

# MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #21

November 26, 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 Wendy Spicer

Board Members Absent: Trustee Ryan Philbeck

Administrators Present: Barry Martin, Julie Everly, Ryan McLeod, Katherine Eighmey, David Payne

Administrators Absent: Jerry Oley

President Yeo called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

### Public Commentary-Agenda Items Only

Selma Rankins, citizen, enjoyed a conversation he had with Mrs. Orr, Monroe High School principal. He is very impressed with the things that are happening at MHS.

### Approval of Minutes

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

- November 12, 2013 Work Session
- November 12, 2013 Board Meeting #20

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

### Reports and Update

The November 4, 2013 Board Personnel Committee Minutes, November 14, 2013 Board Policy Committee Minutes and Informational Report – Contracted Coaches

Discussion: The football coaches listed on the recommendations are for this past season. Because Dr. Ray provided recommendations to the Board early, not all positions were filled. Dr. Ray will continue to bring coaching recommendations to the Board early, but he will provide the Board with any additions on a monthly basis.

### Coaching Recommendations

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to approve the above listed coaches for the 2013-14 school year; as per the MCEA master agreement.

Discussion: We will continue to bring coaching recommendations en masse, but additions and/or updates will be done on a monthly basis.

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

### MMS Competitive Cheerleading

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Mason to approve MHSAA Competitive Cheerleading as a Middle School club sport. There will be no additional cost to the District since the program would be

self-funded.

Discussion: This is an athletic activity and should be supervised by an administrator. MHSAA puts in very strict guidelines and safety procedures.

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

### **MPS Scholarship Fund to Education Foundation**

Motion by Dr. March; support by Mr. Mason to approve the transfer of the Monroe Public Schools Scholarship funds to the Education Foundation of Monroe with the stipulation that all conditions, limitations or requirements related to these funds as “gifts” to Monroe Public Schools remain in place once the funds are transferred and that the Foundation will establish an advisory committee, that includes at least one MPS administrator, within the Foundation for management of these funds. Also, Monroe Public Schools would retain the right to move these scholarship funds back to the control of Monroe Public Schools for any reason at any time if deemed appropriate and necessary by the scholarship advisory committee or by the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education.

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

### **Cisco UCS Servers Purchase**

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Ms. Spicer to approve the purchase of 48 16GB memory sticks for our Cisco UCS servers from Inacomp at a cost not to exceed \$9,840. Money for this purchase will come from the Technology Millage budget.

Discussion: This is for six servers and will double the amount of memory.

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

### **Superintendent Comments**

- Students at Raisinville School were “Jumping with Jill” as part of a national tour of a rock and roll nutrition show. Raisinville was one of only twelve schools in the state, and the only one chosen in Monroe County, to host this interactive program dedicated to eating right and making healthy lifestyle choices. Raisinville was selected because one of the school families (a mom and her two sons) taped a short video about the value of drinking milk, and it was judged one of the best in the state. This program is sponsored by the Utility Dairy Industry of Michigan and is associated with the Fuel Up to Play 60 program supported by the National Football League. The visit also is part of a nutrition and fitness push for the entire family that will start at Raisinville in January.
- Tune into My 98.3 FM radio station during the weeks of December 9 and December 16 to hear vocal groups from Monroe Middle School and Monroe High School sing songs of the season live on the radio. The choirs will perform eight of the ten days during those two weeks around 7:45 a.m.
- Last Tuesday, a number of Monroe High School staff and former students met at Monroe High with representatives of some of the largest employers in Monroe County to talk about how we prepare students for life after high school and what kinds of things the employers want us to work on with the students. It was a great start to be able to get some face-to-face time with these corporate representatives and we already are following up with them to see what types of partnerships can be developed. Among the employers who were present were Mercy-Memorial Hospital, La-Z-Boy, Gerdau Special Steel, Ventower, Monroe Bank & Trust, the County of Monroe and DTE Energy.
- Thanks to our friends from the Chrysler Engine Plant in Dundee whose employees donated more than 300 warm winter coats to Monroe Public Schools. The coats will be handed out at Waterloo, Custer and Monroe High. The coats are new for the most part and were purchased by the Chrysler employees and the support of Local 723 of the UAW.
- Congratulations to the healthy lunch eaters at Monroe High. For the second year in a row they finished second nationally in a healthy eating contest held throughout October, earning the school a

check for \$2,000 from Sodexo. In October, students were encouraged to purchase full meals, healthy snacks and healthy beverages in the cafeteria. Points are earned for every purchase made. The check for \$2,000 will be presented to the student council in the near future.

- The Sodexo Foundation has created a \$1,000 grant to help support the backpack program which provides weekend food for 100 families throughout the district. The check will be presented to Gleaners Food Bank later this month.
- The MCOP and Gleaners Food Bank recognized several of our schools for their generosity in recent weeks. Custer Schools raised more than \$500 to purchase books for the Sunrise House. Monroe Middle School collected more than 1,100 personal and hygiene items for the homeless and Monroe High collected enough food to provide 345 meals. Several of our groups also participated in the Walk for Warmth.
- On Saturday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m., our girls' basketball team will take on SMCC in the annual Pink Out game to be held at SMCC. The event will help raise money for the Mercy Memorial Hospital Cancer Connection. That same day at 2:00 p.m., our Monroe United hockey team takes on SMCC at the Monroe Multi-Sports Complex. Both games will be televised on MPACT.
- Over the next few weeks, our instrumental and vocal music programs will be front and center in the community with about two dozen live concerts and mini-concerts in such places as Mercy-Memorial Hospital, Monroe Senior Center, various senior citizen housing and in the schools. If you are interested in any of the school concerts, please check the website calendar.
- Sue Sacks and the Theatre Company of Monroe High School presented an excellent performance of Seussical the Musical this past weekend.

### **Old Business**

Mr. Yeo thanked Ms. Spicer for composing the Thanksgiving Day letter on behalf of the Board. The letter will be emailed to all Monroe Public Schools staff.

Mr. Yeo attended the business forum at Monroe High School and complimented the administration for collaborating with the community, and thanked Mr. Vergiels for his part in organizing the forum.

### **New Business**

Kelly McMahon, Manor School principal, talked about the process of a Focus School. Manor was identified as a Focus School in August. They met with their consultant, Dr. Weber, in October. They had to make sure their work was aligned with the districts improvement plan and their school improvement plan. Dr. Weber came back in November and they began to put their plan together. They had to rate themselves going from a very traditional school to a very strategic school. They reviewed several structures that were recommended as a strategic school already in place, and they chose to write their plan looking at the rigor in the places that were already together. This isn't something new to the staff, but it encourages them to pay more attention to what's approved and aligned, and looking at particular students to target this instruction.

### **Public Commentary-Any Topic**

There was none at this time.

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor that the November 26, 2013, Board Meeting #21 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 hand vote at 7:46 p.m.

*June Knabusch-Taylor*  
June Knabusch-Taylor, Secretary

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