

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
April 20, 2010 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 Carrie T. Baxter, Sandra Berardy, Steve Loiler, Tom McNally, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Todd Pomazon, Deborah Reed-Iler, James Wood and David Rowley.

Also present were Superintendent of Schools Pamela Aubin, Assistant Superintendent Brian Levesque, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Laurie Pallin, Business Director Kathy Lamoureux, Administrators Thomas Amanti, Lorilyn Caron, Jason Daly, Mary Jane Dix, Thomas Giard III, Mark Johnson, Jeff Newton, Tanya Patten, Sheila Reagan, and Eileen Richmond, Student Board Representatives Jake Alexander and Jessica Semmelrock, and Town Councilor Gary Murphy.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

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 Middle School: Principal Tom Giard and Assistant Principal Mary Jane Dix recognized Spencer Sherbanee for making improvements with his academic and social skills, and for working hard to make his transition to middle school a successful endeavor. Sonam Tsomo, Chozo Dolma, Tashi Gyurmey, Lhanzee Metok, Zhima Quozong, Tsering Dolma, Pema Yangzom, Dazhen, and Jampa Khano were also recognized for enriching the culture of the middle school and sharing their life experiences. Board members Carrie T. Baxter, Steve Loiler, Todd Pomazon, and Deborah Reed-Iler presented these certificates.

Montville High School: Principal Thomas Amanti and Assistant Principals Tanya Patten and Jason Daly recognized Jaclyn Brush for being selected to perform in the Eastern regional Festival, qualifying to audition for the Connecticut All State Festival, and winning a spot in the All State Chorus. Jaclyn was one of the students delayed on the field trip to Italy. She will receive her certificate at the next Board of Education meeting. The Montville Robotics Team, represented by Elliott Myers and Tyler Richards, were also recognized for ranking third out of forty-seven teams in the New England Vex Championship and finishing second overall in the programming and skills competition. A robotic demonstration was presented to the Board. For his tireless efforts in organizing, developing, and implementing the NovaNET program at Montville High School, Doug Wheeler was also recognized. Board member Robert Mitchell presented these certificates.

Presentation: B) Tibetan Dance Performance – Leonard J. Tyl Middle School Students.

Principal T. Giard and Assistant Principal M. J. Dix introduced Mrs. Engleman who spoke briefly about the Tibetan Dance performance. She said that the students, 6th, 7th and 8th graders, choreographed the dances and practiced on their own. The students, who were recognized as Montville Marvels this evening, sang their national anthem and sang/danced for the assembly.

Presentation: C) The Freshman Learning Center – Montville High School.

T. Amanti, J. Daly and teacher Christine Woodman, gave a PowerPoint presentation about the Freshman Learning Center, a two-year old, three-tiered program that assists with acclimating Tyl students transitioning to the high school. The program supports struggling students at all academic levels using NovaNet, a credit recovery program, visitations, parent orientations, and summer freshman orientation. Thirty-six percent of students in 2008-09 and 40% in 2009-10 have raised their grades through the program.

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

There were no citizens' comments.

Item 4: Letters and communications.

T. McNally reported on a letter from the MetroCast Communications Citizen's Advisory Council who sent a \$500 check to the district to enhance school communications and another from the New England Association of Schools & Colleges regarding the high school's accreditation. The final letter was from the School Resource Officer Bruce Rockwell regarding Identity Kits for elementary school parents/guardians.

P. Aubin referred to a letter to M. Bialowas about the burglar and fire alarms servicing by an outside vendor. K. Lamoureux explained that a piece of equipment at the Town broke down, necessitating the need to hire a contracted provider of this service. Notice of the same was received after the proposed budget was developed.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar, as written.

Proposed by: Steve Loiler
Seconded by: Carrie T. Baxter
Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 5a. Budget Projection – Kathy Lamoureux.

P. Aubin summarized the current year budget projection by line item as of March 31, 2010. Thus far, the district has expended and encumbered 59.52% as opposed to 58.97% for the same time period last year. She noted that employee benefits would have a shortage at year end. Also, MERF gave notification of a 2% increase for 2010-11 after the budget was approved by the Board.

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.

