

**Minutes of the
Monson School Committee
Regular Business Meeting
Quarry Hill Community School – School Committee Meeting Room
April 25, 2018**

Present: Chair Joshua Farber; Vice Chair Joel Keller; Secretary Jeff Lord; and Committee Members Patricia Oney and Michelle Heroux

Also Present: Superintendent Cheryl Clarke; Director of Business & Facilities Don Smith; Director of Curriculum Katherine Watts; MHS Principal William Metzger, Director of Counseling Robert Bardwell and Recording Secretary Karen Methe

Note: This meeting was video-recorded.

Mr. Farber called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Monson High School Student Representative Haley Fennyery read the Mission and Vision Statements.

Announcements:

The National Honor Society Induction will be held on April 30, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the high school. The 4th Annual Quarry Hill Community School Spring Expo is May 3, 2018 from 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Kindergarten evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with information about a college savings plan. Parents can sign up on the spot and receive \$50 to open the account. The Parent Teacher Student Association and the National Honor Society are sponsoring Color Run, a 5K Walk/Run on May 5, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Proceeds will benefit the 2017 hurricane victims.

Recognition:

Mr. Bardwell distributed information about the Town of Monson’s 1st Annual Prevention Awareness Week. He explained the many activities that will be held the week of April 30-May 4, 2018. A Community Partnership Open House and Dinner will take place on May 1, 2018, 5:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall. Everyone is invited to join community members for dinner, a student survey presentation and a viewing of the acclaimed documentary, “*Heroin(e)*” which highlights 3 women working to change their town’s narrative and break the devastating cycle of drug abuse one person at a time. On Friday, May 4, 2018, Sheriff Cocchi will speak at Monson High School (8:57 a.m. - 9:24 a.m.) and Granite Valley Middle School (9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.). Students from Ms. Fountain’s Advanced Placement Calculus class were in attendance to display and explain their projects on Volume with Known Cross Sections. Information on the criteria, (which included a material list, guidelines, grading and miscellaneous notes) for the project was distributed to Committee members.

Minutes:

- **Motion by Ms. Heroux to approve the April 11, 2018 minutes of the Public Budget Hearing as submitted. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**

- **Motion carries 4-0 (Mr. Keller abstained from the vote)**
- **Motion by Ms. Heroux to approve the April 11, 2018 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 4-0 (Mr. Keller abstained from the vote)**

Student Representative Reports:

GVMS-Olivia Chrzan and Molly Szado

No report-student representatives were not in attendance.

MHS- Haley Fennyery

Haley and the other MHS Student Council members attended the Western Massachusetts Association of Student Councils workshop on April 13, 2018 where they joined 160 students from other districts. Haley reported that the courses offered throughout the day promoted leadership and officers of the Association were elected.

The girls softball team won their first game yesterday, coming from behind to beat Granby. Both the boys and girls track and lacrosse teams are doing well.

Report cards were issued on April 13, 2018 and students are now creating their schedules for next year.

The junior class went on a college fair field trip.

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports:

Policy/Diversity Subcommittee:

Subcommittee members met earlier this evening to discuss possible revisions to the Home School Policy. Draft language will be reviewed and recommendations will be brought to the full Committee for discussion and subsequent vote.

- **Motion by Mr. Lord to bring Policy JLCD through first read to second read. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **Discussion followed. Changes made to the Policy were reviewed.**
- **Motion carries 5-0**
- **Motion by Mr. Lord to move the Naloxone Policy from first to second read. (Second by Ms. Heroux)**
- **Discussion followed regarding the training of designated staff, which is the decision of the Superintendent.**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Mrs. Clarke and Chair Farber thanked Mrs. Fedora, Nurse Leader for the district, for all her work on the Policy language.

Finance Subcommittee:

A meeting will be scheduled.

Curriculum Subcommittee:

No report

Facilities and Long-Term Planning Subcommittee:

No report

Human Resources and Negotiations Subcommittee:

The last meeting was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. Meetings have been scheduled for May 2, 7, and 22, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Superintendent's Report:

Mrs. Clarke reported that the district's future work continues. Together, with the Parent-Focus Group, the creation of a proposal regarding school consolidation is being developed to bring forward to the Committee for approval.

The Community Information Night held on April 12, 2018 was very well attended. A detailed PowerPoint was presented and a member from each focus group addressed the audience with their specific information. Questions from the audience were submitted via index cards and answered by Mrs. Clarke or a member of the panel. Immediately following the presentation, everyone was invited into the cafeteria for refreshments and the opportunity to address Mrs. Clarke or the panel members individually. Mr. Farber noted that it was an excellent presentation.

Business and Facilities Report:

Mr. Smith stated that there is currently a negative \$70,000 variance which is still within the allocation of School Choice funds.

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Morrell and his highway department staff for a great job cleaning up the parking lot from the winter debris.

He also noted that maintenance and building repairs continue to be addressed.

Old Business:

Though the Agenda stated approval of the FY19 budget, there was extensive discussion surrounding the \$10,770,000 town appropriated funding. Mrs. Clarke stated that the Town Finance Committee was requesting School Committee representation at their meeting on April 30, 2018. Mrs. Clarke noted she was unable to attend due to the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony that evening at the high school. Mr. Farber and Mr. Keller also stated that due to previous commitments they were also not able to attend. Mr. Farber charged Mrs. Clarke with reaching out to the Town Administrator for any questions they had and a Finance Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled to discuss that information. The consensus of the Committee was to delay the vote to approve the FY19 budget number, noting members did not feel informed enough at this time.

Public session:

Mr. Farber opened Public Session at 7:53 p.m.

No one from the public came forward to address the Committee

Mr. Farber closed Public Session at 7:54 p.m.

Review of Action Items:

Mrs. Clarke will contact Evan Brassard, Town Administrator, to gather any concerns and/or questions regarding the FY19 budget.

A Finance Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled for May 3, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

There will be Regular Business Meetings on the following dates:

May 3, 2018 (**Thursday**) at 7:00 p.m.

May 14, 2018 (**Monday**) at 7:00 p.m.

May 23, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

June 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

- **Motion by Mr. Keller to move into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §21a, Purpose #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation, not to return to Open Session. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Roll Call Vote**

Mr. Farber	Yes
Mr. Keller	Yes
Ms. Oney	Yes
Ms. Heroux	Yes
Mr. Lord	Yes
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Open session closed at 8:02 p.m.

Executive Session began at 8:09 p.m.

Documentation for this meeting:

Agenda-Regular Business Meeting

Distributed at Meeting:

AP Calculus-Volume with Known Cross Sections Project

Approved by Committee:

Mr. Lord, Secretary