

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
November 16, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**

Item 1. Call to order.

Board Chair David Rowley called the meeting to order at 6:04 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, James Wood and David Rowley. Deborah Reed-Iler 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 Thomas Amanti, Lorilyn Caron, Mary Jane Dix, Mark Johnson, Jeff Newton, Tanya Patten, Sheila Reagan and Eileen Richmond, Student Board Representatives Jessica Semmelrock and Matthew Clark, and Town Council Liaison 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 School: Principal Mary Jane Dix recognized Kiah Strickland and Brian Johnson for taking the initiative and being the responsible leaders that make WTYL happen every morning. Board member James Wood presented these certificates.

Montville High School: Principal Tom Amanti and Assistant Principal Tanya Patten recognized teachers Doug Couture and Dan Healy and students Peter Lam, Zaria Margolis, and Tyler Richards for their second place finish at the 2010 Connecticut Best Robotic Competition. Board member Bob Mitchell presented these certificates. A presentation of the robotic device was demonstrated.

Palmer Academy: Principal Sheila Reagan recognized Christian Trevor Hillyer for being the first recipient of the Palmer SPOT Award (**S**uccessful week, **P**erfect attendance, **O**bservable improvement, and **T**imely completion of academic assignments). Board member Sandra Berardy presented these certificates.

Presentation: B) Behavior Intervention Program – Tyl Middle School.

Principal M. J. Dix introduced the Tyl Student Services staff Jessica Lilienthal, Mark McGuire, Jill Paglino, Amy Richter, and Jamie Wolfradt who gave a presentation on the Tyl Behavior Intervention Program. A discussion was held concerning Rachel's Challenge which aligns with the District Improvement Plan fostering acceptance and tolerance and is supported by the Montville Education Association, the Montville Youth Services Bureau, the Montville Education Foundation and the community.

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

Joel Farior, president of the Montville Education Association, commented that teachers approached him about becoming involved in Rachel's Challenge, and he in turn asked for support from the Town Council, Board of Education, and the community. He thanked Jessica Lilienthal for writing and securing the \$1,000 grant from the MEA that supports the goals of Rachel's Challenge at Tyl Middle School.

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

T. McNally reported on the letter written to T. Amanti from the Commission on Public Secondary Schools on its visit to MHS on September 26 – 27, 2010, regarding the continuation of the school's accreditation. MHS was commended for restoring library staffing and media hours including two late nights.

Item 5. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

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

Item 5b. Budget Projection – Kathy Lamoureux.

P. Aubin reported on the current year budget projection as of October 31, 2010 which the Board received in its packet. The Board has expended \$8,767,117 or 24.17% of its annual budget appropriation of \$36,270,035.

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.

Student Board Representatives Jessica Semmelrock and Matthew Clark gave a report to the Board as follows:

1. The second quarter has begun and report cards for last quarter were mailed home last week.
2. Juniors in American Studies I are collecting items from a list given to them by Lieutenant Nicholas Orzechowski to send to a platoon in Afghanistan. The Lieutenant noted that there were some platoon members who do not receive mail or packages from home.
3. The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) are collecting old cell phones that will be recycled and shipped with prepaid phones and prepaid cards to soldiers.
4. The FBLA is also sponsoring a scavenger hunt to celebrate small businesses and entrepreneurs and bring awareness to American enterprise.
5. The National Honor Society has asked students to support the Montville Food Bank by donating a canned food item, and students who participate will be allowed to wear their favorite hat.
6. Student Government has collected canned food items at the last two football games and received donations from fans to help support the Montville Food Bank.
7. Tashi Dhundup, a 2010 MHS graduate, has graduated from the Marine Corps Recruit Training course in Parris Island, SC. Tashi was his company's honor graduate receiving a promotion to Private First Class, and his goal is to make the Marine Corps his career, earn a college degree to attend Officer's Candidate School and become a U.S. citizen.

8. Physical education and health classes will sponsor Hoops for Heart on November 22 and 23.
9. In an effort to reduce hunger, culinary classes are raffling off fixings for Thanksgiving dinner.
10. The Gay Straight Alliance will sponsor a food drive in December to support Alliance for Living.
11. CT Job Works of the CT Department of Labor conducted mock interviews during the senior internship class.
12. The Drama Club will present "The Curious Savage" on Friday and Saturday, November 19 and 20 at 7 p.m. in the MHS auditorium.
13. Eighth grade students from Sayles School in Sprague toured MHS today and presentations were provided to give students an idea of what Montville offers.
14. The boys soccer team is playing now in the State Class M semi-final in Ellington and the winner will advance to the state finals this weekend.
15. The regular football season will end on Wednesday, November 17, at St. Bernard's. The team has qualified for the SS tournament that will be hosted at MHS on Tuesday, November 30, for the second year in a row.
16. Practice for winter sports begins next week.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

None

Item 8. New Business

a. Appointment of Leonard J. Tyl Middle School Assistant Principal. (2 – Quality of leadership)

P. Aubin introduced William Klinefelter, Jr., head teacher at Tyl as the appointee among seventy-nine applicants for assistant principal at Tyl. She described him as having a specialty in special education with an emphasis on behavior management techniques. W. Klinefelter thanked the search committee and M.J. Dix for having survived the "grueling interview process."

b. Discussion of Standards-based Report Cards at the Elementary Level. (4 – Student Achievement)

L. Pallin discussed the standards-based report card at the elementary level so that it coincides with the District Improvement Plan. Standards-based grading was implemented this year in grades 4 & 5 as a means for tracking student needs and progress and to communicate the same to parents.

c. Discussion of budget development for 2011-12 and consideration/approval of budget assumptions, constraints, guidelines and priorities for 2011-12. (3 – Budget Resources)

P. Aubin handed out a list of proposed dates for budget public forums and the Board's budget meeting date for February 12, 2011. She also reviewed the Board's budget assumptions, constraints, guidelines and priorities.

