

**Moultonborough School District  
Monthly School Board Meeting Meeting  
Tuesday, April 8, 2008  
Town Hall Meeting Room**

**Present:** Laurie Whitley, Mark Borrin, Fox Smith, Kathy Garry, Michael Lancor, Kay Peranelli, Andrew Coppinger, Scott Laliberte, and Laurie Caldwell

**Organizational Meeting:**

At 7:00 p.m., Superintendent Michael Lancor called the meeting to order, lead the pledge and presided during and until the election of a chairperson and vice chairperson, in accordance with Board policies BDA, BDB and BDE.

- A. Election of Chairperson: Laurie Whitley nominated, and Mark Borrin seconded, Bill Blackadar for School Board Chairman for the ensuing year effective Wednesday, April 9, 2008. All voted in favor. Kathy Garry thanked Laurie Whitley for serving as Chairperson for the past several years.
- B. Election of Vice Chairperson: Kathy Garry nominated, and Laurie Whitley seconded, Mark Borrin as School Board Vice Chairman for the ensuing year. All voted in favor.

Mrs. Whitley served as Chairperson for the remainder of this Board meeting.

**Public Agenda:**

1. Personnel Announcements: The Chairperson announced the following personnel appointments accepted during non-public session.

Patricia Payne - MA Family and Consumer Science Teacher  
Karen Currier - MA World Studies Teacher  
Natalie White - MA Spanish Teacher  
Pam Clark - MCS French Teacher (.5)

**Public Input:**

Betsy Patten was present and gave a legislative update regarding the constitutional amendment and the Senate Costing Bill 539 and how they impact Moultonborough. Laurie Whitley commented that the School Board has not taken an official position on the constitutional amendment at this time, but it has no desire to be a donor town. The School Board Association does a good job of keeping the Board apprised of what is going on in the House and Senate. Betsy also discussed Senate Bill 210 regarding a bond vote and what impact that may have. Mr. Lancor noted that some version of SB 539 will pass this spring, but won't go into affect until 2009-2010. The Constitutional Amendment will still be important as it would allow them to come up with another funding formula. The constitutional amendment would affect every town in the State.

Sgt. Beede from the Moultonborough Police Department asked permission from the Board to have six Moultonborough students attend the Cadet Police Academy June 21-25, as snow days have extended school into that week. Sgt. Beede will work with Mr. Coppinger on the details. Mark Borrin moved, and Kathy Garry seconded a motion, to approve attendance by six Moultonborough Academy students at the New Hampshire Police Training Academy provided they can fulfill their academic responsibilities and pending Mr. Coppinger's approval. All voted in favor.

Mr. Austin commented that regarding the constitutional amendment, he believes the NH School Board Association is not a part of the state government. The Board agreed and noted that they do belong to the Association and the Board gets information and opinions from the Association, but doesn't necessarily agree with all of them.

Lisa St. Amand discussed the “buzz” going around regarding the changes at MCS next year. There was discussion of the enrichment programs and needs, along with possible changes in classroom sizes. Mr. Lancor and Mr. Laliberte said that they will be communicating the changes to parents in the near future with details. It was noted by Mr. Laliberte that we currently have some very successful programs, and there is no intention of changing those.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- A. The March 10, 2008 minutes were corrected to reflect the last name of Hollis Austin (not Caswell). Mark Borrin moved, and Kathy Garry seconded a motion, to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2008 School Board meeting, as amended, March 11, 2008 Election Day minutes, March 15, 2008 Annual School District Meeting minutes, and March 20, 2008 SB2 vote recount minutes. All voted in favor.

### **General Items:**

- A. Student Council Report: Evan Ames, President of the Student Council, updated the Board on Student Council activities and plans. The Winter Carnival was a great success in large part due to the schedule. The Council has been working on and has finished two student council scholarships, one male and one female for \$500 each. Teacher Appreciation days will be the week of May 5th and they are working on plans for each day.

Mr. Coppinger thanked Evan for his work as President of the Student Council. He believes it has been the best organized Council he has seen at MA. Mr. Lancor thanked SLAM students Katie McCann and Alexis Paige for their work in spearheading the child care at Town Meeting.

