

Official

**MONROE BOARD OF EDUCATION
1275 North Macomb Street, Monroe, Michigan 48162
Minutes – Board Meeting #6 – March 22, 2011**

David Vensel, President
Kenneth McNamee, Vice-President
June Knabusch-Taylor, Secretary
Tedd March, Parliamentarian
Ronald Benore, Jr., Trustee
Wendy Spicer, Trustee
Lawrence VanWasshenova, Trustee

Randall Monday, Superintendent
M. Christine Butler, Assistant Superintendent, K-12 Curriculum
Kenneth Laub, Assistant Superintendent, Business & Finance
Jennifer Watterworth, Secretary to Superintendent and Board

MINUTES

Roll Call and Call to Order: The regular meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Mr. Vensel.

Board Members Present	Board Members Absent	Others Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Benore• Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor• Dr. McNamee• Dr. March• Ms. Spicer• Mr. VanWasshenova• Mr. Vensel		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Monday• Mrs. Butler• Mr. Laub

Student Leadership Conference Update (Upward Bound)

Anthony Quinn introduced two students (Will Schwab and Amanda Sharpe) who attended the February 19-20, 2011 student leadership conference in Kalamazoo. Through a power point presentation, the students summarized the events at the conference. In all, six students were in attendance at the conference.

MHS Student Play

Sue Sacks, MHS theater director, and three students (Erik Burke, Joe McNamee and Maddie Burke) invited the board members and audience to attend the students' upcoming environmental theater presentation of "Mystery Maze." The audience participation performance will be April 1st and 2nd at 7:00 PM, and April 3rd at 3:00 PM at MHS. Tickets are \$10 each, which include a dessert buffet, and can be pre-ordered only.

Public Commentary

- Selma Rankins noted that Amanda Sharpe (who attended the Upward Bound leadership conference) had attended both Lincoln and Christiancy elementary schools.
- Mr. Vensel asked that everyone remember the men and women serving our country in the military.

Approval of Minutes

Move to approve the following minutes:

- March 8, 2011 Board Work Session
- March 8, 2011 Board Meeting #5

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor.

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

Reports and Updates

The minutes of the March 9, 2011 Community Relations Committee were accepted without comments.

Overnight Out of State Trip to the DECA International Career Development Conference at the Hilton Walt Disney World Hotel

Move to approve the Monroe High School students' overnight trip to the 2011 DECA International Career Development Conference at the Hilton Walt Disney World Hotel and Conference Center Friday, April 29, 2011 until Wednesday, May 4, 2011 according to the terms of Bylaw IICA, Field Trips and Excursions.

Motion by Dr. McNamee; support by Dr. March.

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

Resolution Declaring April as the Month of the Young Child

Move to approve April as Young Child Month Resolution as presented.

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Dr. March.

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

Old Business

- Ms. Spicer asked for an update on her request to discontinue financing police representation at board meetings. Mr. Monday said that had been resolved and we will no longer have an officer present at board meetings.
- Dr. McNamee asked Mr. Vergiels for an update on our application to have President Obama speak at MHS graduation. Mr. Vergiels reported that the application had been submitted and now we are just waiting for the results.
- Dr. March asked how kindergarten registration went. Mrs. Butler noted that registrations were steady and resulted in a little over 300 students enrolled for the 2011/2012 school year.

New Business

- Dr. McNamee addressed the fact that at this point, we have only one candidate for the high school principal position which may be due to the fact that the current salary base is not keeping up with demands of the position. Motion by Dr. McNamee; support by Mr. Benore to approve the administration's recommendation to increase the beginning salary of the high school principal to \$102,668.

Discussion: Mr. VanWasshenova said that in light of the fact that we are asking people to reduce salaries, this increase would be the wrong thing to do at this time. Dr. March would like to wait to decide on this increase until he sees how this will fit into the budget. Mr. Benore stated an increase is needed to attract a good, long term leader for the high school as this is one of the most important decisions the board will have to make for next year's planning.

