

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
January 16, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.**

2017-18 Board of Education Goals:

To engage in a cycle of continuous improvement to ensure all students are educated with high standards and achieve at the highest levels of learning in the Montville Public Schools.

Item 1. Call to order.

Board Chair Robert Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Montville High School Library/Media Center. Board members present were Daniel Boisvert, Monica Pomazon, Colleen Rix, Sandra Berardy, Dana Ladyga and James Wood. Board member Steven Loiler was absent.

Also present were Superintendent of Schools Brian Levesque, Assistant Superintendent Laurie Pallin, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Administrators Paula LaChance, Phil Orbe, Jason Daly, Denise Dunning, Amy Espinoza, William Klinefelter, Jill Mazzalupo, Heather Sangermano, Jennifer Russell, and Jeff Theodoss, Student Board Representatives Joshua Archibald G. Chouhan, and Town Council Liaison Wills Pike.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance. All stood and pledged the flag.

Item 3. Presentations: A) Montville Marvels.

It is recommended that the Board of Education acknowledge the following students, teachers, and community members in the areas noted:

Mohegan School: Principal Klinefelter and board member Daniel Boisvert presented teacher, Mrs. Liz Bryer with her Marvel for answering the call from Montville Social Services to help residents in need during the holiday Season.

Teryl Santos and Anthony Occhialini also received Marvels for their quick response and aid to an injured staff member.

Dr. Charles E. Murphy School: Principal Espinoza and board member Dana Ladyga presented students Alyssa Fadden and Isabel Northrop with their Marvel for orchestrating the collection and distribution of hygiene products to the homeless.

Oakdale School: Principal Mazzalupo and board member Joseph Aquitante presented students Seren Dozier and Ciena Feragne with Marvels for being dedicated and enthusiastic members of the Oakdale Community Club while making a difference at their school and within the Town of Montville.

B) Standards Based Grading at Tyl; This presentation was postponed.

Item 4. Hearing of delegates and citizens (regarding agenda items only). – None

Item 5. Letters and communications. – Board Secretary Colleen Rix read an invitation from Claire Scott, Oakdale Music Teacher to the January 31, 2018 Chorus and Band Concert at 6:00 p.m.

Item 6. Approval of Consent Calendar.

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Calendar.

Proposed by: Colleen Rix

Seconded by: Jim Wood

Vote: Carried unanimously; vote: (7-0)

Item 7. Unfinished Business None

Item 8. New business.

- a. Consideration and action to approve the course, Yeast Breads, as recommended by the E&E Committee at its December 19, 2017 Meeting.**

Motion: That the course, Yeast Breads is approved as recommended by the E&E Committee.

Proposed by: Monica Pomazon

Seconded by: Dan Boisvert

Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 7-0)

- b. Consideration and action to approve the course, Cultures and Cuisines I (Formerly World of Foods), as recommended by the E&E Committee at its December 19, 2017 Meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves the course Cultures and Cuisines as recommended by the E&E committee.

Proposed by: Colleen Rix

Seconded by: Sandra Berardy

Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 7-0)

- c. Consideration and action to approve the course, Cultures and Cuisines II as recommended by the E&E Committee at its December 19, 2017 Meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves the course Cultures and Cuisines II as recommended by the E&E committee.

Proposed by: Joseph Aquitante
Seconded by: Daniel Boisvert
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 7-0)

d. Consideration and action to approve a field trip for Montville High School, Spanish Class, to Germany, Switzerland and Paris from April 12, 2018 to April 20, 2018, twelve (12).

Motion: To approve the field trip for Montville High school for twelve students to Germany, Switzerland and Paris, from April 12, 2018 through April 20, 2018 and revise the number of students to nine (9).

Proposed by: Colleen Rix
Seconded by: Dana Ladyga
Vote: Carried; (vote 7-0)

Item 9. Committee and liaison reports.

- a. Policy** – Committee Chair, James Wood reported that the committee reviewed our homeless policy. Revisions to the current policy will be taken from both Region 12 and the Clinton policies and will be brought to the full board for approval.
- b. Educational Evaluation** – Meeting was cancelled.
- c. Montville Education Foundation (Daniel Boisvert)** - Meeting was on January 8th. Annual appeal postcard developed. Got a free storage unit for manuals. Golf Tournament is August 20th at Fox Hopyard. Spring fundraiser being discussed. Ongoing effort to bring in new members. Any other board members interested in being liaison? Colleen volunteered. Chairman Mitchell asked if all were in favor of Colleen joining the MEF Committee as board liaison, the board voted unanimously. The next meeting is February 5th at 5:30 p.m.
- d. LEARN (Vacant).**
There were no volunteers for the committee, it remains vacant.
- e. CABE/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).** Bob has entered his third month as president. Part of CABE/NSBA lobby in congress in February. Next conference 2019. March in Philadelphia – Bob encouraged board members to attend.

