

**MONROE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Monroe, Connecticut**

**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 4, 2018**

**Present:** Chairman Donna Lane  
Board Member Christine Cascella  
Board Member David Ferris  
Board Member Jeff Fulchino  
Board Member Jessica Katuska  
Board Member Jerry Stevens  
Board Member Alan Vaglivello

**Absent:** Secretary Shannon Reilly-Monaco  
Vice-Chairman George King III

**Also present:** Superintendent John Battista  
Assistant Superintendent Jack Zamarly  
Finance Director Gabriella DiBlasi

**Call to Order**

*Chairman Lane* called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Report of the Chairman**

Recognition of the 2018 Retirees

*Chairman Lane* and *Superintendent Battista* thanked the retirees for their years of service and presented each with a pewter plate. The District-wide Recognition Ceremony will be held on Thursday evening at the Waterview. The Retirees are Alice Pulliam, David Knecht, Mia Cueva, Lynn Costello, Linda Battista, Marianne Cody, Gale Carter, Vivian Segall, Superintendent John Battista, Nancy Bartosik, Douglas Fedorko, Cathryn Johnson, MaryLu Matott, and Cynthia Minor.

**Consent Agenda**

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda**

**Motion: (D. Ferris)**

**Second: (J. Stevens)**

Discussion: Superintendent Battista said Illisa Karagus was appointed the School Counselor at Fawn Hollow. He noted she has experience as a school psychologist in addition to being a counselor.

**Motion passed 7 (Lane, Cascella, Ferris, Fulchino, Katuska, Stevens, and Vaglivello)-0**

18-031

## **Reports of Committees and Liaisons**

There was none at tonight's meeting.

## **Public Participation**

There was none at tonight's meeting.

## **Report of the Superintendent**

*Superintendent Battista* said they are still looking to hire for the Jockey Hollow math position and the 2nd grade position at Stepney. The Technology Education Teacher position was posted today and there will be a meeting on June 11 to determine where the 2 positions in the budget will be placed.

*Assistant Superintendent Zmary* reviewed the Proposed Board of Education Development for 2018-2019:

October-Goals and Action Plan  
November-Student Data  
December-Budget and Insurance  
January-Freedom of Information  
February-SRBI  
March-Demographics  
April-Special Education  
May-Technology

*Chairman Lane* said that she would like to add Board Member Roles and Responsibilities to the schedule; the board members agreed.

## **School Enrollment**

*Superintendent Battista* provided the Board Members with the enrollment figures as of this morning. For next year, based on current and projected enrollment, Fawn Hollow will be down by 8 students, Stepney Elementary will be down 23 students though the Kindergarten has class sizes of 20-21 before any summer additions. Monroe Elementary is down 10 students but the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade has class sizes of 24-25 students so a teacher might be put back in. Jockey Hollow's enrollment has increased by 11 students and Masuk's decreased by 9. *Superintendent Battista* noted that the District is not seeing the projected loss of 100 students per year.

## **Old Business**

Policies-Second Review  
5142-Student Safety  
6154-Homework

**Motion to approve Policy #5142, Student Safety; Policy 6154, Homework as presented**

**Motion: (J. Stevens)**

**Second: (C. Cascella)**

Discussion: Superintendent Battista thanked the parent representative who served on the Homework policy committee for being a voice in the community and for supporting the policy.

**Motion passed 7 (Lane, Cascella, Ferris, Fulchino, Katuska, Stevens, and Vaglivello)-0**

18-032

**New Business**

Approval of 2018-2019 Rates/Fees Schedule, Tuition Fees and Facilities Use Fees

**Motion to approve 2018-2019 Rates/Fees Schedule, Tuition Fees and Facilities Use Fees as presented**

**Motion: (J. Stevens)**

**Second: (D. Ferris)**

Discussion: Ms. DiBlasi said there are increases in the pre-school tuition, special education tuition as well as non-resident bus tuition. There is also a minimal increase in school lunch prices; Chairman Lane asked if it was at Sodexo's suggestion and Ms. DiBlasi responded that the district uses paid equity lunch, a formula put out by the Federal Government. Board Member Stevens asked about the parking fines at Masuk; Principal Kobza said the fines are for parking in faculty spots or if a student doesn't have a parking pass. He said the first time a student violates the policy, they are issued an obligation for the \$125 parking fee and any subsequent infraction will accrue a \$10 charge.

**Motion passed 7 (Lane, Cascella, Ferris, Fulchino, Katuska, Stevens, and Vaglivello)-0**

18-033

*Superintendent Battista* thanked all the boards for their support, especially the Board of Education for giving him the opportunity this year and for their confidence in him. He said that Monroe will always be in his heart and he is confident that both *Assistant Superintendent Zmary* and *Principal Kobza's* leadership will allow the District to continue its' growth and success. *Superintendent Battista* added that *Chairman Lane* is a great leader who always has the best interest of students in mind. He continued that Monroe is a great place because of the people and it has given him lasting and meaningful friendships. He concluded with the following quote: "You may not always end up where you thought you were going but you will always end up where you are meant to be." He said that he believed that Monroe was where he was meant to be; *Chairman Lane* said that he will be very much missed and wished him and his family well.

**Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn at 8:00 p.m.**

**Motion: (J. Stevens)**

**Second: (C. Cascella)**

Discussion: None

**Motion passed 8 (King, Reilly-Monaco, Cascella, Ferris, Fulchino, Katuska, Stevens, and Vaglivello)-0**

18-034

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shannon Reilly Monaco".

Shannon Reilly-Monaco  
Board of Education Secretary