Placement courses while also increasing the percent of students who earned high scores on the exams. There was a nice article in the November 18th issue of the *Norwich Bulletin*.
- Palmer's Programs: Palmer's programs continue to be recognized by other districts. H. Mileski was approached this week by a third district interested in learning more about our project-based learning approach.
- With trimester 1 closed at the elementary schools, N. Savoie has been invaluable in ensuring the report card process goes smoothly and elementary teachers are gearing up for parent conferences next week.

c. Monthly Update.

B. Levesque was absent from the meeting.

Item 10. Information items. -- None

Item 11. Citizens comments (non-agenda items only).

Board Chair D. Rowley asked three times for comments. There were none.

Item 12. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

Proposed by: Valerie Smith

Seconded by: Deb Reed-Iler

Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

David Rowley, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Carrie Baxter, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved: _____