- B. 2009 Music Trip Request\*: Donna Conway presented to the Board a request for a music trip to Costa Rica in March or April of 2009. This trip would be in place of the trip to Austria that had been proposed last year. The Board reviewed a copy of the proposed itinerary and other trip information. Mrs. Conway discussed how the decision to go to Costa Rica instead of Austria came about, along with the fundraising that will be involved. Concern was raised regarding the date of the trip and the impact on classroom instruction. Mark Borrin moved, and Kathy Garry seconded a motion, to give permission to the Music Department to pursue the proposed trip to Costa Rica. All voted in favor.

Laurie Whitley congratulated everyone involved with the play Footloose. It was an excellent production. Mrs. Conway commented that it was one of the best musicals she has seen here in 10 years. She feels there is incredible talent in the District for its size.

- C. Chem Free After Prom Party\*: Jody Eichhorn and Kim Mohan presented to the Board a request for a chemical free after prom party to begin at 12:00 a.m. (midnight) on Sunday, May 18 following the prom. The Board reviewed a copy of the plans being developed by Officer Eichhorn and Ms. Mohan. Mark Borrin moved, and Kathy Garry seconded a motion, to support the chemical free party proposed by Officer Eichhorn and Kim Mohan, pending Selectmen support. All voted in favor.

### **Chairperson's Report:**

- A. Calendar: The Chairperson announced the following important calendar dates:  
*Tuesday, May 13, 2008*: Monthly School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
- B. 2009 Annual Report/Meeting\*: Board members discussed a date for the March 2009 Annual Meeting. There was discussion on the length of the meetings. It was suggested that the group that planned the 2008 meeting reconvene and plan for the 2009 meeting. Mr. Lancor will put that meeting together to start a dialogue.
- C. Submission Hearing\*: Laurie Whitley reported on the submission hearing she attended on March 12, 2008. The building will be the headquarters for Lacey Irrigation. They do not anticipate any traffic or parking problems.

- D. Graduation Waiver: The Board received a copy of the waiver request sent to Commissioner Tracy and a copy of the letter granting the request. Graduation will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Auditorium on Saturday, June 14, 2008.
- E. SB2 Petition for 2009: Chairperson Whitley announced that the District has received an SB2 petitioned warrant article for the 2009 election day warrant, which Board members have received. Mr. Lancor will send a copy to School District Clerk, Jerry Hopkins.
- F. Budget Advisory Committee\*: The Board received a copy of the flyer being posted by the Town and School District seeking letters of interest from individuals interested in serving on a Budget Advisory Committee for the Town and School District. Mrs. Whitley updated the Board on this matter. Laurie Whitley moved, and Fox Smith seconded a motion, to nominate Kathy Garry to serve on the Budget Advisory Committee. All voted in favor.

**Pupil Personnel Services Director's Report:**

- A. Other Matters: None. Mr. Goscinski was excused from attending the Board meeting.

**Central School Administrative Report:**

- A. Calendar: Mr. Laliberte highlighted the calendars for the months of April and May.
- B. MCS Food Drive: The students, parents and staff at MCS collected over 800 items during their recent food drive that ended on Friday, March 21. The food items were accepted by the Moultonborough Welfare Director Kate Lancor during the Together Assembly and delivered to the Moultonborough United Methodist Church, Moultonborough Lions Club and Center Harbor Christian Church food pantries. The Board received a copy of a thank you letter from Amy Norton on behalf of the Center Harbor Food Pantry.
- C. MCS Gymnasium Use\*: Mr. Laliberte addressed the Board regarding a request by Mr. Borrin for an update on MCS gymnasium use as a result of a parent inquiring about the lack of gym space after school for MCS students. The Board received a copy of the gymnasium use information for both MA and MCS provided by Mr. Blood. The gym at MCS continues to be used on Monday through Friday after school for MA girls and boys tennis team practices. The multipurpose room is currently being used after school for grade 6 play practices, as well as practices for Kids on Stage and for aerobics for staff members. The recreation department has requested to use the MCS gymnasium for teaching softball and baseball clinics for younger students. This request could not be granted at this time due to the need for the MA tennis teams to practice indoors.

There was discussion on the complications the snow has created this year and how it has affected the community as a whole. We do not have enough facilities to accommodate the students and the Rec. Department indoors. There was further discussion regarding the possibility of having high school students collect data on what is going on with the gyms, fields, etc., analyze the data, and present it to the community. Mr. Coppinger will look into this possibility. It was noted that 55% of the student body is involved with sports during the spring season, and there are other students that need the facilities for other activities.

