

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING,
MASON SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEW HAMPSHIRE, May 10, 2010**

A meeting of the Mason NH School District was held on Monday, May 10, 2010 at approximately 7:50 p.m. at the Mason Elementary School Cafeteria, pursuant to due notice of all members and the public.

Chairperson Dr. Donald Hodges called the meeting to order. Upon calling of the roll, the following members answered present: Bob Hemmer, Wolfgang Millbrandt, and Dr. Donald Hodges.

Superintendent Dr. Deborah Bemis, Secretary Becky Partridge, Moderator Catherine Schwenk, School Principal Betty Mulrey, Treasurer Sue Wagoner and Mike O'Neill of MRI were present.

Recognition of Public

Refer to sign in sheet dated 05/10/10.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion by Secretary Becky Partridge to approve non-public minutes 4/26/2010 submitted by Becky Partridge, Seconded by Dr. Donald Hodges.

aye: Hemmer, Millbrandt, Hodges

nay: none

Motion carried 3-0

Motion by Wolfgang Millbrandt to amend the minutes submitted by Becky Partridge dated 4/26/2010 as follows: replace "The Board expressed their displeasure" with "Dr. Hodges expressed his displeasure", Seconded by Dr. Donald Hodges.

aye: Millbrandt, Hodges

nay: Hemmer

Motion carried 2-1

Motion by Dr. Donald Hodges to approve minutes dated 4/26/2010 submitted by Becky Partridge as amended, Seconded by Bob Hemmer.

aye: Millbrandt, Hodges

nay: Hemmer

Motion carried 2-1

Announcements of Next Scheduled Meetings

Monday May 24, 2010: Regular School Board Meeting at 7:45pm, MES Cafeteria

Action Items

1. Dr. Bemis will schedule and post a contract negotiations meeting for Monday 17 at 7:45 pm.
2. Dr. Hodges will post job listing for the Superintendent and SPED Director position based on the recommendations of Mr. Eggert, Mr. Tanguay and the Administrative Staff Structuring Committee
3. Mr. O'Neill will follow up with the financial part of the Ed Murdow letter to the district
4. Mr. Hemmer will follow up with the building and spacing concerns of the Ed Murdow letter.
5. Mrs. Mulrey will invite the President of the Mason School Club to the next School Board meeting.

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Public Communications

Mrs. Phalon inquired whether the teachers had been given contracts. Dr. Bemis informed her that there was a staff meeting to review contracts and exempt employees and that they are in the process of discussing it.

Mrs. Phalon asked if there was a deadline. Dr. Bemis said that all teachers have been given intent letters and that they have been returned. Dr. Hodges said that the board is also waiting to find out whether the teachers would like to remain contract employees or if they would like to be exempt employees. He stated that the teachers requested more information and time to decide.

Mr. Hemmer asked Dr. Bemis if she had given that information about the pros and cons regarding contract vs. exempt employees as requested by the board. Dr. Bemis responded that she had not. Dr. Hodges stated that the next board meeting a decision will have to be made.

Mr. Hemmer stated that the teachers have requested more information and they have not been given that so they can not make a decision. Mr. Millbrandt asked if exempt status even applies to teachers. Mr. Hemmer requested there be a meeting to discuss and resolve this issue. Dr. Bemis will post a contract negotiations meeting for Monday 17 at 7:45 pm.

Mrs. Phalon asked if the open positions have been posted. Dr. Bemis stated that the Business Manager position has been posted but the board has not directed anyone to post for the Superintendent and Special Education Director position. Dr. Hodges said that a search committee will have to be formed. Dr. Hodges stated that he will post the Superintendent and SPED Director positions as recommended by Mr. Eggert, Mr. Tanguay, and the Administrative Staff Structuring Committee.

Motion by Mr. Hemmer to direct Dr. Hodges to post job listing for the Superintendent and SPED Director position based on the recommendations of Mr. Eggert, Mr. Tanguay and the Administrative Staff Structuring Committee, seconded by Dr. Donald Hodges.

aye: Hodges, Hemmer

nay: none

abstain: Millbrandt

Motion carried 2-0, with one abstention

Business Manager, Mike O'Neill:

Mr. O'Neil submitted to the board building checks and current manifest for signatures. It is noted that the board approved and signed above stated checks and manifest. Mr. O'Neil informed the board that he has had conversations with PSNH trying to resolve the issue of over billing on the on-demand meter. PSNH is supposed to be back in touch with him this week. Mr. O'Neill informed the board that he continues to work on the 2008-2009 End of Year Report and procuring someone to perform the Financial Audit as there has been no response yet. Mr. O'Neill submitted the current budget account. The changes that are seen are due to saving in contracts in regards to health coverage. The district incurred only ten months of health care costs on the employees, not 12 months due to contract dates and the start up of the district. Also the lunch program runs at a larger loss than first thought. Mr. Millbrandt asked if there was legal reason why we could not charge more. Mr. O'Neill explained that the largest issue is that there is no economy of scale. He explained to the board that he has talked with districts of similar size and they all have the same problem. To Mr. Millbrandt's point, Mr. O'Neill said that he will look into if there is any statutory reason why MES could not charge more. Mrs. Phalon asked if there was accountability of what is brought in and what is given out. She stated that she believes one of the causes of the program running at such a loss is that there is no accountability of what is given out, students at times will take milk without paying, seconds and

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thirds on lunches, etc. Mrs. Phalon suggests the use of pre-bought punch cards at the very least. Mr. O'Neill said that this should all be investigated when the school lunch program is reviewed. Mr. O'Neill gave a quick summary of a timeline of different filings: budget entered into software- June 15, MS25 & MS24-September 21.

Mr. O'Neill inquired from the board when they wanted the temporary structure to be removed. With input from the Building Committee the board agreed on June 30.

