

**SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING APPROVED MINUTES**  
**MVHS CAFETERIA**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024 SCHOOL BOARD 6:00PM**

Live Viewing at: <https://meet.google.com/yok-odcy-hpg>

School Board Members Present: Greg Buccina, Peter DeFilipp, Darcy Klein, Allison Long, Dan Hodge, Veronica “Bonnie” Child, Erin Hinkley, Ed Bulger, Chad Culleton(online), Kristen Chapman, Janet Brennick

School Board Members Absent: Vacant- Hanover Rep., Vacant- Roxbury Rep.

Staff & Community Present: Deb Alden, Matthew Gilbert, Brian Carrier, Margaret Therriault, Devin Roberts, Tom Danylik, Jodi Ellis, Bethany Meehan- Poulin, Jeanne LaPointe, Chris Carver, Deb Carver, Marianne Hutchinson, Amanda Provencher, Alyvia Theriault, Jennifer LeDuc, Aiden Gordon, Candice Casey, Amanda Hamner, Donna Rowe, Students, Staff, Community Members

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

1. Welcome- Superintendent Alden

**II. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

If yes: None

Motion:

Second:

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

(This is the time for the public to comment in-person at School Board Meetings)

Amanda Provencher- Expressed concerns with leadership and atmosphere at MES/RES. She also expressed, in her opinion, nepotism, transparency/communication, and student behavior issues, along with concerns about water quality at MES.

Alyvia Theriault- Expressed concerns with possible/potential split schedules at MVHS.

Jennifer LeDuc- Expressed concerns for students/staff at MVMS and expressed her desire that all decisions by the Board be informed and made in the very best interest of students.

Candice Casey- Expressed her appreciation to Board members asking questions of administration.

Aiden Gordon- Expressed concerns with possible/potential split schedules at MVHS.

Amanda Hamner- Expressed her lack of support for Remote Learning. She expressed gratitude to Crystal Duguay for her work with the Behavior Committee and her work at WFRP. She expressed, in her opinion, the inability of the administration to address critical issues and poor environmental conditions, along with not following IEP and 504 plans for students.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and Action to Finalize the Next Steps to Move MVMS Students to In-Person Learning.

Motion: J. Brennick

Second: V. Child

K. Chapman- Asked what specifically moving forward meant? She expressed not having enough information to vote on students moving into the buildings and expressed that the Board needs more detailed information, before making any decisions.

G. Buccina- Elaborated and explained after viewing the buildings with professionals, they could be a viable option.

Superintendent Alden- Elaborated on plans and processes in place to make sure the buildings are ready. She expressed that in a few comments/statements it sounded as though some Board members wanted students learning back in the MVMS building, and that she was not in support of that. She asked for clarification.

E. Hinkley- Expressed, she did not want students back in the MVMS building.

E. Hinkley- Agreed with K. Chapman

P. DeFilipp, C. Culleton, and A. Long- Support testing of air quality and making sure buildings are safe and ready for students and staff and moving forward with the plan and process proposed by the Superintendent and administrators.

K. Chapman- Expressed her desire and requirement that proper procedures are being followed throughout this process, including facilities, costs, architectural studies, air quality testing and that the Board receive all information prior to voting to move students to the buildings.

\*After continued discussion and expressed concerns by some Board members and further explanation by G. Buccina and Superintendent Alden, J. Brennick AMENDED her motion and V. Child AMENDED Second.\*:

Motion: J. Brennick made a motion to allow moving forward with progress to ensure that the two proposed buildings in Mexico will be safe and ready for students and staff, including air quality testing and architectural studies of the buildings and lease information on the two buildings.

Second: V. Child

Unanimous

#### **V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Al. Long- Thanked all community members for their comments and courage to address the Board, especially the students.

Superintendent Alden- Asked the BG&T Director, Devin Roberts to speak on behalf of “lead “ in the water at MES and lack of hot water at RES, to address a question from E. Bulger.

D. Roberts- Expressed that a few years ago there was an issue, but was mitigated by replacing fixtures, piping, etc. , since annual water testing done by the State, there have been no issues finding lead in any of our schools water sources. He explained that all drinking water sources have replaceable filters that change color when they need to be replaced. He also addressed the comment with regard to a building not having hot water; in the process of repair with Specialty Services.

E. Hinkley- Expressed that parents' concerns and feelings be validated by the Board and that the Board, in her opinion, be more proactive and less reactive to comments and concerns.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: V. Child

Second: J. Brennick

Unanimous at 6:58pm