**Academy Administrative Report:**

- A. Calendar: Mr. Coppinger highlighted the calendars for the months of April and May. He also updated the Board on Project Safeguard activities.
- B. History/Art Interdisciplinary Course and Art Appreciation Course\*: The Board received copies of a course description for a new History/Art Interdisciplinary course being proposed by Art Grady and Brian Hoag, along with a course description for Art Appreciation being proposed to be taught by Brian Hoag or Jean Meloney. Mark Borrin moved, and Fox Smith seconded a motion, to authorize two new courses at Moultonborough Academy, History/Art Interdisciplinary and Art Appreciation, as proposed. All voted in favor.

- C. PAC Meeting: Mr. Coppinger reviewed the minutes from the most recent PAC Meeting held on February 11, 2008.

### **School Business Administrative Report:**

- A. 2007-2008 Budget Expenditure Update: The Board received the end-of-March 2008 Budget Report. Mrs. Peranelli expects to end the year in the black.
- B. MCS Water System Update: Mr. Blackadar had suggested the District post a notice at MCS regarding required water test results. Mr. Lancor and Mrs. Peranelli agreed that this was a good idea. All Board members received a copy of the posted information.
- C. Insurance Bid Process\*: The District's current three-year contract for property, liability and workers' compensation insurance expires on June 30, 2008. The Board received a copy of the request for proposals. Life insurance has been added which has not been bid out before. Bids will be due prior to the May 13, 2008, Board meeting. The next Insurance Committee meeting will be held on May 12, 2008, at 7:30 a.m.
- D. 2008-2009 Tuition Rate\*: The School Board discussed setting the 2008-2009 tuition rate for nonresidents. Historically, the Board has increased the current rate by the percent increase in the budget. If the current (2007-2008) rate of \$11,998 is increased by 3.97%, then the tuition rate for 2008-2009 would be \$12,474. Mark Borrin moved, and Kathy Garry seconded a motion, to set the tuition rate for the 2008-09 school year at \$12,474. All voted in favor.

### **Superintendent's Report:**

#### *Old Business:*

- A. MA Shelter Manager Training: Four members of the MA Shelter Team attended a Shelter Team Manager training session on Wednesday, March 26. They were Carmen Bishop, John Bishop, Sally Carver and Lois Reuter. Dr. Lindy North from Meadow Pond Animal Hospital, as well as her assistant Jackie Gerald, attended a two-day animal sheltering workshop on April 5 and 6 in Nashua. This training session certified them to operate an animal shelter. They are now looking to develop a volunteer base.
- B. 2007-2008 End-of-Year\*: As of Wednesday, April 2, we have had eight snow days and the 180th day of school would be Friday, June 27 with the last teacher day on Monday, June 30. The calendar adopted for this school year had the 5th required makeup day scheduled for Tuesday, June 24. The Board received a copy of the 2007-2008 calendar and the memo regarding waiver requests from Commissioner Tracy. The Board discussed the number of snow days this year compared to past years and how it all relates to the start of school before or after Labor Day.

The Board also discussed the following:

- State statutes require 180 days of school. Waiver requests for fewer days can be made by School Boards to the Commissioner of Education. On April 3, Mr. Lancor, Mr. Coppinger, Mr. Crouse and Ms. Loring had a telephone conversation with Ed. Murdough (Department of Education) regarding options available to the School Board. Laurie Whitley authorized the phone call.
- Mr. Murdough indicated that it was okay for the School Board to request the Commissioner waive snow days (#6, 7, 8) beyond the five emergency days we have on our published calendar for 2007-2008.
- He also indicated that additional snow days could be made up by increasing the length of our school days as long as the proposed plan was educationally sound. For example, adding 30 minutes of time daily by adding 4 minutes per high school block results in little or no gain in instruction. On the other hand, adding 30 minutes to a different

block (period) each day would be approved. To gain back one instructional day would require adding 30 minutes to 11 school days, to gain 2 days would require adding 30 minutes to 21 days, and to gain 3 days would require adding 30 minutes to 32 days.

Options available to the School Board include:

- Schedule the last day of school to be Thursday, June 26 and apply for a waiver for one snow day (#8) and any additional snow days that may occur.
- Schedule the last day of school for Tuesday, June 24 and apply for a waiver of three snow days (#6, 7 and 8).
- Add an additional 30 minutes to 11, 21 or 32 school days to gain back an additional 1, 2 or 3 snow days.
- Add an additional 20 minutes to 16 school days to gain back one day or 32 school days to gain back 2 days.
- A combination of #2 above and #3 or #4.

