

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER  
February 10, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.**

**Item 1. Call to order.**

Board Secretary Todd Pomazon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Montville High School Library/Media Center. Board members present were, Donald Dykes, Tom McNally, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Deborah Reed-Iler, David Rowley, Kendrick Strickland, James Wood, and Todd Pomazon. Sandra Berardy was absent.

Also in attendance was Superintendent of Schools David B. Erwin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools William J. Hull, Director of Special Services Donna Maynard, Director of Curriculum Laurie Pallin, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Margaret Tripp, Athletic Director Walt Sherwin, Administrators Thomas Amanti, Lorilyn Caron, Peter DeLisa, Mary Jane Dix, Thomas Giard III, Mark Johnson, Joan Joplin, Clara Kalnitsky, Jeff Newton, Tatiana Patten, Sheila Reagan and Eileen Richmond; and Student Board Representatives Raena Beetham and Jake Alexander and Town Council members Candy Buebendorf, John Geary, and Rosetta Jones.

**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 Carol Monacella and Polly Richter for writing a Connecticut “Let’s Read” grant last year and working tirelessly this year to design activities for the grant for Tyl’s sixth grade students. Mallory Tassone was also recognized for organizing a “Pennies for Peace” program at Tyl. Also recognized was Shawn Savage for working hard and focusing on key ingredients to being successful during his three years at Tyl Middle School. Board members Deb Reed-Iler and Dave Rowley presented these certificates.

**Montville High School:** Principal Tom Amanti and Assistant Principal Tanya Patten recognized the Montville High School Girls Basketball Team, represented by Coach Derek Wainwright and Co-captains Nichole Delaney and Nikkia Smith for volunteering their services at the recent fundraiser for volunteer assistant coach John Contillo. Walt Sherwin accepted the award on their behalf, as they were all at a game. Harold Limkemann and Jessica Long were also recognized for donating their time as members of the Homework Club, which provides academic assistance to the students of Oakdale School. Board member Jim Wood presented these certificates.

**Presentation B) Presentation: Elementary Enrichment Program – Murphy School.**

Principal and Assistant Principal, J. Newton and J. Joplin, spoke about the Elementary Enrichment Program at Murphy School that started a year ago. The program was first piloted by M. Johnson at Oakdale School. The program meets once a week for 45 minutes and is focused on higher level learning—student based and interest based, remediation for problem areas, and writing—journal writing, essays, and reflective writing. The program is geared for Grades 4-5 during E-block. Student Noelani Gonzalez gave a digital photography presentation using PowerPoint. Amanda East and Nick Strickland read their essays and displayed the Fairy Houses they created. A yoga demonstration was given by Naomi Clark, Morgan Staehle, Georgia Wells, and Sydney Dudda.

D. Erwin read a proclamation and T. Pomazon presented a gift—a business card holder and a nameplate—on behalf of the Board in honor of B. Hull who is leaving the district after a decade to become Superintendent of Schools in Putnam. B. Hull was thanked for achievements and service to students and staff in Montville. B. Hull commented that he was “humbled and honored” and he “appreciated the support, hard work and guidance” of the district. A reception was held in his honor.

**The meeting recessed briefly at 6:30 p.m. and resumed at 6:55 p.m.**

**Item 3. Citizens’ comments.**

Town Councilor R. Jones congratulated the Board for being awarded the grant from the Community Foundation and encouraged its efforts.

MEA President Joel Farior congratulated B. Hull on his new post and thanked him for his hard work, encouragement, and fairness with the district teachers and staff.

**Item 4: Letters and communications.**

D. Erwin referenced a letter teacher Laura Greenstein and art program staff Bethany Bonner, Timothy Egan, Lazara Fain, Carolyn Olczak, and Susan Parish sent asking that the Board not reduce the program by a ½ position.

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

**Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.**

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

**Item 5a. Budget Projection – Kathy Lamoureux.**

D. Erwin reported that spending for the current school year is less than it was at the same time last year. Salaries and employee benefits are in line with budget. Legal fees will be sufficient for the year, and supplies and textbooks will be controlled as budgeted. A proposal is being reviewed with a source to save electricity costs. The tuition account has a surplus. Some nursing services had to be outsourced to accommodate student needs. Insurance costs will not be realized until late in the fiscal year.

**Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.**

The Student Board Representatives Raena Beetham and Jake Alexander presented a report as follows:

1. Student Government held a blood drive on February 5 and sixty (60) pints were realized from participating students and staff.
2. Preparation has begun for tenth grade students and staff for CAPT testing that will occur the first two weeks in March. Freshmen are taking a mock test in preparation to take the test next year.
3. The Winter Dance will be held on February 21.
4. Ten students in the Personal Finance class scored in the top 25<sup>th</sup> percentile of the nation's scores in the National Financial Literacy Challenge.
5. On February 24, the Montville High School Diversity team and Anti-Defamation League will present Diversity Day.
6. Orientation for parents of eighth grade students occurred on February 5<sup>th</sup>. More than 100 parents attended and listened to presentations from the counseling and athletic departments and clubs and activities.
7. A new music teacher will begin work in the district on February 18.
8. Tickets for the spring musical *Beauty and the Beast* and will go on sale on February 12.
9. Today, eighth grade students from Sprague visited the district to help them in their decision to attend MHS or NFA next year.
10. The ECC Championship track meet took place on February 7. The girls' relay team of Rachael Skinner, Blair Church, Ashley Sgandurra, and Cailin McAdams participated in the 4 x 800 and Darrel Wattley in the 55-meter dash.
11. Boys and girls basketball teams have qualified for the ECC and state tournaments. The wrestling team is favored to be ECC small division champion. Last night senior Jessica Bennett achieved her 100<sup>th</sup> win in wrestling.

