

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
May 19, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.**

Item 1. Call to order.

Board Chair Sandra Berardy called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. in the Montville High School Library/Media Center. Board members present were Donald Dykes, Tom McNally, Robert Mitchell, Jr., Todd Pomazon, Deborah Reed-Iler, David Rowley, Kendrick Strickland, James Wood and Sandra Berardy.

Also in attendance was Superintendent of Schools David B. Erwin, Director of Special Services Donna Maynard, Director of Curriculum Laurie Pallin, Director of Facilities Matt Bialowas, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Margaret Tripp, Administrators Thomas Amanti, Lorilyn Caron, Mary Jane Dix, Thomas Giard III, Mark Johnson, Clara Kalnitsky, Jeff Newton, Tatiana Patten, Sheila Reagan, and Eileen Richmond; Head Teacher Jason Daly and Student Board Representatives Raena Beetham and Jake Alexander and Town Council member Candy Buebendorf, and Mayor Joseph Jaskiewicz.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation A) CABE Leadership Awards.

Principal Tom Amanti presented CABE Student Leadership Awards to Cara Matteson and Nicholas Deshefy. The award is given annually to honor Connecticut High School Seniors who exhibit exemplary leadership skills. Congratulations were given to each of them. C. Matteson and N. Deshefy will attend college in the fall at Pace University and the University of Pittsburgh, respectively.

D. Erwin introduced Brian Levesque who was appointed as the new Assistant Superintendent of Schools for the Montville School District.

Presentation B) Reception in honor of 2008-2009 Retirees.

D. Erwin read a motivational passage from *Life's Accomplishments* in honor of the 2008-2009 retirees, who represented 245 years of service to the district—" a professional lifetime working with staff and students." The retirees, Linda Carlson, Katharine Hanson, Carolyn Hogg, Henry Kopij, Marion Lunden, Andrew Mellisy, Lucretia Sullivan, and Patricia Walsh were presented with proclamations outlining their achievements. D. Erwin read one of the State Proclamations signed by State Representatives Betsy Ritter, Tom Reynolds, and Kevin Ryan and Senators Edith Prague and Andrea Stillman. The Legislators were in session and unable to attend. Retirees Topsy Butova, Sylvia Daughn, Ellen Hantman, and Jeff Morin were also unable to attend. Mayor Jaskiewicz congratulated the retirees and encouraged them to "go out, enjoy and have a good time." A reception followed to honor the retirees.

S. Berardy recognized Student Board Representative Raena Beetham for her "time and energy" and service to the Board. R. Beetham will attend Eastern Connecticut State University in the fall. A gift was presented to her on behalf of the Board.

The meeting recessed briefly at 6:32 p.m. and resumed at 6:55 p.m.

Presentation C) Presentation (after reception) *Imagine It* Program—Laurie B. Pallin, teachers, consultants.

When the *Imagine It* program was initiated within the district, the Board had asked that an update be given on the progress of the new reading program. Laurie Pallin, Director of Curriculum, teachers Mary Aledia, Sue Jurczik, and Heather Holmes, and consultants Suzanne Lopresto, Anna Wojick, and Lisa Zablonksi presented data and a PowerPoint presentation that showed clips from classrooms of staff and students using the *Imagine It* program. The program was described as being teacher-friendly and structured with topics that motivate students to read. The program also has standardized pre and post assessments to monitor students' progress. In response to a question by D. Rowley, the Pegasus Reading Program will not be used this year, and at the end of next year, an evaluation will be conducted regarding which components of the program can be used.

Item 3. Citizens' comments.

There were no citizens' comments.

Item 4: Letters and communications.

There were no letters or communications reported.

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

During discussion of the Consent Calendar, D. Rowley asked about requests he had received about using the MHS track. D. Erwin said that permission must be obtained from the insurance company to open the track to the public. He also said that he had spoken with the Mayor about a proposal for a shared cost for maintenance of the athletic field between the Town and the Board. A policy for the same needs to be developed. At present, there is no protection for damage to the field. Signs have been mounted around the field but the Board is being asked to consider opening the field for public use. D. Rowley also asked about the hiring process for the assistant superintendent.

Item 6. Report from Student Board Representatives.

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

1. The Mock Crash event will take place at 8:00 a.m. on Chesterfield Road on June 2.
2. The MHS graduation will be held on June 18 at 6:00 p.m. on the athletic field.

3. Montville's English Language Learner (ELL) population has met and exceeded all Title III goals for the Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives benchmarks for the 2008-2009 year.
4. ELL students will visit the Mashantucket Pequot Native American Museum on Thursday, June 4.
5. Two seniors, Kayla Bassett and Alysha Giuliatti, were presented scholarships by the Elks Club.
6. The Cost of Freedom competition has received multiple entries in its poetry, art, and essay divisions.
7. The congressional Art Competition was held at the Old Lyme Academy College of Art on May 8. Derek Wilcox came in second place for his painting that will be on display in Congressman Joe Courtney's office.
8. Senior projects are concluding. Lauren Walendziak raised nearly \$1,000 at her Walk-a-thon held at MHS on May 16. Eric Brennan will play his original symphony at the MHS concert on June 3. The remainder of the senior projects will be displayed in the Media Center and Senior Court on June 4 from 5-7 p.m.
9. The inductions to the National Honor Society and the French and Spanish Honor Society will be held on May 20 at 7 p.m. in the MHS Auditorium.
10. The Culinary Class and Club will visit the Mohegan Sun kitchens for a behind-the-scenes look and to meet with the chefs.
11. On May 21, the Montville Arts Café and the International Club are hosting an Evening of Arts and Culture at 6 p.m. Students and alumni will read poems, perform music, display artwork and share ethnic dishes.
12. The spring chorus concert will be May 27 at 7 p.m.
13. The underclassmen awards ceremony will be held on May 28; the senior awards ceremony will be June 8.
14. The softball team qualified for the CIAC Class M State Tournament again this year. The baseball team qualified for states and won the ECC medium division title for the fourth year in a row. The girls track team was undefeated in the medium division, and it clinched the divisional championship title.
15. Nikkia Smith set a new school record in the shot-put throwing over 36 feet. Freshman Shatajah Wattely also set a school record by running the 200-meter dash in 26.2 seconds. Will Bullinger shot at 74 in the NFA-Wildcat Tournament placing 2nd overall and the top ECC finisher.