Mr. Lancor suggested asking for a waiver for days beyond the 190 day calendar.

Mark Borrin moved, and Fox Smith seconded a motion, to authorize the School Board Chairperson to request a waiver for all schools days beyond the 190 day published calendar. All voted in favor.

If this request is granted, the last day of school for students would be June 24th. As it stands now, the last day for students will be June 27th.

Lisa St. Amand initiated a discussion on the 2 days before school starts and 1 day after school ends for teachers, along with 2 workdays for teachers, and suggested changing future teacher workshop days to help with the problem we are now facing. There may be further discussion on that in the future.

*New Business:*

- 2006-2007 Drop-Out Rate: The Board received copies of the 2006-2007 dropout rates for grades 9-12 recently released by the Department of Education. The District rates are lower than the State average. There was discussion about the reasons students drop out, identifying districts with low rates, and looking at what they are doing to decrease the drop-out rate.
- Service Recognition: This June will be year 8 of the service recognition awards which began in June 2001. With Board approval, the SAU staff will secure awards for staff members who have been in the District 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years. The established awards program gives 5 year employees a pewter key chain, 10 and 15 year employees two 6" pewter water goblets, 20 year employees four 6" pewter water goblets, and 25 year employees a Concord Oil Lamp. The service awards are presented during the end-of-year PTA breakfast on the day after school ends for students. All Board members remain in favor of continuing with this recognition program.
- Staff Appreciation Week: Administration is planning barbecue lunches at 11:30 a.m. at (Thursday, May 1) and MA (Friday, May 2) during Staff Appreciation Week. Board members are asked to let Mr. Lancor know if they can attend and/or help serve lunch either day.
- Electronic School Board: The Board received a flyer describing a web-based program designed to allow Board members to access meeting agendas and all supplemental materials from a laptop computer before and during meetings. Mr. Lancor attended a session on this program while at the NSBA Conference and was truly impressed with the

program's capabilities and user friendly design. The program could also be used by administration to organize other in-house meetings. The Board may want to consider asking for an on-line demonstration of this software program. Mr. Lancor found this quite interesting since Mr. Blackadar recently mentioned the desire to hold electronic meetings to eliminate all the paper use associated with Board meetings. There is a possibility that Laura Maroon and Suzanne Fullerton would be able to put something together in-house that is similar to this program. It was decided to table this subject until next month.

- E. Other Matters/Constitutional Amendment: Mr. Lancor handed the Board members a sample letter to the State Representatives regarding the constitutional amendment. It is the consensus of the Board to send the letters to all Representatives and Senators, Committee members that wrote the bills, Speaker of the House and President of the Senate. This can probably be done electronically. Mr. Lancor will work with Mrs. Whitley on the letter and inform the Selectmen on what the Board is doing.

The Board discussed the traffic issues that came up on Town Meeting Day and automobile exiting procedures at the Academy. Additional signs may be posted and it was decided to determine parking and exiting patterns on an event-by-event basis. Chief Kinmond will be contacted to provide support when needed.

### **School Board Committee Reports:**

- A. Buildings and Grounds: No Report.
- B. Personnel and Negotiations: No Report.
- C. Policies\*: Mark Borrin moved, and Fox Smith seconded a motion, to adopt policies C, D, H and L as presented. All voted in favor. The Board received numerous policies (#27A) to be considered for adoption next month.
- D. Moultonborough Taking Action (MTA)\*: Mr. Lancor announced that Kim Mohan has been selected to coordinate a countywide grant funded program and will be resigning as MTA Coordinator by the end of May. Laurie Whitley thanked Kim for all she has done for the Moultonborough School District. Mary Welch will replace her as the Student Activities Person at Moultonborough Academy.
- E. Wellness Advisory Committee - Mr. Lancor will e-mail members for meetings at 3:00 p.m. on April 29, May 20 and June 3, 2008. They will try to come up with recommendations for the June School Board meeting.

**Public Input** - Mr. Austin questioned the Board on the history of Band and Chorus trips. The Board discussed the trips taken in the past, participation and the finances involved, coordination of the trips so as not to interfere with school and the opportunities presented to the students.

Mr. Austin also asked where the minutes of the School Board meetings are kept. Minutes are on the School District web site and hard copies are in the SAU office available any time.

At 9:40 p.m. Mark Borrin moved, and Fox Smith seconded a motion, to adjourn under RSA 91-A:3, Paragraph 11(a), (b), (c). A roll call vote was taken with all members answering in the affirmative.