MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2013 – 5:00 PM

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RUTH V. CHICK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

APAPROVED MINUTES

Board members attending: Chairperson Jim Curran, Bruce Brooks, Wendy Grzesik, Sloane Jarell, Ray O’Brien.

Others attending: Superintendent Lou Goscinski, Special Education Administrator Raina Shearer Chick, Business Administrator Michael O’Neill, Principal Brian Ernest

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Jim Curran called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM with four board members present.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Motion by Bruce Brooks to enter non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (b), (c), and RSA 91-A:2, I (b), seconded by Wendy Grzesik. On a roll call vote the board entered non-public session at 5:01 PM.

Bruce Brooks - Aye

Jim Curran – Aye

Wendy Grzesik - Aye

Ray O’Brien - Aye

The Ayes have it.

1. Personnel Matters: Personnel matters were discussed. Sloane Jarell arrived at the meeting during this discussion.

Motion by Sloane Jarell to accept the superintendent’s nomination of Dawn M. Farnham as 21 C Instructor 2 hours per week, not to exceed 50 days, contingent upon adequate enrollment. Seconded by Ray O’Brien. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Ray O’Brien to accept the superintendent’s recommendation of increasing the pay rate of substitute bus drivers from $13.10 per hour to $16 per hour. Seconded by Bruce Brooks. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Sloane Jarell to provide honorariums to board members participating in collective bargaining agreement negotiations. Seconded by Ray O’Brien. The motion passed 3-2 with two abstaining.

Motion by Sloane Jarell to come out of non-public session at 5:30 PM, seconded by Wendy Grzesik. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC SESSION STARTS: Chair Jim Curran called the public session to order at 5:35 PM. All present pledged allegiance to the flag.

ACTION AS A RESULT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION

1. Announcements:
2. The board voted to nominate Dawn M. Farnum for the 21 C program contingent upon enrollment.
3. The board voted to increase the rate of pay for substitute bus drivers.
4. The board voted to provide honorariums to two board members participating in collective bargaining negotiations.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Sloane Jarell to approve the agenda, seconded by Wendy Grzesik. Sloane asked that Items C and D under the Principal’s Report be removed. With these changes, the motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting: 10-7-2013: Motion by Sloane Jarell to approve the minutes of 10-7-2013, seconded by Bruce Brooks. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes were approved and accepted.

GENERAL ITEMS

1. Mustang Academy Director Update: Director Mike Lane gave a summary of activities and reported that Session 2 started today and that everything is going well. The board thanked him for attending.
2. 2014-2015 Budget Discussion: Version 2: Balances in the Capital Reserve Funds were discussed: Special Education $60,096.37; Bus $62,398.77; Building $30,024.52; Technology $8,048.18, with a total of $160,567.84. Jim Curran said the bottom line after the last meeting is $5,782,761.65, a 1.02% increase over last year. Ray O’Brien noted that the 2.5% is not included, and this could be dedicated to some of these purposes or other purposes. Jim Curran said to use the 2.5% funds we would have to get approval from the state. Hersh Sosnoff said he was pleased to see that the SAU #13 budget reducing Madison’s share by about $18,000. Jim explained that the allocation was down.

Principal Brian Ernest recommended reducing one-half of one full time position, resulting in a total reduction of one and one-half positions based on declining enrollment and projecting out another five years as well. Superintendent Lou Goscinski said we took an average of all the salaries, which resulted in a reduction in the bottom line of $51,101, which could go up or down a tad depending on the individual. He said in Version 3 of the budget we will show the specific lines impacted.

Special Services Director Raina Chick noted that we had talked about decreasing our Out-of-District line by $10,000, to $262,700.

Jim Curran said we don’t have health insurance numbers yet, but we are still projecting at 8%. He said on Version 3 we will have the updated numbers. Jim said Special Program Fees are up $500. Lou Goscinski suggested taking the $500 out to make the total $6,700, another $500 off the bottom line.

Hersh Sosnoff asked about the tuition numbers from Conway, and Business Administrator Mike O’Neill said we should have those figures in another week.

Sloane Jarell and Wendy Grzesik said they went through classrooms to look at the condition of classroom furniture and found that chairs and desks were very old and in some disrepair. They recommended putting some money in this line. This was discussed. Bruce Brooks noted that in some cases some students may sit at a long table rather than a desk. He suggested looking at the ones in storage to see if they are usable. Jim Curran suggested that Wendy and Sloane work with Brian Ernest to come up with a number for the next meeting.

Continuing through the budget, Jim said that Psychological Services could change because there is no collective bargaining agreement in Tamworth yet; we purchase these services from Tamworth. Jim noted that the SAU #13 line will come out when we move the budget; it will be a warrant article.

Mike O’Neill said he forgot to increase salaries for the principal and administrative assistant when he made the changes in the budget. The new total for the principal is $85,617.23 and for the administrative assistant $38,012.36. He said they will be going to 87% on health insurance.

Jim said substitute custodial wages increased $5,000 from last year due to temporary help over the summer. He said Building Repairs has increased for new flooring and replacing carpet with tile. This led to a discussion of the best type of flooring. Ken Eckhardt said he got a price on hallway flooring of $10,161.79, which would include leveling the floor and preparing it.

Motion by Wendy Grzesik to add $10,200 for the hallway flooring, seconded by Sloane Jarell. The motion passed 3-1-1, with one opposed and one abstaining.

Jim Curran said Multiperil Insurance is up 11% and this will be sent out to bid.