Item 7. Unfinished business.

a. Review 2009-2010 budget development to date.

D. Erwin reported that he attended the Town Finance sub-committee meeting last night. Deliberations for a tentative Town budget will begin tomorrow, May 20, at 6:30 p.m. The Town will meet again on May 28 at 6:00 p.m. At that time, it is hoped that a final Board budget will be determined.

Motion: That the Board goes into executive session at 7: 50 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

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

Motion: That the Board comes out of executive session at 8:20 p.m.

Proposed by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Dave Rowley
Vote: Carried unanimously

Item 8. New Business

- a. It is recommended that the Board of Education review/approve the revised vision and mission statement for the Dr. Charles E. Murphy School.**

Motion: That the Board approves the revised vision and mission statement for the Dr. Charles E. Murphy School.

Proposed by: Dave Rowley
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried unanimously

It has been five years since the mission statement was reviewed by NEASC.

- b. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve *Introduction to Microsoft Office 2007* textbook, as approved by Education Evaluation Committee at its April meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves the *Introduction to Microsoft Office 2007* textbook, as approved by the Educational Evaluation Committee at its April meeting.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Dave Rowley
Vote: Carried unanimously

- c. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the revisions in the *Teaching the Young Child* curriculum as approved by the Educational Evaluation Committee at its April meeting.**

Motion: That the Board approves the revised *Teaching the Young Child* Curriculum as approved by the Education Evaluation Committee at its April meeting.

Proposed by: Bob Mitchell
Seconded by: Tom McNally
Vote: Carried unanimously

The revisions will bring the curriculum in line with that of Three Rivers Community College at no cost to the district.

- d. It is recommended that the 2009 Connecticut Legislative Package be referred to the Policy Committee for review and recommendation.**

Motion: That the Board refers the 2009 Connecticut Legislative Package to the Policy Committee for review and recommendation.

Proposed by: Deb Reed-Iler
Seconded by: Todd Pomazon
Vote: Carried unanimously

- e. Call for Resolutions for CABE Delegate Assembly.**

The Board has routinely reviewed the CABE resolutions at its July meeting for submission by August.

- f. It is recommended that the Board of Education consider/approve the appointment of an Assistant Principal for Montville High School for the 2009-2010 year.**

D. Erwin reported that two searches for an assistant principal at MHS were conducted, but neither candidate accepted the position. Jason Daly had filled as assistant principal at MHS but then returned to Tyl as head teacher.

Motion: That the Board appoints Jason Daly as assistant principal at Montville High School for the 2009-2010 school year.

Proposed by: Jim Wood
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 and made recommendations to Board Policy 4118.112, Personnel: Harassment and reviewed a proposed new policy, Board Policy 5161, Students: Harassment with help by D. Maynard. These policies will be brought before the full Board for approval at its June meeting.

b. Educational Evaluation Committee (David Rowley).

D. Rowley reported that the Committee did not meet.

c. Montville Education Foundation.

D. Reed-Iler reported that the plans for the Golf Tournament scheduled for August 10 are progressing with half of the proceeds designated. She thanked Principal Mark Johnson for his support.

d. LEARN (Deborah Reed-Iler).

D. Reed-Iler reported that she was unable to attend the last LEARN Advisory Committee meeting when the Committee took a field trip to the Regional Multicultural Magnet School.

e. CABA/NSBA (Robert Mitchell).

B. Mitchell reported that “the State is hurting” and that dues would be held level for another a year. The next CABA/CAPSS Convention will again be held at the Mystic Marriott. Sponsorship support is being sought. D. Erwin stated that he attended a meeting yesterday, May 18, regarding the convention that will be held this year on November 20 and 21. Speakers are being sought with the aim of keeping costs low.

f. School Building Committee (Todd Pomazon/James Wood).

T. Pomazon reported that the Committee would meet tomorrow, May 20, at 7 p.m.

g. MetroCast Communications Advisory Council (Tom McNally).

T. McNally reported that no meeting was held.

h. Administrative Monthly Reports.

The Board received these reports in their packets.

i. 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 she received notice of an unexpected tuition for the district for a student outplaced to Massachusetts. She is working on plans to use the stimulus grant. Also, she and Laurie Pallin are working on a Reading Readiness Program for which Three Rivers Community College will provide an intern. D. Maynard is working on the development of a grant for a readiness program that would be housed at Mohegan School.

b. Monthly Update.

D. Erwin gave the Board a list of superintendent search firms for their review. He also reported that the district will need to hire a physical education teacher at Mohegan and that it just hired a Technology Education teacher at Tyl for the 2009-2010 school year.

Item 11. Information items.

Information items were not reported.

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

There were no hearing of delegates and citizens.

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

Approved by: Jim Wood
Seconded by: Ken Strickland
Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sandra Berardy, Chair
Montville Board of Education

Todd Pomazon, Secretary
Montville Board of Education

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary
Approved _____