Student Board Representatives Jake Alexander and Jessica Semmelrock gave a report to the Board as follows:

1. The American Studies II students had a successful overnight trip to NYC this past weekend and were able to raise enough money to pay for the costs of the trip.
2. Mr. Zyrlis will coordinate the second annual Apprentice Challenge on April 29 in the Media Center when eight students from the Marketing I class and the FBLA will compete against four area high schools to create and present a marketing campaign for an area business. The Board is welcome to stop in and observe.
3. The French 4 and AP classes participated with the culinary class in an interdisciplinary unit about the history and culture in regions of France. The French class did research and made presentations while the culinary class made regional dishes.
4. On April 27, the Science Department, with students' help, will host the annual elementary school Science Fair. Students and teachers will help create and design displays to teach the elementary students science, chemistry, and biology.
5. The Counseling Department had a speaker from the State who spoke about health career opportunities—physical therapy, medicinal, and fitness careers—during lunchtimes.
6. AP testing will begin on May 2.
7. Students on the field trip to Rome, Italy, are making the best of the situation and are receiving daily funds for food from the travel agency in addition to housing. The seven students and chaperones are expected to return by Thursday, April 22.
8. Students in ECE Human Development, Alexandria Kinder, Kathleen Lowery and Melinda McCarthy, won first place for their poster entitled *Mean Girls: The Wicked Web of Female Adolescent Relationships*.
9. The Yes Club will attend a field trip to the UConn Storrs campus on Friday, April 23.
10. The Physical Education Department will host a “Hoops for Heart” campaign to raise money for the American Heart Association and hope to surpass the \$1,000 raised last year.
11. Forty-eight MHS students visited the elementary schools for Read Across America Day and read and did activities with students in grades kindergarten through second grade.
12. The Culinary Café is off to a great start and has organized many service projects such as cookies for the Superintendent’s Senior Center budget hearing and for the Montville Educational Foundation Art Expo.
13. The senior class has requested that June 17, 2010, is slated as the date for graduation.
14. Spring sports began on April 7 with 205 athletes participating. JP Morales will be inducted into the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

- a. **Review 2010-2011 budget issues to date.**
- **Wednesday, April 21, 7:00 p.m., Public Hearing, Board of Education Budget, Montville Town Hall Council Chambers.**
 - **Thursday, April 22, 7:00 p.m., Public Hearing, Town Government Budget, Montville Town Hall Council Chambers.**

P. Aubin stated that she would present at the Board of Education hearing listed above. Board members were urged by D. Rowley to speak up at the Board budget hearing. P. Aubin said that Mayor Jaskiewicz has proposed a 1% increase to the Board's proposed 2010-2011 budget instead of the 1.98% requested by the Board.

Item 8. New Business

- a. **It is recommended that the Board of Education approve new Policy #5131.11, Surveillance Video Policy, as recommended by the Policy Committee at their March meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves new Policy #5131.11, Surveillance Video Policy, as recommended by the Policy Committee at their March meeting.

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

- b. **It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the revised job description for the Secondary Special Services Program Leader, as recommended by the Policy Committee at their March meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves the revised job description for the Secondary Special Services Program Leader, as recommended by the Policy Committee at their March meeting.

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

- c. **It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the new job description for the Preschool/Elementary Special Services Program Leader, as recommended by the Policy Committee at their March meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves the new job description for the Preschool/Elementary Special Services Program Leader, as recommended by the Policy Committee at their March meeting.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Steve Loiler
Vote: Carried unanimously

- d. It is recommended that the Board of Education schedule a reception to honor its retirees on May 18, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. and approve the writing of resolutions for retirees.**

Motion: That the Board schedules a reception to honor its retirees on May 18, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. and approve the writing of resolutions for retirees.

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

- e. It is recommended that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to apply for inter-district cooperative grants and state and federal grants for various educational programs.**

Motion: That the Board authorizes the Superintendent to apply for inter-district cooperative grants and state and federal grants for various educational programs.

Proposed by: Tom McNally
Seconded by: Carrie T. Baxter
Vote: Carried unanimously

- f. It is recommended that the Board of Education confirms the date of Thursday, June 17, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. for Montville High School graduation.**

Motion: That the Board confirms the date of Thursday, June 17, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. for Montville High School graduation.

Proposed by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded by: Carrie T. Baxter
Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

a. Policy Committee (James Wood).

J. Wood reported that the Committee met earlier this evening and reviewed Policy 3523.1 that will add breakfast to the Food Services lunch program. The Committee is asking for a joint meeting of the Policy and Educational Evaluation Committee for discussion of the Board bylaws. The full Board was asked to review the Policy Manual and attend the next Policy meeting to discuss the same. B. Levesque asked that the nutrition policy be approved prior to the Food Services compliance review later this week. J. Wood stated

that the policy regarding the use of facilities for schools, non-profits, and non-community would be further discussed at the next Policy meeting.