**Item 7. Unfinished business.**

- a. **Discussion of budget development for 2009-2010. (Board members are requested to bring copies of their budget, previously distributed.)**

D. Erwin reported that the 2009-2010 proposed budget is 1 million over last year's budget and is the smallest one in the past 10 years. The proposed budget of \$36,909,942 is a 3.81% over last year's budget. D. Erwin described the "no frills budget" as a compilation of contractual obligations and .3% for all other programs. Board members commented on the proposed budget.

**Motion: That the Board of Education approves the proposed 2009-2010 budget.**

**Proposed by:** Jim Wood

**Seconded by:** Deb Reed-Iler

**Vote:** 7 Yes, D. Dykes, R. Mitchell, T. Pomazon, D. Reed-Iler,  
D. Rowley, K. Strickland, J. Wood

1 No, T. McNally

**Item 8. New Business**

**a. It is recommended that Policy 4118.112, Personnel: Harassment, be referred to the Policy Committee for review and revision.**

**Motion: That the Board of Education refers Policy 4118.112, Personnel: Harassment to the Policy Committee for review and revision.**

**Proposed by:** Tom McNally

**Seconded by:** Don Dykes

**Vote:** Carried unanimously

**b. It is recommended that the Board of Education review and approve the school calendar for 2010 – 2011.**

**Motion: That the Board approves the school calendar for 2010 -- 2011.**

**Proposed by:** Dave Rowley

**Seconded by:** Deb Reed-Iler

**Vote:** Carried unanimously

**c. It is recommended that the Board of Education consider and approve a half-year elective course on Connecticut and Local History.**

**Motion: That the Board approves a half-year elective course on Connecticut and Local History.**

**Proposed by:** Don Dykes

**Seconded by:** Deb Reed-Iler

**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 Board Policy 6146: Credit Requirements. The revision would allow ELL students who enter MHS with a LAS LINKS score below 4 to be exempted from the World Language credit requirement. Students would still be required to have 24 credits to graduate. The revisions will be brought to the full Board for approval at its March meeting.

**b. Educational Evaluation Committee (David Rowley).**

D. Rowley reported that the Committee met earlier this evening and reviewed and approved Math Triumphs for Grades 3-5 and 6-8. The intervention program will help students who did not attain information through the regular program. The Committee also approved the *Computer Applications* textbook that has a MS 2007 program for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and the *Math Connects* textbook.

**c. LEARN (Deborah Reed-Iler).**

D. Reed-Iler reported that the LEARN Advisory Committee would meet on Thursday, February 12.

**d. CABA/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).**

B. Mitchell reported that Board members should receive a CABA news letter via e-mail. He also reported that Area 9 will meet on March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8 p.m. with Board chairs and invited Mayors and Town Council/Selectman chairs. Discussion will involve the government push to regionalize. Legislative updates and feedback will follow. Board members are urged to email their concerns to him. The CABA Day on the Hill will be held on March 4 at the Bushnell in Hartford. A regular meeting will be held at the end of the month.

**e. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon/James Wood).**

J. Wood reported that the School Building Committee would meet on Wednesday, February 18. The Committee now meets once a month as the project is winding down.

**f. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Tom McNally).**

T. McNally reported that MetroCast would be increasing its rates.

**g. Administrative Monthly Reports.**

There were Administrative Monthly Reports administered this month.

**h. 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 reported that administrators from Bolton will soon tour the pre-school program within district. S. Reagan, E. Richmond and D. Maynard were presenters at the national conference on School Supported Employment. They spoke about school-supported employment in the district. D. Maynard also mentioned that Preston students are interested in sending students to the district and discussion will continue regarding the same. The district may also work with the Norwich district to share and reduce costs for a special education student.

**b. Report from the Assistant Superintendent – Mr. Hull.**

B. Hull reported that CMT and CAPT test have arrived. The tests have been inventoried and sent out to schools. He also reported that the district can sustain the Innovation Grant once the funds are received. B. Hull also reported that the Wellness Committee met to upgrade its policies. He also thanked the Board again by saying it was a pleasure to work with them.

**c. Monthly Update.**

D. Erwin reported that suitable speakers are being sought for the November 20 -21, 2009, CABE/CAPSS conference to be held in Mystic. He also informed the board that its legal counsel would not increase its membership fee for the coming year due to the present economy. D. Erwin again wished B. Hull well and said he would miss him.

**Item 11. Information items.**

Information items were not reported.

**Item 12. Hearing of delegates and citizens (regarding agenda items only).**

Town Council Chair C. Buebendorf congratulated B. Hull on behalf of the Town Council and wished him well in his new endeavor.

**Item 13. Adjournment.**

**Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.**

**Approved by:** Jim Wood  
**Seconded by:** Todd Pomazon  
**Vote:** Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:37p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Todd Pomazon, Secretary  
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary  
*Approved* \_\_\_\_\_