Mike O’Neill suggested that Custodial Supplies could probably be reduced by $2,000 to $10,000, and Ken Eckhardt agreed. Mike said electrical generation is being negotiated and could probably be reduced to $37,000 from $40,000. He said he is contracting for Fuel Oil at $3.18 a gallon and he had the tanks topped off at $3.12 a gallon.

Mike said Building Equipment is up $700 for the purchase of a snowblower, floor vac, backpack blower, and weed whacker/trimmer.

There was a discussion about Health Insurance. Motion by Ray O’Brien to add $13,100 to the Health Insurance Line 211070, seconded by Wendy Grzesik. The motion passed 4- 1, with 1 opposed.

Brian Ernest recommended adding $1,610 to the Food Service Equipment line for a POS computer. He said the one we have now is 8 years old and is not compatible with new equipment. There was a discussion about the features of the new system. Mike O’Neill said a parent could access their child’s food service account but it would cost the parent $1.75 for each transaction. The board agreed that parents should at least be given the option.

Mike O’Neill said the new bottom line is $5,741.286.00, an increase of $16,662.87 or .29%.

1. Warrant Articles

Warrant Articles were discussed. Jim said the collective bargaining agreement will be listed in the warrants if one is reached.

Warrant Article VIII: Security of the Madison Elementary School, $12,000. Brian Ernest said he would recommend putting in the same amount as last year, and looking for matching funds. He said there is more work to be done to meet the recommendations of the state and homeland security officials who visited the school last year.

Warrant Article IX: Cooperative School District, $1,700 out of a total of $5,000 apportioned to all three districts. This was discussed. Lou Goscinski said the committee is unable to do research without something in the coffers.

Warrant Article X: Building Capital Repairs fund, amount to be determined. Brian Ernest said this is for long-range planning and a walk-in cooler. He said we have yet to start talking about a heating system and some other things.

Jim Curran noted that the last day for warrant articles is January 14, 2014.

Sloane Jarell asked if we are going to tackle all-day kindergarten. Lou Goscinski said he needed direction from the board on this. He asked if the board wanted the administration to research the cost of putting up a warrant article. The majority of the board supported this.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

1. Calendar: Next School Board Meeting: December 2, 2013, 5:00 PM

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

1. Principal’s Letter: In the board packet.
2. Enrollment: 143.

TRANSPORTATION/MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR: There was a discussion about notifying parents regarding bus routes and schedules as a consequence of being short one bus driver. Bruce Brooks suggested putting something in the next newsletter and Brian Ernest said we have put something together today addressing the issue. He said there is a schedule of routes and times of pickups that will be put on the website.

1. Sale of School Buses: The bus at Frechette’s has been identified as old bus #5, a ‘97 Bluebird body which has been partially dismantled.

Motion by Ray O’Brien to authorize the administration to sell the old bus #5 bus that is at Frechette’s for salvage, seconded by Wendy Grzesik. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Replacement Schedule for Buses: Tabled till next meeting.
2. Transportation Data: Ridership averages and mileage were discussed.

Motion by Wendy Grzesik enter non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (b), (c), and RSA 91-A:2, I (b), seconded by Sloane Jarell. On a roll call vote the board entered non-public session at 8:30 PM.

Bruce Brooks - Aye

Jim Curran – Aye

Wendy Grzesik – Aye

Sloane Jarell - Aye

Ray O’Brien - Aye

The Ayes have it.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Bus routes were discussed.

Motion by Sloane Jarell to return to public session, seconded by Wendy Grzesik. The board returned to public session at 8:30 PM.

ACTION AS A RESULT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

1. Announcements: Chair Jim Curran announced the recommendation to cut one early bus route.

The late bus route was discussed.

Motion by Wendy Grzesik to discontinue the 4:30 PM elementary bus, seconded by Bruce Brooks. The motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

1. Madison Public School Approval Designation: in the board packet FYI. Superintendent Lou Goscinski said the NH Department of Education has designated Madison Elementary School to be an approved elementary school.
2. FNHSBA Assessment of School Board Policies: Superintendent Goscinski said school board policies will be reviewed.
3. Replacement of Retiring Food Service Director: Tabled till next meeting.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

1. 2013-2014 Budget Expenditure & Revenue Reports: In the board packet. Mike O’Neill said this was boiled down to an Exceptions Report. There was a discussion about budget adjustments coming before the board. Mike will make sure they’re in the packet next month.
2. FY 12 Audit: Jim Curran asked when the tax rate will be set. The superintendent said all documents have been sent in to the state but we have not heard back yet. Mike O’Neill said the first tax rate was set last Thursday and theoretically they should all be in by the end of this week.
3. Oil Bid: Already covered.

SCHOOL BOARD BUSINESS

*Old Business*

1. Master Plan: Tabled for this meeting.
2. CIP: Tabled for this meeting.

*New Business:* None.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION Motion by Bruce Brooks to move to non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (b), (c), seconded by Ray O’Brien. On a roll call vote the board moved to non-public session at 9:00 PM.

Bruce Brooks - Aye

Jim Curran – Aye

Wendy Grzesik - Aye

Sloane Jarell – Aye

Ray O’Brien - Aye

The Ayes have it.

Collective bargaining was discussed.

ACTION AS A RESULT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION

1. Announcements: None

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Sloane Jarell to adjourn, seconded by Bruce Brooks. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:04 PM.

Madison School Board Meeting

November 4, 2013

Approved Minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Ambrose,

Recording Secretary