- d. It is recommended that the Board of Education consider and approve the proposed Capital Improvement projects. (3 – Budget Resources)**

P. Aubin reported on a meeting she had with B. Levesque, K. Lamoureux, and M. Bialowas regarding a request from the Town Finance Manager to submit a report of Capital Improvement projects. At T. McNally's request, she will ask for reinstatement of the Town Capital Improvement Committee in her letter of transmittal.

- e. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve revisions to Policy 5121, Grading, as recommended by the Policy Committee at this evening's meeting. (4 – Student Achievement)**

Motion: That the Board approves revisions to Policy 5120, Grading, as recommended by the Policy Committee at this evening's meeting.

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

- f. It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt the proposed schedule of meetings for 2011, and file the schedule with the Town Clerk prior to December 31, 2010. (7 – Positive Community relationships)**

Motion: That the Board adopts the proposed schedule of meetings for 2011, and files it with the Town Clerk prior to December 31, 2010.

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

- g. Cancellation of December 21, 2010 Board of Education of meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves the cancellation of the December 21, 2010, meeting.

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

- h. Appraisal of a field trip: Tyl Middle School, 8th Grade Class to Alexandria, VA from May 24-26, 2011, 97 MHS students. (8 – Communication/Marketing)**

Board members were apprised of this trip. J. Farrior and G. Murphy commented on the trip.

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

- a. Policy (James Wood). (1 – Advocacy)**

J. Wood reported that the Committee met earlier this evening and reviewed policy on transportation, search and seizure, grading, and approval to administer the SERAC Health Survey. The bylaws were not discussed.

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

B. Mitchell reported that there was no meeting. B. Levesque said that a meeting will be scheduled for January.

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

B. Levesque reported that the MEF had a successful fundraiser having raised \$9,000 from the Brad Paisley concert at the Mohegan Sun. He also reported that the grant cycle ended on October 31 and third cycle grants will be distributed.

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

No report

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

B. Mitchell reported on the workshops that he will monitor at the CABE/CAPSS Convention on November 19 & 20 at the Mystic Marriott.

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

B. Levesque reported that the Committee meeting for November 17 has been cancelled.

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

T. McNally reported that next meeting of the Advisory Council is tomorrow, November 17, at 5:30 pm when he will be reappointed.

h. Capital Improvement Committee (Tom McNally). (6 – School Health/Safety)

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

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

B. Mitchell reported that he will miss the next bureau meeting as he will be attending the CABE Delegate Assembly.

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

These reports were submitted to the Board in their packets.

k. Chair's Remarks.

- D. Rowley attended the Veterans' Day Program at Oakdale School and each first grade student spoke about a family member who formerly served in the armed forces.
- On November 11, he attended the Veterans' Day Program at the Town Hall sponsored by the VA.

- He met and had lunch with members of the Chinese community on Friday, November 12.
- He attended the Montville Education Foundation Brad Paisley concert on Friday, November 12.
- He will be attending the CABE/CAPSS Convention, where for the second year in a row, the Board will receive the “Board of distinction” award.

1. Other.

None

Item 10. Superintendent’s Report.

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

- The district received feedback from the State Department of Education on focus monitoring. Based on a rubric, the district scores fluctuated from 1 to 5 with an overall average of proficient and above.
- Nurse interviews were conducted this afternoon for a special needs position.
- Apprised the Board of the new group home that will be opening in the district and potential costs from future students.

b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Levesque.

- Apprised Board that Mr. Marelli will take 20 students on a snowboarding trip on January 14 – 17, 2011. This information was received today.
- Training on X2Aspen data software for staff was completed today. Data conversion is nearly complete. There will be no access to data on either software, old or new, on December 3. The go live date has been readjusted to December 6. He thanked Nick Savoie for his help.

c. Monthly Update – Mrs. Aubin.

- This month our focus has been on negotiations, interviews, meetings with principals for monthly "check ins," initiating budget preparations for 2011-2012, regional planning initiatives such as the Regional Calendar and the Regional Insurance Consortium.
- The Regional Insurance Consortium Subcommittee of CAPSS has formed a planning committee to explore and inform area state, municipal and education leaders and business managers about the concept of forming an insurance consortium. An informational session will be held and the date will be announced.
- Reminder that the CABE/CAPSS Convention is scheduled for Friday 11/19 and Saturday 11/20. We look forward to our Montville High School Select Chorus performance at the event.
- Negotiations will be held at 5:00 p.m. on November 23rd. All materials requested from our Insurance Broker HRH have been provided as requested by Saranne Murray, Board counsel.
- Has met with the new Patch Online news service that has a reporter here tonight, Tom Fagin.

- Since the BOE will not be meeting again until January 2011 and it seems a long time before we honor our retirees, I would like to recognize Tom Amanti for his significant service and commitment to Montville High School as he prepares to retire on January 3, 2011. Tom began his teaching career in Montville 36 years ago. In addition to his social studies teaching position, he served as the Adult Education Director from 1990 to 1995. In 1995 Tom was named Dean of Students, and then became principal of Montville High School in July 2002. It has been a distinct pleasure to get to know Tom since my arrival here in Montville. He will be missed.

Item 11. Information items.

None

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

G. Murphy commented that he would pass on the Board budget projections to the Town Council as it will be useful.

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 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: _____