

# MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #7

April 28, 2015

7:00 p.m.

## MINUTES

### **Roll Call and Call to Order**

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

Board Members Absent: Parliamentarian Dr. Tedd March

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

Administrators Absent: David Payne

President Yeo called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

### **Frenchtown Fiddlers**

Board members were treated to a performance by the Frenchtown Fiddlers, which is a group of students from Monroe Middle School and Monroe High School who meet one day a week after school under the direction of Ann Felder. They do a number of community performances through the Monroe County Historical Museum such as the lantern tours and events at the Sawyer House and Navarre Trading Post. Community performances this year have included several nursing homes, as well as the River Raisin National Battle Field.

### **Public Commentary-Agenda Items Only**

Normally at this time, public commentary is for agenda items only. The Board agreed to allow Mr. Rankins to speak at this time on non-agenda items.

Selma Rankins mentioned the May 5<sup>th</sup> election and that people can't explain to him what it's about. Monroe Public Schools should be more diverse; hire more black employees. He commented on the discipline of a student. He disagreed with the Education Foundation honoring Paul W. Smith.

### **Approval of Minutes**

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

- March 24, 2015, Board Work Session
- March 24, 2015, Board Meeting #6
- April 1, 2015, Special Board Meeting (2 sets)
- April 1, 2015, Closed Session
- April 14, 2015, Special Board Meeting
- April 14, 2015, Special Work Session
- April 14, 2015, Closed Session
- April 23, 2015, Special Board Meeting (3 sets)
- April 23, 2015, Closed Session (3 sets)

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

**Reports and Update**

The April 20, 2015, Board Curriculum Committee Meeting minutes were received.

**Staff Resignations**

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mrs. Mentel to approve the resignations from Monroe Public Schools of Victoria Luokkala effective at the end of the day on April 24, 2015; of Margaret Miller at the end of the day on May 29, 2015; of Crystal Caldwell, Joyce Pomerville, Robert Nichols, Lynn Colturi, Sandra Bonavero, Rebecca Gutierrez, Janelle Martin, Donna Heck and Kim Pearch at the end of the 2014/15 school year; and of Shelley Cormier as of June 30, 2015.

Discussion: Dr. McLeod stated this represents over 220 years of service to Monroe Public Schools. Mr. Yeo thanked these employees for their contributions to the district. Mr. Bunkelman also recognized their years of service and thanked them for the lives they have touched. Dr. Martin stated there has been discussion to be proactive on some of these positions so we're not waiting until later in the summer when the pool of candidates is smaller. Mr. Bunkelman appreciates administration being proactive, since less people choose teaching as a career and he thinks the public should be very concerned.

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

**Clerical Appointment**

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mrs. Taylor to approve the appointment of Rebecca Nye as Secretary with Monroe Public Schools effective Monday, April 27, 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 6-0 roll call vote.

**Teacher Appointment**

Motion by Mr. Bunkelman; support by Mrs. Mentel to approve the appointment of Riley Yamamoto as a teacher with Monroe Public Schools effective Wednesday, April 29, 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 6-0 roll call vote.

**BPA National Leadership Conference**

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to approve the attendance of one (1) Monroe High School student at the BPA National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California, according to the terms of Policy 7490, Field Trips and Excursions.

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

**Playground Mulch**

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Mentel to accept the bid of \$9,520.00 from Jack's Lawn Service of Monroe, Michigan, to provide playground mulch throughout the district. Money for this purchase will come from the Operations Budget.

Discussion: Mr. Bunkelman asked if recycled tires could be used instead of wood chips. Mr. Oley stated there are several products available, but they are cost prohibitive for us. He would like to go in that direction because it would be a one-time investment; however the product cost is astronomical. Mr. VanWasshenova said we need to look at long-term solutions even though the initial investment would be costly. Mr. Bunkelman suggested choosing a playground as a test model for a product other than wood chips, and see if a company would defer the cost for a demonstration with the hope of working with us on a long-term basis. Mr. Oley said estimates were received several years ago, and for a 20x20 spot the cost was \$30,000-\$50,000 for the prep work.

