

MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #4

Monday, February 25, 2013

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Roll Call and Call to Order

Board Members Present: President Robert Yeo, Vice President Lawrence VanWasshenova, Secretary June Knabusch-Taylor, Parliamentarian Aaron N. Mason, Trustee Dr. Tedd March, and Trustee Ryan Philbeck

Board Members Absent: Trustee Wendy Spicer

Administrators Present: Randy Monday, Julie Everly, Ryan McLeod, Katherine Eighmey, Barry Martin

Administrators Absent: Jerry Oley, David Payne

President Yeo called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

MEAP Presentation

Dr. Barry Martin presented a power point explaining our 2012 MEAP scores. This data measures progress for students from the 2011/12 school year. We are close to the state average in reading and have shown growth in several grade levels in math. Writing in 7th grade showed the biggest improvement we have seen out of all the content areas. Our in depth district wide writing initiative implemented over the past three years was evidenced in our writing scores. As for science and social studies, the scores are low across the state.

In science, each grade level has four big ideas to cover. Teachers are doing their best to fit all of these ideas into the curriculum. We stress hands-on science activities but we have found that high performing readers and writers are the students who do well in the science portion of the MEAP.

A new accountability system will be implemented and each school will be ranked on a top to bottom list based on achievement improvement. Schools will also receive a scorecard color which is based on meeting proficiency targets in all five subjects and all sub-groups.

Schools will be ranked as:

Reward schools (top 5% in the state)

Focus schools (gap between the top 30% and bottom 30% of students)

Priority schools (bottom 5% of schools on the top to bottom list)

Based on our MEAP data, we will begin revising our district school improvement plan.

Public Commentary-Agenda Items Only

Selma Rankins, citizen, noted that the MEAP scores are not very good and that our scores are below state averages.

Ashley Epps, MHS student, would like the high school renamed in honor of Rosa Parks.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor to approve the following minutes as submitted:

- February 12, 2013 Special Work Session
- February 12, 2013 Board Meeting #3
- February 19, 2013 Special Work Session

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Reports and Update

The February 20, 2013 Board Physical Resource Committee Minutes and the February 21, 2013 Board Policy Committee minutes were received without comments.

Staff Resignations

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Mr. Yeo to approve the resignations of Viola Switlik at the end of the 2012/13 school year and Jennifer Watterworth effective June 30, 2013 from Monroe Public Schools.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Consent Agenda – Field Trips

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Philbeck that Agenda Items C.5 - C.10 be considered as a Consent Agenda, and that the consent agenda items be approved as recommended.

- DECA State Career Development Conference - Monroe High School students' attendance at the DECA State Career Development Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan
- First Robotics Competition – St. Joseph, Michigan - Monroe High School students' attendance at the First Robotics Regional Competition being held in St. Joseph, Michigan
- First Robotics Competition – Cleveland, Ohio - Monroe High School students' attendance at the First Robotics Regional Competition being held in Cleveland, Ohio
- First Robotics Competition – Cincinnati, Ohio - Monroe High School students' attendance at the First Robotics Regional Competition being held in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Upward Bound Student Leadership Conference - Upward Bound Program overnight trip to Lansing, Michigan from March 17 through the 19th, 2013
- Girls State Bowling Tournament - Monroe High School student attendance at the State Bowling Tournament in Muskegon, Michigan

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Introduction of Student

Tom West, MHS student, was at the meeting to fulfill a requirement of student council that he attend a school board meeting. Tom will be attending Concordia University next fall and play football and baseball there.

Superintendent Comments

- Cameron Craig, a freshman swimmer at MHS broke a school record set by Monroe Sports Hall-of-Famer Mike McCloskey that was set 33 years ago in 1980. Cameron won the 100 Butterfly event at the SEC Championship meet Saturday with a time of 51:69. Cameron also broke the Southeast Conference record in the 100 Backstroke with a time of 51.69, the record previously held by Matt Nemeth, a 2005 MHS graduate.
- At MHS, the MME and ACT tests are set for March 5-7. Juniors will be testing all three days. We will be offering a second bus run for students in other grades not testing. Those Wednesday and Thursday runs will start exactly four hours after the normal bus run time.

- In the recent HOSA regional leadership conference we had six first-place winners, including one team. Also, three second-place winners, including one team, and three third place winners, including one team. We also had an honorable mention who qualified for the state conference which will be held in April in Traverse City.
- Monroe High also had a state qualifier in the solo and ensemble vocal contest recently. Sarah Guy, who has performed well at the state level before, qualified again to participate in the state competition.
- We will continue our series of town hall meetings for safety and security at 4:00 p.m., Monday, March 4 at Waterloo Elementary.
- On March 6 at 7:00 p.m. at MHS, the National Honor Society induction ceremonies will be held.
- Wednesday, February 27 at 5:30 p.m. at MHS, the girls basketball team host the district basketball tournament.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Mr. Yeo noted that since Mr. Monday has announced his retirement, the Board of Education will be searching for his replacement. The Board welcomes any thoughts or opinions as they move forward over the next several months in regard to the search for a new superintendent. He suggested one avenue would be to hire a search firm. One that he is familiar with is Michigan Leadership Institute and the cost would be in the \$5,000-\$7,500 range.

Motion by Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor; support by Dr. March that Mr. Yeo begin the process of the superintendent search by contacting Michigan Leadership Institute and arranging for them to meet with our Board of Education to discuss this process.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Dr. March for central administration to solicit letters of interest for the position of Superintendent of schools and that the letters of interest be received before the next board meeting on March 12, 2013.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Several board members noted that while there is some improvement in our MEAP scores, more improvement needs to be done.

Public Commentary-Any Topic

Mr. Rankins would like the Board to consider naming a school in honor of Rosa Parks.

Adjournment

Motion by Dr. March; support by Mr. VanWasshenova that the February 25, 2013, Board Meeting #4 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 hand vote at 8:20 p.m.



June Knabusch-Taylor, Secretary