

**Monomoy Regional School Committee
Monomoy Regional High School Library
Meeting Minutes Thursday, December 1, 2016
6:30 pm**

Members Present: Brian Widegren, Chairman; Nancy Scott, Vice Chair; Terry Russell; Steve Davol; Donna Richardson; Sharon Stout; and Karen Ryder. **Members Absent:** Jackie Zibrat-Long
Administrators Present: Scott Carpenter, Superintendent; Carla Blanchard; Katie Isernio; Melissa Maguire; Jim Birchfield; Robin Millen; Sam Hein; Bill Burkhead; and Mark Wilson

A. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:48 pm.

B. Approval of Minutes –

MOTION: Steve Davol moved to approve the minutes of November 10, 2016; seconded by Terry Russell.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS.

C. Public Comment – None

D. Spotlight on Chatham Elementary – Chatham Elementary Student Council representatives Lir Wood and Ashleigh Bourgea reported on events at their school, including their fundraising event for Pennies for Patients to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Liz Hoff, foreign language teacher at MRHS, introduced the Spanish exchange students to the committee. The high school's first exchange program has been successful and the visiting Spanish students have enjoyed their experience at Monomoy.

D. Recognitions – the Superintendent thanked building committee member, Jim Blanchfield, for his donation of \$500 in memory of his wife, Ana Gomez-Blanchfield. The Superintendent also thanked the Art of Charity for their donations of \$9,082 this year which support a number of enrichment programs and fields trips.

E. Reports and Discussions

1. Grade 7 Washington, DC Field Trip – Sara Cain, Latin teacher at MRMS, presented her proposal for a grade 7 field trip to Washington, DC in May 2017. Monomoy middle school classes have participated in this successful trip over the years, coordinated by World Strides Travel Company.

2. Water Quality Report – Facilities director, Rick Travers, presented the results of recent lead and copper water testing at all the schools. All school samples are well below regulatory limits for lead and copper.

3. MRHS Graduation and Drop-Out Rates – Principal Bill Burkhead presented information on graduation and drop-out rates for the high school. After correction of coding errors and accounting for special education students who remain in the district through age 22, the adjusted drop-out rate is 86.5% for Monomoy. He outlined the programs, both existing and new, that identify at-risk students and support struggling learners to enable them to achieve success in meeting graduation requirements.

4. FY17 Monthly Financial Report – Business manager Katie Isernio presented the monthly financial report through October 31, 2016.

5. FY18 Draft Budget Presentation - Katie Isernio presented the FY18 draft budget. The budget was prepared using the assumptions that Chapter 70 would be level funded; that school choice and circuit breaker offsets would be level funded. There is an anticipated increase in health insurance for active employees by 15% and a 10% increase for retirees.

There are three categories of budget drivers: "Wants;" "Needs;" and "Must Haves." If all three categories are added to the budget, the overall increase of the FY18 budget is 5.6%; if only "Needs" and "Must Haves" are added, the increase is 5.1%. By limiting the budget to only the "Must Haves," the budget increase is 4.6%. The "Wants" and "Needs" items include: an additional bus for transporting students; a VIPS coordinator; Visions training; textbooks, additional stipends; reading software and the middle school 1:1 Chromebook initiative.

The draft budget will be presented to the Chatham and Harwich Board of Selectmen on January 30 and January 31, 2017.

F. Subcommittee Reports -

1. The policy subcommittee is reviewing the wellness policy and will bring their recommendations to the committee when their review is complete.

G. Superintendent's Report

1. DESE Comprehensive District Review – The Superintendent shared his letter to staff summarizing the DESE review. In general the findings were positive and the district was commended for its success with regionalization, development of new curricula and programs for supporting student improvement. One concern was a lack of consistency in the curricula being implemented in the classrooms and the administrators' lack of curricular fidelity within the evaluation process.

H. Action Items

1. Grade 7 Washington, DC Field Trip May 2017 -

MOTION: Steve Davol moved to approve the proposed field trip for grade 7 students to Washington, DC in May 2017; seconded by Terry Russell.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS.

I. Adjournment - MOTION: Sharon Stout moved to adjourn at 9:07; seconded by Karen Ryder. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS.**

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Susko
Recording Secretary

Documents Used at Meeting and Available For Review

Water Quality Report
Graduation and Drop Out Rate Presentation
FY17 Monthly Financial Reports
FY18 Draft Budget
Summary of DESE Comprehensive District Review