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

### **District Carpet Replacement**

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Bunkelman to accept the bid of \$48,963.00 from Runyon's Home Decorating of Monroe, Michigan, for carpet replacement throughout the district. Money for this purchase will come from the Building and Site Sinking Funds.

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

### **Window Replacement – Administration Building**

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to accept the bid of \$167,520.00 from Monroe Glass Co. of Monroe, Michigan, for window replacement at the Administration Building and reject all other bids. Money for this project will come from the Building and Site Sinking Fund.

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

### **Roofing Replacement – Arborwood South**

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to accept the bid of \$97,000.00 from Nordmann Roofing of Toledo, Ohio, for roofing replacement at Arborwood South Elementary School and reject all other bids. Money for this project will come from the Building and Site Sinking Fund.

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

### **A-Wing Roof Replacement – Monroe High School**

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Mentel to accept the bid of \$132,510.00 from Advanced Roofing, Inc. of Westland, Michigan, for A-Wing roof replacement at Monroe High School and reject all other bids. Money for this project will come from the Building and Site Sinking Fund.

Discussion: Prior to the motion, Mr. Oley explained that A-wing has developed several leaks. He contacted the insurance company and after multiple conversations with the assessors and engineers, it was determined to be hail damage. Hopefully, the cost will be covered partially through insurance. Mr. VanWasshenova thanked Mr. Oley for following up with the insurance company.

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

### **Masonry Repairs – Monroe High School**

Motion by Mrs. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Philbeck to accept the combined bid (Proposal A, Alternate A-1, Alternate A-2) of \$207,750.00 from Grunwell-Cashero Co. of Toledo, Ohio, for masonry repairs at Monroe High School and reject all other bids. Money for this project will come from the Building and Site Sinking Fund.

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

### **Parking Lot Re-Construction – Monroe High School**

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to accept the bid of \$678,876.00 from Best Asphalt, Inc. of Romulus, Michigan, for parking lot reconstruction at Monroe High School and reject all other bids. Money for this project will come from the Building and Site Sinking Fund.

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

### **Roofing Replacement – Monroe Middle School**

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mrs. Taylor to accept the combined bid (Proposal A, Alternate A-1) of \$293,000.00 from Royal West Roofing of Brighton, Michigan, for roofing replacement at Monroe Middle School and reject all other bids. Money for this project will come from the Building and Site Sinking Fund.

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

### **Window & HVAC Update – Monroe Middle School**

Motion by Mr. Philbeck; support by Mr. Bunkelman to accept the bid of \$569,000.00 from Envision Builders of Wixom, Michigan, for window and HVAC update at Monroe Middle School and reject all other bids. Money for this project will come from the Building and Site Sinking Fund.

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

### **Roofing Replacement – Waterloo Elementary School**

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. Philbeck to accept the bid of \$163,370.00 from Advanced Roofing, Inc. of Westland, Michigan, for roofing replacement at Waterloo Elementary School and reject all other bids. Money for this project will come from the Building and Site Sinking Fund.

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

### **Turf and Ground Chemicals**

Motion by Mr. Philbeck; support by Mrs. Taylor to accept the bid of \$6,114.39 from John Deere Landscapes of Taylor, Michigan, for turf and ground chemicals. Money for this purchase will come from the Operations Budget.

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

### **Superintendent Comments**

Congratulations to Monroe High School girls' basketball team which earned Academic All-State honors when they finished ninth in the state in Class A with a team GPA of 3.794. The team's coach is Larry Nocella.

The Monroe High School Orchestra under the direction of Ann Felder, earned a top-rated Division 1 rating at the state festival last week at Redford Thurston High School. It is believed to be the first time ever that the MHS orchestra has earned a Division 1 rating at the state festival.

MHS Senior Mary Stehulak, who for the second year in a row, has been chosen to participate in the Michigan Youth Arts Festival in Kalamazoo in May. This year, Mary was chosen to play percussion with the MYAF Honors Band. Last year she was chosen to play percussion with the Honors Orchestra. She is quite an accomplished musician and earned her invitation with a strong showing playing the xylophone in the recent state solo and ensemble contest. Jim Nuechterlein is her director.