Motion: That the Board approves Policy 3542.1, Food Service: Montville Schools Nutrition Program, as recommended by the Policy Committee at its meeting earlier this evening.

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

b. Educational Evaluation Committee (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that the Committee met earlier this evening and reviewed the report regarding student participation in athletics at the high school. He said that 365 students are participating in sports and is equal to 50% of the school population. The Committee also agreed to bring to the full Board a recommendation for under-enrolled classes.

c. Montville Education Foundation (Deborah Reed-Iler).

D. Reed-Iler reported that she was unable to attend the meeting. B. Levesque reported that the Foundation is pursuing applicants for its next grant and actively working on the Art Show. The show will be at the high school on Saturday, May 1.

d. LEARN (Deborah Reed-Iler).

D. Reed-Iler said that ground was broken for the new marine science high school that is expected to be completed in 2012. The monthly meeting was held.

e. CABE/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that the CABE Board of Directors will meet next on April 29. He also reported on his attendance at the NSBA conference. He brought back a lot of information and packets on the workshops he attended.

f. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon/Carrie Baxter).

T. Pomazon reported that the April meeting of the Committee was cancelled. He also said that the promenade floor issue at the high school is ongoing. B. Levesque commented that the meeting was cancelled as neither he nor P. Aubin could attend to discuss the temporary repairs proposed for the foyer as they would be attending the budget hearing.

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Tom McNally).

There was no report.

h. Capital Improvement Committee (Tom McNally).

There was no report.

i. Montville Youth Services Bureau (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell report that an organizational meeting was held to review the bylaws and policies of the bureau.

j. Administrative Monthly Reports.

S. Loiler favorably commented on the monthly reports.

k. Chair's Remarks.

D. Rowley reported that B. Levesque would be highlighted on Channel 22. He also reported that he attended the second meeting at Kelly Middle School in Norwich on regionalization with legislators present. D. Rowley mentioned an assembly at Tyl on April 28 from 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. The culmination of the DARE program at Oakdale School has been postponed until June 1. He also mentioned the notices regarding the staff appreciation breakfasts and lunches.

l. Other.

There was no other information to report.

Item 10. Superintendent's Report.

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

D. Maynard was absent from the meeting. No report was given.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Levesque.

B. Levesque reported that he has spoken with some parents regarding the Enrichment Program. The fall trip through the program had been postponed until the position being vacated by a retiring teacher is filled. The district continues to research and budget for student management systems. Information regarding the same will be brought to the Committee to review.

c. Monthly Update.

P. Aubin commented on the students and chaperones delayed by the volcanic ash. Information she received from State Representative Joe Courtney regarding the same will be send out to parents. She also said that she and B. Levesque will be visiting Palmer Academy next week as part of their visits to the schools. Instructional Rounds will begin next to review programmatic aspects for the individual schools. P. Aubin also reported that Representative Courtney visited Oakdale School to observe the school lunch program.

P. Aubin reported that she has met with the Parent Advisory Council. Also, she has participated in a focus group through the NEASC executive leadership program. She reported that the official last day of school is June 21 but since graduation is June 17 she proposed June 18 as the last day of school for all students. P. Aubin also said that seat belt legislation has slowed due to the cost analysis. She coordinated with Mayor Jaskiewicz regarding the March 30th flood event to provide buses and food for evacuees. On April 7 – 9, P. Aubin attended the Harvard Symposium for Superintendents where she participated in professional development in district leadership.

Item 11. Information items.

P. Aubin commented that water coolers will be removed from the schools next year in response to a question by D. Rowley. District winners of History Day were also mentioned. D. Rowley commented that “until the budget is set, nothing is concrete.” Town Councilor Gary Murphy commented on the budget process between the Board and the Town Finance Committee.

School Resource Officer Rockwell commented on the Identity Kits. A letter will be sent to parents regarding the same and scrolled on Channel 22.

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

Denise Banta spoke on behalf of parents in support of the Enrichment Program that her daughter attends.

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion: That the Board goes into executive session at 8:04 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent’s evaluation.

Proposed by: Steve Loiler
Seconded by: Carrie T. Baxter
Vote: Carried unanimously

Motion: That the Board comes out of executive session at 8:15 p.m., with no votes taken.

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

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 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: _____