

**Minutes of the
Monson School Committee
Regular Business Meeting
Quarry Hill Community School – School Committee Meeting Room
May 17, 2017**

Present: Chair Peter Sauriol; Vice Chair Joshua Farber; Secretary Patricia Oney; Committee Members Joel Keller and Ed Maia

Also Present: Superintendent Cheryl Clarke; Principal William Metzger (MHS) and Recording Secretary Karen Methé

Note: This meeting was video-recorded.

Mr. Sauriol called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Ms. Oney read the Mission Vision Statements.

Announcements:

May 18, 2017 – Grade 2 Literacy Night at Quarry Hill Community School

May 19, 2017 – Senior Signing Day at the high school, beginning with breakfast at 8:00 a.m., ceremony at 8:30 a.m.

May 23, 2017- Early Release Day for students, Professional Development for staff.

Recognition:

Mr. Metzger displayed student work from Mrs. Gianfriddo's Ceramic Arts class. He continues to be impressed with the work her students do in the Fine Arts classes. There has been discussion on expanding the arts offerings.

Mr. Metzger noted that he was proud of the students for completing their AP examinations and Grade 10 MCAS testing. He spoke of the successful Math Boot Camp program held in the days leading up to the MCAS tests, stating many Grade 10 students expressed feeling more prepared for testing. Mr. Metzger offered kudos to students for staying engaged and the Math and Special Education departments for coordinating the effort. He also thanked all staff for their willingness to be flexible and accommodating during a very busy time of year.

Mr. Metzger then spoke of an archery unit taking place in Physical Education classes. Noting the program was run by the U.S. Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at no cost, PE staff was provided safety and technical training and archery equipment has been lent to the district. He added that it has been well received by students.

Minutes:

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to approve the April 25, 2017 minutes of the Working Meeting as submitted. (Second by Mr. Keller)**
- **No discussion**

- **Motion carries 5-0**
- **Motion by Ms. Oney to approve the May 3, 2017 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Mr. Keller)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 3-0 (Mr. Keller and Mr. Maia abstained from vote)**

Superintendent's Report:

Mrs. Clarke highlighted the visit of New England Patriots safety Devin McCourty to Granite Valley Middle School in conjunction with his D-MAC Gives Back initiative. GVMS students raised the most donations for milk to be provided to the local food bank and also state-wide. Mr. McCourty together with Nicole Fletcher of Fletcher Dairy Farms in Southampton spoke to students about the importance of eating healthy, exercising and giving back to their community. Mr. McCourty also walked the track with students. Mrs. Clarke thanked Mrs. Gustafson, Food Service Director and Mr. Petit, Physical Education teacher at GVMS and Mrs. Cieplik for all their hard work on this positive school initiative.

The first Preschool Information Night was held on May 4, 2017. Mrs. Clarke noted that it was very well attended.

The District Technology Committee has been working on putting together a plan. They have created their mission and vision and a draft plan has been finalized and will be presented at the next Regular Business Meeting with members of this Committee present to talk about various group suggestions for benchmarks, proposals and initiatives. Grade 3 teachers will also be invited to share their successes with the current Chromebook initiative.

Mrs. Clarke reviewed new job postings for Grade 4 Classroom Teacher and Grade 4 Special Education Teacher noting these are not new positions but replacements at QHCS.

The Manufacturing Technology (Woodshop) position will not be filled due to the absence of securing a certified teacher. Mrs. Clarke stated that Mr. Coles has done a great job as the long-term substitute teacher in that position. It is proposed that the monies allocated for that position be divided between the three schools, allowing some things to be put back into the budget, for example; a half-time Geography teacher which would allow the ELA teachers at GVMS to focus on additional reading intervention instead of teaching a block of Geography. A half-time English Language Learners (ELL) position is also proposed, benefitting QHCS due to the addition of ELL students, though a district-wide position. The balance of the monies will allow Mrs. Gianfriddo to participate in training for AP Arts.

- **Motion by Mr. Farber to support re-apportioning the money originally budgeted for the Tech Ed position as recommended by the Superintendent. (Second by Mr. Maia)**
- **Discussion followed**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Business and Facilities:

Mr. Smith reported that the beginning of the year end draw down has begun for the final forecast to be prepared, noting that he is making sure to get the last round of bill schedules in. He added that maintenance, including QHCS roof repair, will be the impact of the year end variance report as well as capital spending for next year. A Facilities and Long-Term Planning Subcommittee

Meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. John Chipko, of Kaestle Boos, will attend to present the final engineering study along with associated costs.

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports:

Goals and Mandates Update:

Finance:

The subcommittee has not met since the last Regular Business Meeting. Mr. Keller noted that everyone is aware of the town vote and what the current spending is which aligns with the school's budget. A meeting will be planned as a follow-up to the Facilities and Long-Term Planning Subcommittee meeting.