Vote: Motion failed by a 3-4 roll call vote. Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor, Dr. March, Ms. Spicer and Mr. VanWasshenova voted no.

- Motion by Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor; support by Mr. VanWasshenova that in order to have a sufficient number of candidates to interview for the high school principal position, the deadline to apply be extended by another month if we only have one candidate by March 31st.

Discussion: Mr. Benore pointed out that we don't have to accept the candidates if we only have one that applies. Dr. McNamee did not see the need for the motion. Ms. Spicer questioned how much time Mr. Laub needed to include the salary increases in the budget. Mr. Laub responded that the increases we were discussing were not that significant in the

overall development of the budget therefore, it would not take a lot of time to complete. Mr. Monday pointed out that we would never stop searching for quality candidates. Mr. Vensel encouraged the board to step up in their leadership as important decisions need to be made. Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

- Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor asked if the question of the high school principal's salary could be brought back up again at a future meeting. Dr. McNamee said that the motion to rescind has to be the first item on the agenda and it has to be made by one of the people that voted against the original motion.

Superintendent's Comments

- The MPS music groups continue to receive accolades. At the District 12 festival held at the Monroe County Community College, our MHS Wind Ensemble and the MMS Orchestra earned Division I ratings.
- Sixty-five MHS seniors who will be 18 by May 3rd registered to vote at a voter drive held at MHS last week. A special thanks go out to our Young Democrats and Young Republications as well as Mrs. Anne Knabusch who was instrumental in pulling the groups together.
- MMS students will participate in a "Kick Butts" program March 23rd which is a nationwide initiative to stop youth tobacco use.
- Congratulations to MHS sophomore, John Parker, has been selected as the HOBY (Hugh O'Brien Youth) leadership representative May 20-22 at Northwood University in Midland. John plans to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado after he graduates in two years.
- The Monroe-SMCC baseball game will be held April 16 at Fifth Third Field in Toledo. Tickets are \$15 each and will include admission to the Monroe-SMCC game as well as a voucher for a future Mud Hens game.
- Delsie Sissoko's 5th grade class at Arborwood South is hosting a health fair in the school gym on Thursday, March 31 on "hot health topics." The event runs from 4-5:30 PM and is open to the public.
- MHS and MMS will be supporting the nationwide Autism Speaks Light It Up Blue campaign on Friday, April 1, 2011. Light Up Trojans blue silicone wrist bracelets also are being sold for \$2 by the MMS National Junior Honor Society with proceeds to benefit autism awareness and research.
- Also Friday, April 1, purple will be the dominant color at MHS on the track as the student council hosts its Twilight Track Meet to benefit Monroe's Fairview Home.
- Manor School will be asking its neighbors to participate in a survey. The school is seeking input on a number of topics about how the school, its staff and students interact with parents, area business people and their employees and neighbors.
- Six current or former MPS students were recently honored by the Monroe County Chapter, American Red Cross' Every Day Hero awards.
- MPS will have a booth at the Celebrate Children Festival Saturday, April 2 at the Mall of Monroe.
- The Scholarship Committee's art auction will be held Friday, March 25th at the Monroe Golf and Country Club. The silent auction begins at 6:00 PM with the live auction beginning at 7:00 PM. All money raised will be used as scholarships for our MHS seniors.

Public Commentary – Any

- Yvonne Gnaedinger mentioned that in the Monroe Evening News' millage article, there was an incorrect use of the word "cents."
- Selma Rankins suggested a current employee be considered as the next MHS principal.
- Amy Pace asked about the process that will be used for the certified staff layoffs. Mr. Monday said administration will be following contractual timelines for this process. To be in compliance with state law, certified staff must be notified 60 days prior to the end of the fiscal year of layoff.
- Chris Butler reminded board members of upcoming student reinstatement hearings as well as discipline hearings.

Adjournment

Move that the March 22, 2011 Board Meeting #6 be adjourned.

Motion by Dr. McNamee; support by Mr. VanWasshenova.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 hand vote at 8:00 PM.



JUNE KNABUSCH-TAYLOR, SECRETARY