- f. Atlantic Broadband Advisory Council (Monica Pomazon) – Meets Tomorrow.**
- g. Montville Youth Services Bureau (Daniel Boisvert) - The next meeting in March.**
- h. Student Board Representatives.** Joshua Archibald: This past weekend five student from MHS attended the annual Eastern Musical Festival, where Montville was well represented. Mid-terms begin next week and the range of emotions for the students runs from joy at the shortened days to fear of the impending exams. Geetanjali Chouhan: As Josh said, there are midterms coming up in the next week, which many students are dreading. From the output of the student body, it seems that most of them are studying and ready or almost ready for the exams. But there is also the winter dance coming up soon on the 3rd which many students are excited for. Student Government has been planning the dance and it's coming along nicely.
- i. Chair's Remarks.** None.
- j. Other.** Monica Pomazon – attended the MHS concert in December and reported that it was awesome.

Item 10. Superintendent's Report.

- a. Report from the Director of Student Services – Mrs. Paula LaChance.**

I have consulted with many outside evaluators this month. As mentioned last month we have had an influx of parent requests along with some district need so this process can be delicate because we want to ensure we are providing as much information to the doctors as possible. It's hard to believe but I have begun looking at my needs for summer school and next school year. I met with our Transition Teacher and the high school special needs teacher to review students who will be moving on to the transition program. At this point we will have an additional four students next year bringing our total to eight. This means more community collaboration and new internship opportunities. Ongoing work has been around streamlining forms and processes for many areas of Student Services. Weather dependent tomorrow Laurie and I will be attending the Summative Assessment Training and Thursday I will be attending a presentation at LEARN for the Community of Practice Transition group.

- b. Report from Assistant Superintendent – Mrs. Pallin.**

Title IV Grant at Mohegan – Teachers on the School Leadership Team at Mohegan met earlier this year to analyze their building needs and determine the most effective use of their \$5000 portion of the Title IV grant. They decided that they wanted help from an

outside consultant on how to best meet the needs of a small group of students whose social and emotional needs make it very difficult for them to achieve their potential in the classroom. Will and I met with a consultant this morning to discuss the best way to approach this work. We determined that she will help us to develop plans for six students by meeting with teachers, observing classrooms, and meeting with children and their parents. We are very hopeful that this partnership will help us to ensure these students experience greater success in the classroom.

New Teacher Induction – With the state’s elimination of their financial support for the TEAM program to induct new teachers, our district must determine how we will meet legislated TEAM processes. We have decided to continue use of the TEAM electronic platform to monitor teachers’ progress at a small fee to the district, but that we will use resources within the district for the rest of the process.

Computer Science Instruction – We recently received newly revised Computer Science Standards and I am working with administrators and teachers to incorporate these standards into our programs. At the secondary level, this means reviewing existing courses and ensuring alignment to standards. At the elementary level it is more complicated as there are no computer courses. Our elementary library media specialists will be attending training on computer science and coding curriculum for grades K-5 and I will be meeting with them next week to discuss how we will move forward to ensure our students build these extremely important skills.

c. Monthly Update – Superintendent Levesque.

Superintendent Levesque reported that we have had four snow days to date and will have his first meeting of the year with the Project Grad Reps to discuss the last day of school. There is a lot of work going on with the budget. We are currently 100K in the red on Special Education as a result of students moving into the district and outplaced students. We have a student who was outplaced and moved out of state and we are waiting to hear the refund amount on that. Transportation; we continue to face great difficulties in hiring drivers, we have hired two drivers in the past two weeks one of whom resigned before he even came in and completed the paperwork. We outsourced at a significant cost of 70K of transportation in November and December which was not budgeted. Next week I will attend a session at CAPSS where someone from the State will be discussing the ECS formula and what that should look like and plans for the ten year phase in to utilize the ECS formula as it was intended. If the formula was run the way it was intended Montville would be receiving more funds. Because of all of the special deals and legislation passed we are not. The plan is to start phasing that in next year. Stay tuned I hope to have more information this week. I have two meetings scheduled with State Legislatures to discuss the budget. Hopefully I will have more information.

We are struggling with next years budget as we look at Special Education numbers and try to project where we will be next year. Kathy has done an outstanding job getting this document together. I would like to thank Mr. Pike for helping to get the reserve funds

secured to the non-lapsing account. We have just about \$100,000 in the account as an insurance. Any questions for Brian? None.

Item 11. Information Items; Reminder of Budget meeting scheduled for February 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Two public hearing dates have been set by the Town, check with Brian for those dates.

Item 12. Citizens comments (non-agenda items only). None

Item 13. Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation (It is anticipated that the Board of Education will meet in Executive Session)

Motion: That the board enters executive session and invites Brian C. Levesque.

Proposed by: Sandra Berardy
Seconded by: Monica Pomazon
Vote: Carried; (vote 7-0)

Motion: That the board exits executive session with no votes taken.

Proposed by: Monica Pomazon
Seconded by: Daniel Boisvert
Vote: Carried; (vote 8-0)

Item 14. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

Proposed by: Joseph Aquitante
Seconded by: Daniel Boisvert
Vote: Carried unanimously; (vote 7-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Robert Mitchell, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Colleen Rix, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Jennifer LeMay, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Minutes Approved: _____