Facilities and Long-Term Planning:

A meeting has been scheduled for May 22, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Curriculum:

Ms. Oney reported that Mrs. Watts distributed information that was discussed at a prior meeting and another will be scheduled prior to the end of the school year.

Human Resources/Negotiations:

Work has wrapped up for the FY17 year.

Policy/Diversity:

Subcommittee met earlier this evening to discuss several Agenda items which include Technology Policy needs that require input from the District Technology Committee and Technology Specialist Todd Schubach. There was a brief review of gifts to the school, to be discussed further. Most of the meeting time was spent on the issues of Superintendent, community and Committee relations that were raised at a recent Working Meeting with the first layer of discussion focusing on the appropriate scale and scope of information expectations both Committee and community might have for the Superintendent in the anticipation of sensitive issues. Mr. Farber noted that it may take several meetings to process through that information. There was further discussion regarding the difference between Working Meetings versus Retreats and/or Team Building exercises as it pertains to the Open Meeting Laws.

New Business:

The Superintendent Evaluation Timeline was discussed with proposed dates as follows:

May 26, 2017 – Mrs. Clarke will have all evidence available for Committee members.

May 27-June 19, 2017 – Members to compile individual evaluations.

June 21, 2017 – Review of summary timeline and compilation to be discussed briefly at a Working Meeting following the Committee Reorganization Meeting.

Mrs. Clarke will send Committee members a list of standards and indicators.

As a follow-up to the budget meeting, the past two Finance Subcommittee Meetings and the joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Keller asked to propose several motions for the Committee's consideration.

- **Motion by Mr. Keller that the Monson Public Schools work jointly with the Monson Board of Selectmen on a 3 year budget plan for the Monson schools for and to include shared services and school consolidation. Initial project period starting June 2017 through January 2018. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **There was lengthy discussion concerning language in the motion surrounding school consolidation.**

- **A friendly amendment to include the language “for and to include discussion regarding” referencing school consolidation, was agreed upon.**
- **Continued discussion ensued with Mr. Maia suggesting a task force be formed before reaching the budget development phase.**
- **Motion by Mr. Keller that the Monson Public Schools work jointly with the Monson Board of Selectmen on a 3 year plan for the Monson schools and to consider shared services and school consolidation. Initial project period starting June 2017 through January 2018.**
- **Mr. Maia noted he was not in favor of the language “jointly with the Select Board” included in any of the above motions.**
- **Discussion followed**
- **Motion carries 4-1**

- **Motion by Mr. Keller that the Monson Public Schools Business Office conduct and solicit bids to prepare a full analysis of outsourcing food service department versus an in house model, by the same date with said analysis presented to the Superintendent and School Committee. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **Mr. Sauriol confirmed that “by the same date” meant November 17, 2017.**
- **Mr. Smith requested an extension of proposed timeframe to January 2018.**
- **An extension date of January 31, 2018 was agreed upon through a friendly amendment.**
- **Discussion continued with Mr. Farber requesting that Mrs. Clarke be prepared to talk, over the next few meetings, about what she believes the non-budgetary impacts of outsourcing both transportation and food services might be, to ensure that consideration is given, not only from a budgetary perspective but from school community and other areas that are overseen. Mr. Keller stated it could be part of the analysis. Mrs. Clarke is prepared to speak to the staff involved.**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

- **Motion by Mr. Maia to establish a task force of twelve people, population to be determined after a joint meeting with the Select Board, to consider the shared services and school consolidation. (Second by Mr. Keller)**
- **No further discussion**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Public session:

Mr. Sauriol opened Public Session at 8:03 p.m.

No one from the public came forward to address the Committee.

Mr. Sauriol closed Public Session at 8:03 p.m.

Action Items:

It was agreed that Mr. Keller will contact the Select Board to be put on their Agenda.

Mrs. Clarke will supply the Committee with a list of identified indicators along with mid-year goals.

A Policy Subcommittee Meeting needs to be scheduled.

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Regular Business Meeting scheduled for June 7, 2017.

Short discussion of senior week activities and graduation on June 2, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

June 21, 2017 - Re-organization Meeting and Working Meeting, 7:00 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. respectively. Mrs. Methe to email Outlook invites to Committee members.

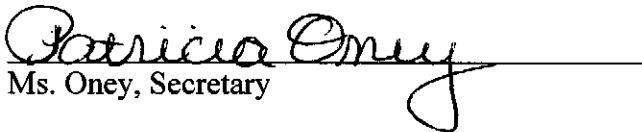
Mr. Farber nominated Mr. Sauriol, Chairperson of the Human Resources and Negotiations Subcommittee, to compile the individual Committee members' Superintendent Evaluations.

- **Motion by Mr. Maia to adjourn Open Session. (Second by Mr. Keller)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Open session closed at 8:09 p.m.

Documentation for this meeting:
Agenda-Regular Business Meeting

Approved by Committee:


Ms. Oney, Secretary