

MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #6

March 24, 2015

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Roll Call and Call to Order

Board Members Present: President Robert Yeo, Vice President Lawrence VanWasshenova, Trustee Matthew Bunkelman, Trustee Floreine Mentel, and Trustee Cynthia Taylor

Board Members Absent: Secretary Ryan Philbeck, Parliamentarian Dr. Tedd March

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

Administrators Absent: None

President Yeo called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

Sodexo Update

Sodexo Foodservice Director Mark Haverciak shared a handout with the board and gave an update on the foodservice department. Sodexo has been with the district since 2002 and their contract has been renewed for another five years.

In October, they participated in the Healthy High School Challenge, and once again finished in the top ten. Mr. Haverciak presented a check for \$1,000 to Monroe High School student council members, which will be used for their Spring Fling.

Public Commentary-Agenda Items Only

There was none at this time.

Approval of Minutes

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

- March 10, 2015, Board Work Session
- March 10, 2015, Board Meeting #5
- March 19, 2015, Special Board Meeting (3 sets)
- March 19, 2015, Closed Meeting (3 sets)

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

Reports and Update

The March 16, 2015, Board Curriculum Committee Minutes were received.

Exempt Employee Appointment

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Taylor to approve the appointment of Jason King as a Level 2 Computer Technician for the 2014/15 school year effective March 25, 2015, and place on the appropriate salary level for this position, upon completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

Clerical Appointment

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Bunkelman to approve the appointment of Victoria Luokkala as Secretary with Monroe Public Schools effective March 25, 2015, and place on the appropriate salary level as contained in the Master Agreement, and upon completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

Staff Resignation

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Mentel to approve the resignation from Monroe Public Schools of Shonna (Jill) Wener effective March 18, 2015.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

Reinstatement Committee Recommendation

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to approve the recommendation of Monroe Public Schools Reinstatement Committee that Student #1 and Student #2 be reinstated to Orchard Center High School.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

HOSA State Leadership Conference

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Bunkelman to approve the attendance of 12 Monroe High School students at the HOSA State Leadership Conference in Traverse City, Michigan, according to the terms of Policy IICA, Field Trips and Excursions.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

DECA International Conference

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Taylor to approve the attendance of one (1) Monroe High School student at the DECA International Career Development Conference in Orlando, Florida, according to the terms of Policy IICA, Field Trips and Excursions.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

Board Policies – Second Reading and Approval

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mrs. Taylor to approve Board Policy 7000 – Instructional Program as written effective March 24, 2015.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

Adoption of Organizational Plan

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. Bunkelman to approve the reorganization of central office responsibilities for the two assistant superintendent positions effective July 1, 2015.

Discussion: Mr. Yeo commented that a tremendous amount of work has gone into developing this plan.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

Superintendent Comments

Broadway stars Dan Cooney and Jessica Grove will be here on March 31 working with our vocal music students and then perform a combined evening concert. This is the second vocal arts day – the first was two years ago when Three Men and a Tenor were brought in for an a cappella themed concert. Tickets for the “Broadway in Monroe” show are \$3 in advance or \$5 at the door. The night-time concert is at 7 p.m. and will be broadcast onto screens in the commons and in the band and choir rooms for student viewing and audience overflow.

The Monroe Middle School and Monroe High School Orchestras received Division 1 ratings at the district festival in Monroe, and both qualified for the state festival in April. Other MPS groups fared well too, with the MHS Concert Band, the MHS Wind Ensemble, and the MMS seventh and eighth grade bands all earning Division 2 ratings.

This past weekend, at the state solo and ensemble contest in Chelsea, thirteen MHS student musicians received either Division 1 or Division 2 ratings, with five of them earning Division 1.

The MHS Choirs had a great week at the District 12 Choral Festival at Lincoln High School. The Concert Choir performed on Wednesday and received an excellent (1) rating for performance and an overall rating of good (2). The MHS Expressions and Generations of Sound performed on Thursday and both received an excellent (1) rating in performance. Generations of Sound earned a perfect rating in sight reading and both Expressions and Generations of Sound received overall ratings of Excellent (1) and qualified to participate in the State Choral Festival in Mt. Pleasant in May.

With a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week, Monroe Middle School opened its Trojan Outfitters, the Eagle Scout project of Monroe High School sophomore Grant Prater. The “outfitters” which features hundreds of pieces of donated clothing, new undergarments and personal hygiene items, occupies a room in the northeast corner of MMS and looks just like a retail clothing store. Its items also sport the names of many brands popular with teens. With the clothing displayed in the “Outfitters” as it is in a retail store, students who have a need for clothing will have the experience of “shopping” for needed items, boosting their self-esteem. All items are free to those students who need them. The project took Grant, his family and friends some eight months to complete.

Monroe High School hosted its second trimester AIM banquet last week at the FOP Hall and 32 of our students qualified for the monetary awards by improving their GPAs by 15 percent or more over the trimester. The speeches by our students were inspiring. What these students had to go through to achieve their goals, and what their mentors – our staff people – did on their behalf to encourage them was impressive. 110 students were enrolled in the second trimester AIM program; nearly double that of the first trimester. The program is privately funded and a number of people have worked tirelessly on its behalf. They are called Angels and one of our board members, Ryan Philbeck, and his wife, Dorrie, were honored as Angels for their support of the program.

Another group of Monroe High School students will be honored this week when the Trojan Pride Program makes its debut. The program honors students who achieved a 3.0 or higher GPA in the 2013-2014 school year or who had a higher than average ACT score. The nearly 900 students who qualify for the Trojan Pride Club will receive a Trojan Pride Card which entitles them to many different rewards, both in school and in the community. For a student, the higher the GPA, the more rewards they are eligible for. The program was initiated by the MHS Parent Organization. The students will be recognized and the cards distributed to them in a short ceremony at 6 p.m. this Thursday in the MHS gym.

One of our biggest efforts of the year starts Monday and runs for three days when we hold our annual kindergarten registration at the Riverside Early Learning Center. Hours run 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday. No appointments are necessary. Representatives from the health department will be on hand for hearing and vision testing. In addition, the health department will offer immunizations on Monday for those incoming students who may not have had it previously.

Congratulations to Monroe High School senior Alan Blach who has qualified to participate in the national DECA conference in Orlando, Florida, this spring. He will compete in the Leadership Academy portion of the competition. He earned his national opportunity with a high finish in the state competition in Grand Rapids.

Tickets are on sale now for the Education Foundation of Monroe Public Schools fundraiser, "An Evening with Paul W. Smith." It will be held on Thursday, April 30, at the Monroe Golf & Country Club. Tickets are \$50 and are only available in advance. Money raised in the event goes to support our mini-grants for classroom teachers and to scholarships for graduating seniors.

Spring break starts on Friday, April 3, but a number of our employees will be volunteering a few hours when the Mobile Food Pantry comes to Orchard Center High School for a spring break food distribution. The first 200 qualified Monroe Public Schools families will receive a free food package. We have done this a number of times just before holidays or extended times off for our students and it has been very well received by our families who are eligible for the Federal Food Subsidy program or who are a family in transition.

Old Business

There was none at this time.

Mr. Yeo acknowledged the passing of Karen Herkimer who was a valued employee of Monroe Public Schools.

New Business

The Board will begin Dr. Martin's review, which will take approximately 30-45 days to complete.

Public Commentary-Any Topic

Cathy Albano asked the Board to consider keeping the Arborwood pool open consistently throughout the summer.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Mentel that the March 24, 2015, Board Meeting #6 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 hand vote at 8:00 p.m.



Ryan Philbeck, Secretary