

MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #17

Tuesday, September 24, 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, Trustee Ryan Philbeck, and Trustee Wendy Spicer

Board Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Julie Everly, Ryan McLeod, Katherine Eighmey

Administrators Absent: Barry Martin, Jerry Oley, David Payne

President Yeo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MHS Homecoming and Pride Night

MHS Principal Valerie Orr introduced student council members and advisor Anne Knabusch who gave board members an overview of Homecoming week which starts October 7. Mrs. Orr thanked Mrs. Knabusch for the fantastic job she does as student council advisor.

Monroe Pride Night is this Thursday, 5:00-8:00 p.m. Student Jake LaBeau spoke about the activities that are planned for Pride Night which will help raise funds to buy books for classroom libraries. Shannon Collum, teacher and literacy coach, shared the high school's push for literacy and how they will encourage students to become ravenous readers by providing books and magazines they like. Mrs. Orr stated that the goal of Monroe Pride Night is to get families into our high school so they can become familiar with the school, and to raise funds to build classroom libraries.

Public Commentary-Agenda Items Only

There was no public commentary at this time.

Approval of Minutes

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

- September 10, 2013 Board Meeting #16 Minutes

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

Reports and Update

The September 9, 2013 Board Personnel Committee Minutes and the September 16, 2013 Board Curriculum Committee Minutes were received by the Board. Mr. Mason commented on wording in the Personnel minutes that was connected to his name. The minutes will be changed to reflect his intent. Mrs. Spicer remarked that the minutes are comprehensive and she is appreciative.

MMS and MHS i-Ready Progress Monitoring Tool

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to approve the purchase of i-Ready Progress Monitoring Tool for MMS and MHS at a cost of \$34,203.50. Money for this purchase will come from the

Secondary Curriculum Account.

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

MHS AP Biology Textbook

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Dr. March to approve the purchase of the AP Biology textbooks from Pearson at a cost not to exceed \$7,000.00. Money for this purchase will come from the Secondary Curriculum Textbook account.

Discussion: According to the College Board, schools must utilize a textbook published within the last ten years. Therefore, arrangements have been made with the publisher to purchase the 2014 version which will be available in January. Between now and January, students will have access to the online version of the new textbook.

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

Superintendent Comments

- Dr. Martin is at a superintendent's conference this week, so he asked Mrs. Everly and Dr. McLeod to share comments with the Board.
- We are very proud of two Monroe High School construction trades students who were featured last Friday when the United Way of Monroe County held its campaign kickoff meeting. Peter Passenger and Kelcie Myers spoke to the group about what it meant to them to build a house for Habitat for Humanity, which is a United Way sponsored agency. Peter made the comment that if it weren't for the construction trades class, he probably would not be in school. The United Way also recognized MHS 2013 graduate Brandi Miller who talked about how important Upward Bound was for her while she was in high school. She is now a student at MCCC and plans to attend Wayne State University to study to be a doctor.
- Monroe High School student council held its first American Red Cross blood drive of the year yesterday and attracted 48 productive whole blood donors, which included students and staff.
- Dr. McLeod thanked the Board for approving the resources to help push literacy at the secondary level, and for their support in hiring the literacy coach at the high school.
- MEAP tests have arrived and testing will begin on October 8. Formal testing will end on October 16, and all makeup testing must be completed by October 25. Our 3rd through 9th grade students take part in this test.
- Another important date coming up is Count Day which is October 2. This is one of two count days for the year. This first count day accounts for 90% of our student funding.
- The Navy Band is coming to Monroe this Saturday as part of a celebration at the Battlefield, and two of our musical groups have been asked to play adjacent to their performance. The Frenchtown Fiddlers directed by Ann Felder, and the Monroe High School Band under the direction of Jim Nuechterlein will join in the celebration.
- Mrs. Everly invited the Board to our first district improvement workshop of the school year at Monroe County Community College tomorrow from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Old Business

Mrs. Spicer asked if there are plans to do anything with the Christiancy lot. Several neighbors have approached her about being part of a committee to help make that decision. At this point, the Board is going to wait a year or two to do anything. This can also be discussed at a future workshop.

Mr. Yeo would like to have an additional workshop in October to further discuss the Board's financial philosophy. This additional workshop will take place on October 8, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

Dr. March referred to a discrepancy on the cost to air condition the gym at Monroe High School between Dr. Ray and Mr. Oley, and if it's possible to get an unofficial bid. Dr. McLeod said the architect would need to be involved to put together a scope of the work that would need to be done. He believes that the scope of work to be done is the primary difference between Dr. Ray's and Mr. Oley's projected cost. We could put together two scopes that people could bid on; one with an independent system and one that would connect to the existing system. All agreed that it's something to explore.

New Business

There was no new business

Public Commentary-Any Topic

There was none at this time.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Mason that the September 24, 2013, Board Meeting #17 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 hand vote at 8:02 p.m.


June Knabusch-Taylor, Secretary