

MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #2

Tuesday, January 27, 2015

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Roll Call and Call to Order

Board Members Present: President Robert Yeo, Vice President Lawrence VanWasshenova, Secretary Ryan Philbeck, Parliamentarian Dr. Tedd March, Trustee Matthew Bunkelman, Trustee Floreine Mentel, and Trustee Cynthia Taylor

Board Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Barry Martin, Julie Everly, Ryan McLeod, Katherine Eighmey, Jerry Oley

Administrators Absent: David Payne

President Yeo called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Classroom Makeover Contest Winners

Tim Wittman of Meemic Insurance presented checks to the winners of the classroom makeover contest that was held in November. Winners included Melissa Stewart from Manor School, Elise Dinwoody from Monroe Middle School, and Allison Kwasniak from Monroe High School.

Public Commentary-Agenda Items Only

Selma Rankins gave his commentary early so he could attend the boys' basketball game. He's happy that an elementary principal saw the movie "Selma" over the weekend. He hopes more teachers will follow her example.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to approve the minutes of the following meetings as submitted:

- January 13, 2015, Board Work Session
- January 13, 2015, Board Organizational Meeting
- January 13, 2015, Board Meeting #1
- January 22, 2015, Special Board Meeting (2 sets)
- January 22, 2015, Closed Meeting (2 sets)

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Reports and Update

The Informational Report – Contracted Coaches was received.

Staff Resignation

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mrs. Taylor to approve the resignation from Monroe Public Schools of Janis Fortner-Allison effective February 6, 2015.

Discussion: Mr. VanWasshenova liked the content of Mrs. Allison's resignation letter. Mrs. Everly stated that the letter was very reflective of how Mrs. Allison worked with our students and families.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

MASC State Leadership Conference

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Bunkelman to approve the Monroe High School students' attendance at the Michigan Association of Student Councils State Leadership Conference in Acme, Michigan, according to the terms of Policy IICA, Field Trips and Excursions.

Discussion: Dr. McLeod said this is a wonderful opportunity for student council members to network and make connections with other student council members across the state.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Wrestling Mats

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Bunkelman to approve the purchase of a MHSAA wrestling mat from EZ Flex Sport Mat not to exceed \$6,900.00 and reject all other quotes. Cost for the mat will be taken from the 2014/15 Athletic Fund.

Discussion: Dr. McLeod explained that this is an extremely discounted mat. There is an additional charge to have our logo added, but we will save shipping charges by picking up the mat ourselves.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Appointment of Certified Public Accountant

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. Philbeck to employ the accounting firm of Cooley, Hehl, Wohlgamuth & Carlton, Certified Public Accountants, to perform the annual audit of financial records and funds of Monroe Public Schools for the years ending June 30, 2015, 2016, and 2017 at an annual cost of \$28,550 in conformance with prescribed standards and legal requirements of the State of Michigan. The district reserves the right to extend the contract an additional two years based on the satisfactory performance of audit services.

Discussion: Mr. Yeo has a concern with the length of the contract, but not with Cooley & Hehl. Mrs. Eighmey stated that the contract can be brought back to the board for approval after three years. Mrs. Taylor is glad that we employ a local firm.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

CSD-1 Testing on District Boilers

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Mentel to accept the bid of \$5,863.00 from Sieb Plumbing & Heating of Monroe, Michigan, to complete all CSD1 testing on all forty-one (41) district boilers. Money for this purchase will come from the Operations Budget.

Discussion: Testing on the boilers is required annually.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Superintendent Comments

Dr. Martin will be at MHS during the lunch hour tomorrow to chat with staff. He will visit all of the schools to meet with employees in an informal setting to talk about what is happening in the district and to hear comments and concerns. The next visit will be February 3 at Orchard Center High School.

The eighth grade open house at Monroe High School is scheduled for this Thursday 5:30-8:30 p.m. for members of the incoming class of 2019 and their parents. Principal Val Orr and her staff have put together a series of sessions with such titles as "Learning Science in a Living Lab on Lake Erie," "Preparing for a career through Career Tech Ed," "Focus on Creativity: Visual and Performing Arts," and "Why choose MHS?" Ignition mentors will lead building tours and there will be an open house in the Learning Commons.

The hockey team will play against St. Mary Catholic Central at 6:50 p.m. this Friday in the annual River Cup Game. On Saturday, 19 different competitive cheer teams will participate at Monroe High School in the 5th annual Monroe Invitational Girls Competitive Cheerleading event.

The morning announcements at Raisinville have been replaced by a morning newscast which is shared on social media, including the Raisinville Facebook page. The news team consists of three sixth grade newscasters, camera operators, writers and a second grade resident meteorologist.

Raisinville continues to explore the IB schools. Two teachers – Mr. Ian Cooke and Mrs. Kendra Sulfaro – have developed a fourth-grade IB inquiry unit on human migration. The students have been excited and engaged about this approach to learning.

Raisinville students in Mrs. Carolyn Lynch's room are learning to crochet during their indoor recess so they can make blankets for the Humane Society. Twenty-one students and two parent volunteers who come in during the school day are involved in the activity which is part of Raisinville's Take Action Initiative.

Congratulations to the 121 eighth grade and 98 seventh grade Monroe Middle School students who received all A's in the second quarter.

At Monroe High School, Trojan Family Time is meeting each day this week. This will give our seniors time to look into colleges while our freshmen, sophomores, and juniors start Career Cruising to see what sort of jobs interest them. All of this is part of Monroe High's drive to instill a college-going culture. Names of seniors are already starting to appear next to pennants of the colleges to which they are applying.

To benefit MPS Vocal Arts Day, the vocal music department is sponsoring a silent auction and hot chocolate bar on February 6th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church. Tickets are \$5 each and are available at the door or from our vocal music teachers.

Wednesday, February 4, is the next one-hour early release.

The second official count day will be February 11. This count day represents 10% of our state funding.

Best wishes this week and next to our instrumentalists who are competing in the solo and ensemble contests at Livonia Franklin High School. High school students will be competing this Thursday, January 29, and our middle school students will be competing February 7.

Old Business

Mr. Bunkelman attended the City Council meeting and gave public commentary about MPS working together with the city, especially the parks and rec department. He proposed a future discussion about developing the Christiancy property. Mr. Yeo suggested having a work session to talk more about Mr. Bunkelman's conversation with the city, and to provide a history to board members who weren't serving at the time buildings were closed.

Mrs. Mentel is still working with Troy Goodnough to get an educational program in the jail for 17 and 18 year old inmates.

New Business

Mrs. Everly will get a summary of what each building is doing in honor of black history month and will present it to the Board at a meeting in February.

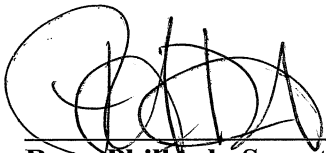
Public Commentary-Any Topic

There was none at this time.

Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. VanWasshenova that the January 27, 2015, Board Meeting #2 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 hand vote at 7:50 p.m.



Ryan Philbeck, Secretary