



**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 16, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Board of Education Goal:**

**Montville graduates will possess the skills and dispositions to navigate complex tasks. Our graduates are communicators, information consumers, problem solvers, and independent learners. They exhibit empathy, perseverance, inclusivity and self-awareness.**

**Library Media Center**

**Item 1. Call to order / Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence – 6:00 P.M.**

Board Chair Wills Pike called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Board members attending were: Bob Mitchell, Timothy Shanahan, Florence Turner, Tina Grove, Carol Burgess, James Wood, Grace Carlos and Sheelagh Lapinski.

Also participating were: Superintendent of Schools Laurie Pallin, Assistant Superintendent Dianne Vumback, Director of Special Services Paula LaChance, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Director of Facilities Steve Carroll, and Recording Secretary Pamela Rodgers.

**Item 2. Alterations to the agenda**

*None*

**Item 3. Citizens' Comments (regarding agenda items only)**

*None*

**Item 4. Letters and Communications**

*None*

**Item 5. Approval of the Consent Calendar**

**a. Budget Update; Kathy Lamoureux**

*The 21-22 operating budget ended with a shortfall of unaudited amount of \$507,685.32 which will need to be funded from the 2% non-lapsing account. As reported throughout the fiscal year, the tuition accounts ended with a shortfall of approximately \$588,300 and*

*subcontracted transportation ended with a shortfall of \$43,350. Some of this shortfall was offset with the other categories such as employee benefits, salaries and purchased services netting to a surplus which reduced the shortfall for the 21-22 school year. Prior years' encumbrances of \$31,167 were liquidated and returned back to the Town.*

*We are currently in the process of completing the end of the year reports to the State for the 21-22 expenditures for the operating budget and grants along with the excess cost grant. These reports must be submitted to the state by September 1, 2022. Additionally, we have spent the summer rolling over the accounting system, setting up new staff and starting the audit for the 21-22 fiscal year.*

*The projects funded under the capital plan:*

*Carpeting purchase order was completed and work has started. However, there will be a delay in the project because the company is waiting for the remainder of the carpet to come in to complete the work.*

*Bus purchase order completed. The buses are expected to be here in about 2 to 3 weeks. However, the lease payments came in at \$119,092 which is \$6,092 higher than the capital plan approved. This has been communicated to the Finance Director who indicated she would put it as an agenda item for the Finance Committee to consider.*

*Questions:*

- 1. Sidewalk between Bus Garage and Tyl - work starts next week.*
- 2. MHS Vestibule – work in progress, work done so far turned out really well.*
- 3. Generator Bus Garage – Facilities Director explained the problem in the supply chain in finding a generator. The search continues.*

*Board member Bob Mitchell suggested that Board members take a tour of the buildings this fall.*

## **Item 6. New Business**

- a.** Consideration and action to enter into an agreement with Environmental Systems Corporation, an Eversource approved vendor, for energy efficiency projects (lighting projects, HVAC Controls at the elementary schools and actuators) throughout the district. The proposal reflects an estimated cost of \$521,325 for the projects with a utility incentive of approximately \$271,400 and a projected annual savings \$73,500 in electricity and maintenance costs. Eversource would finance the project over 3-4 years therefore it will be cost neutral to the budget

Motion: To enter into an agreement with Environmental Systems Corporation, an Eversource approved vendor, for energy efficiency projects (lighting projects, HVAC Controls at the elementary schools and actuators) throughout the district.

Moved by: Bob Mitchel  
Seconded by: Carol Burgess  
Vote: Carried (9-0)

- b. Consideration and action to fund \$507,686 for the unaudited shortage of the 2021-2022 operating budget out of the 2% non-lapsing account. This money is required to offset the unanticipated increase in the number of outplaced students throughout the school year.

Motion: To approve the request to fund \$507,686 for the unaudited shortage in the 2021-2022 operating budget out of the 2% non-lapsing account. This money is required to offset the unanticipated increase in the number of outplaced students throughout the school year.