Motion by Bob Hemmer to allow Mike O'Neill to proceed to inform Triumph to cancel the contract for the Temporary for June 30, seconded by Wolfgang Millbrandt.

. aye: Hodges, Hemmer, Millbrandt

nay: none

Motion carried 3-0

Mr. O'Neill asked the board if they would like him to assist with the interview process of a new Business Manager. Dr. Hodges said yes, that was the recommendation from the Administrative Staff Structuring Committee.

Motion by Dr. Donald Hodges to accept the recommendations by the Administrative Staff Structuring Committee in regards to the members of the interview team for the Business Manager with the addition of the Superintendent, seconded by Wolfgang Millbrandt.

aye: Hodges, Hemmer, Millbrandt

nay: none

Motion carried 3-0

Dr. Bemis submitted to the board a letter from Ed Murdow in regards to the utilization of the new space and statutory requirements. Mr. O'Neil suggested to the board that they respond. Dr. Hodges asked why have they waited this long. Dr. Bemis informed the board that it has been said all along. Mr. Hemmer asked why did the SAU Withdrawal Committee not investigate the statutory requirements that would be required if we were to withdraw. Dr. Bemis said she believed it was within the Building Committee's purview to do this. Mr. Hemmer asked if Mr. O'Neill would follow up with the financial part of the letter and that he himself will address the building and spacing concerns.

Superintendent's Report. Dr. Deborah Bemis:

Dr. Bemis submitted to the board a proposed School Climate Survey in order to follow up with Mr. Tanguay's report. Dr. Bemis requested that the board review this format and provide any feedback by the next meeting.

Dr. Bemis informed the board that there will need to be a committee developed by next June in order to address the Professional Development Master Plan.

Principal's Report, Mrs. Betty Mulrey:

Mrs. Mulrey gave the following dates of teacher training and student activities:

May 12-13 - staff ICS training

May 14 - MES step up day

May 19 – K and 1st grade trip to SEE Science Center

May 18-19 - NECAP Science training

May 26 - Milford step up day

June 4 - Farm day

June 7-10 - NEWEA testing

Mrs. Mulrey informed the board that she was told by the Mason School Club to cancel field day as there is too much going on. Dr. Hodges asked why is the School Club dictating anything

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about school scheduling. Mr. Hemmer asked if this could be addressed under new business. Mrs. Mulrey informed the board that she has been given a copy of the history of Wolf Rock and copies will be made to be given to the 4th and 5th grades. Mrs. Mulrey informed the board that a letter will be going out to parents to reaffirm that families are always welcomed to make appointments and speak with administration and staff.

Committee Reports

Building Committee Report, Mr. Fred Greenwood:

Mr. Greenwood informed the board that all is proceeding. Mr. Greenwood said that some concerns were raised about the placement and spacing of certain trees and shrubs and that he will look into that ASAP.

Mr. Greenwood on behalf of the MVFD expressed their gratitude for sending home the "needing volunteers" letter.

Curriculum Committee Report, Betty Mulrey:

no report

MESO Committee Report, Becky Partridge:

Mrs. Partridge informed the board that due to unforeseen circumstance with the IRS she has given all information to MESO Treasurer Tina Atkinson and that she is now following up with the filings.

Technology Committee, John Lewicke:

Mr. Lewicke informed the board that the committee met last Monday and they are making great progress on the plan.

Safety Committee, Betty Mulrey:

Mrs. Mulrey informed the board that new locks and keys were installed.

Administrative Staff Structuring Committee Report:

no report

New Business

Mr. Hemmer voiced his concern over the lack of coordination of coverage for students requiring one-on-one aides when one is absent. He feels there needs to be clearer communication of coverage. As stated previously Dr. Hodges and Bob Hemmer feel that any absence of SPED personnel should be directed and coordinated through the SPED Director not the Principal. Dr. Hodges does feel that some of this can be helped by the addition of the job position of Senior Special Education Teacher.

Mr. Hemmer expressed his concern over the growing involvement of the Mason School Club. He sighted several occurrences where it was demonstrated that they over step their bounds of what their purpose and relationship with the school should be. Mrs. Phalon suggests that this conversation be directed towards the President of the Mason School Club. Mr. Hemmer agreed and stated that the Club needs to have guidelines. After a brief discussion it was decided that Mrs. Mulrey would invite the President of the Mason School Club to the next school board meeting.

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Motion by Bob Hemmer to go into executive session at 9:46 pm per RSA 91-A:3 II (b) hiring of any persons as a public employee, seconded Dr. Donald Hodges.

aye: Hemmer, Millbrandt, Hodges
nay: none

Motion carried 3-0

Motion by Bob Hemmer to enter back into public session at 10:50pm, seconded Dr. Donald Hodges.

aye: Hemmer, Millbrandt, Hodges
nay: none

Motion carried 3-0

Dr. Hodges informed the public that the Board had a second reading of job descriptions: Senior Special Education Teacher, Mentor Teacher, and School Custodian. There are additional changes to the School Custodian job description so there will be a third reading at the next scheduled board meeting.

Motion by Dr. Donald Hodges to accept the second reading with no additional changes and to adopt as amended (from the first reading dated 4/26/10) job descriptions Mentor Teacher and Senior Special Education Teacher, seconded Bob Hemmer

aye: Hemmer, Millbrandt, Hodges
nay: none

Motion carried 3-0

Motion by Wolfgang Millbrandt to invite District counsel Dean Eggert to a board meeting to discuss possible future legal concerns, time and date to be arranged by Dr. Hodges and counsel, seconded Dr. Donald Hodges

aye: Millbrandt, Hodges
nay: Hemmer

Motion carried 2-1

Dr. Hodges moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 pm, seconded by Bob Hemmer.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Partridge
School Board Secretary