Moved by: Wills Pike  
Seconded by: Bob Mitchel  
Vote: Carried (9-0)

- c. Discussion and possible action regarding renewal of CABE membership

Motion- To renew CABE membership

Moved by: Wills Pike  
Seconded by: Carol Burgess  
Vote: Carried (9-0)

*Superintendent Pallin - It is my recommendation that we continue our CABE membership. While it is a significant cost, there are a number of services we use. The policy revision we are currently completing could not be done without the services of either CABE or Shipman and Goodwin, and the money saved in CABE membership would largely be spent if we used S&G for policy services. Other services we receive include:*

*Policy update service*

*Board chair meetings and updates*

*Legislative advocacy*

*Board PD*

*Legal advice*

*The PD we did through CABE Lighthouse district program was terrific and in the near future, I would like to continue that process with the new Board.*

*Robert Mitchell, Jim Wood, and Carol Burgess all spoke in favor of continued membership. Bob stated that we should use CABE to conduct a presentation on the roles and responsibilities of Board members since we have so many new members.*

- d.** Discussion and possible action regarding Policy 5142.4: School Resource Officer and related Memorandum of Understanding with the Montville Police Department

*Jim Wood explained the discussion which took place at the Policy Subcommittee meeting. Superintendent Pallin - It is not my recommendation that the Board approve a policy at this time; I would like to review the draft policy and MOU with you for suggestions and ideas. I have been conferring with our attorney and I believe we need more time to review with her and with the MPD before moving forward. I have provided you with a policy for both the SRO and SSO positions, a draft MOU with MPD, administrative regulations and job description for SSO. MOU will need Police Union agreement. Talking to our attorney about a possible second MOU for SSO regarding provision of annual certification training, and potentially as issuer of the weapon and ammunition.*

No action taken at this time

- e.** Discussion and possible action regarding Job Description: School Safety Officer

*Jim Wood explained that we would approve this Job Description along with the Policy 5142.4. He stated that the Policy Committee will meet again in several weeks in order to make a final recommendation regarding these agenda items at the Sept. Board meeting. Board members were asked to provide comments, questions, or ideas within the next two weeks.*

No action taken at this time

- f.** Discussion of Racial Imbalance Statistics for Montville Public Schools

*Superintendent Pallin - We received notice from the CSDE that based on our 2021 enrollment Mohegan Elementary School has an impending racial imbalance. This is the proportion of minority students at the school falls outside a range from 15 percentage point less to 15 percentage point more than the comparable proportion of the district for students at the same grades. The percent of minority students at Mohegan is 53.97 % while it is 26.62% at Oakdale and 32.64% at Murphy. At this time, we are not required to file a plan to address the impending imbalance but it is suggested that we develop and implement a plan so that we are not identified as having a racial imbalance (plus or minus 25 percentage points from the comparable proportion for the district). One solution is to reform the three elementary schools as district-wide schools by grade level (K-1, 2-3, 4-5). However, this would be expensive in terms of transportation and because of the need*

*to duplicate programs at each school (Pathways and RISE programs). Another possibility is to examine the best way to redistrict our elementary schools.*

**g. Goal-setting: Discussion of Board of Education Goals for 2022-2023**

*Superintendent Pallin - Last year the Board spent a great deal of time reviewing our District Vision Statement, the skills and dispositions in our Vision of a Graduate, our district definition of deep learning, and our districtwide goals for the year. They discussed the role of the Board and identified three categories of Board strategies based upon the work the Board actually completes: Community Engagement, Resource Deployment, and Policy and Regulations. Specific strategies were defined for each category that aligned with the district vision and goal work and promote coherence in the work of the Board and the work of the District. The Board annually reviews, revises and adopts Board*

*Tina Grove asked how the Board measures its effectiveness and Bob Mitchell explained that CAFE will facilitate a Board self-evaluation survey. There was discussion about this process and Board members agreed to complete a self-evaluation survey that included reflections on the Board's work on the strategies listed.*

**Item 7. Information Items**

*CAFE Conference Registration – CAFE/CAPSS Convention - November 18<sup>th</sup> & 19, Mystic Marriot. Please email Jen LeMay if you would like to attend*

**Item 8. Citizens' Comments**

*None*

**Item 9. Future agenda items**

*Providing community with information concerning upcoming Bond referendum for Capital Improvement Projects*

**Item 10. Adjournment**

Motion: To adjourn

Moved by: James Wood

Seconded by: Timothy Shanahan

Vote: Carried (9-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:11P.M.