Another of our MHS seniors, Amanda Lis, has qualified to participate in the National Health Occupations Students of America festival in late June in Anaheim, California. She was the only student from Monroe County to qualify and she will compete in Nurse Assisting. Rami Dahbour, Alexa Eagle and Sophe Langerman also finished in the top eight in their categories at the state level. The group advisor is Leah Morelli.

Jalisa McQueen, a junior at Monroe High School, is one of only 40 students nationwide chosen to attend the University of California-Davis Young Scholars Program (UCD-YSP,) June 21-August 1. She was offered a \$6,000 scholarship for the program. The UCD-YSP is a summer residential research program designed to expose a small number of high-achieving high school students from across the country to the world of original research in the natural sciences. The program has an emphasis on the biological, environmental and agricultural sciences, and will be roughly equivalent to the experiences a student gets in the first two years of college. Jalisa is a student of Kristen Hovest at Monroe High.

Raisinville Elementary School fifth grader Cole Mayse was chosen as a winner in the 2015 contest "Recognizing Excellence in Music" sponsored by Kroger and two Detroit radio stations. The contest was held to honor and recognize outstanding achievement in commemorating Black History Month. For his winning entry, Cole received a new iPad. Cole wrote and recorded a song about freedom and how an individual can be the one to help people be free.

Our fifth and eighth grade students are wrapping up MSTEP this week, and our eleventh grade students continue. The fourth and seventh grade window is open now, and our third and sixth graders will start later in May. Mrs. Everly thanked all of the building teams; it has been a tremendous endeavor to schedule devices for everyone. Kudos to Mr. Payne and his technology department for having a technician on site at every building in the event a teacher needs support with the online piece. For the first week of testing, Monroe Public Schools was third in the state for the number of students tested.

It is college and career week at Monroe High School. Today, a bus load of MHS seniors and MHS staff made a tour of the district, going to all five elementary schools to tell children of the importance of thinking about post-high school plans. On Thursday, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., MHS will host its college and career night where more than 70 institutions like colleges, universities, trade schools, military representatives and local service providers have confirmed they will participate. Many of those same agencies will be at MHS the next day in the morning so students can talk directly with them. At noon Friday, we will have our second annual Decision Day where members of the Monroe High and Orchard Center senior classes will announce to the world what their post-high school plans are.

Author Patrick Jones will help lead 47 Monroe High School students in the "Spring into Writing" Writing Marathon at Monroe High this Thursday. Mr. Jones is a former librarian who now is known for writing fiction for teens, particularly teens who don't like to read. He has written nine books and about 100 articles and essays. Our students will have numerous chances to write all day long and when the exercise is concluded, each student will submit one piece of writing to be included in the Writing Marathon Anthology. This project is led by MHS teacher Carol Sliwka.

Also on Thursday, the Education Foundation hosts an Evening with radio Hall of Famer and Monroe native Paul W. Smith, which is a fundraiser for the Foundation. Money raised from the event will go to funding MHS scholarships and mini-grants for classroom teachers.

This weekend, the Theatre Company of Monroe High School will present, "CLUE, the Musical" four different times. With audience participation, the show has 216 possible endings. The show is being presented as a dinner theater with tasty desserts served at intermission. Curtain times are 7 p.m. this Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with a matinee performance at 2:30 p.m., Saturday. The show is directed by Sue Sacks.

Nearly two dozen of our construction technology students will be at Dena's Restaurant tomorrow to help in some de-construction work with a crew which is part of the American Diner Revival TV show, hosted by Ty Pennington. The restaurant is being completely remodeled inside, and the Food Network asked if our construction students could help out at the scene.

Next Monday afternoon, we are partnering with the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce to host a Chamber event at the Knabusch Math and Science Center. We have a "mixer" game that participants will play inside and outside so they will get a chance to appreciate the learning that is available there for students, both in the classroom and in the field. That event starts at 5:00 p.m.

Congratulations and good luck to Monroe High junior Cameron Craig, who made an Olympic Trial cut time in the 100 meter backstroke. Cameron now will compete in Omaha, Nebraska, for a berth in the summer Olympics in 2016, which will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Thank you to Detroit-area State Representative David Stallworth, who donated to Raisinville Elementary School 300 metal sign posts generally used to display political signs. It is part of a project at Raisinville where they will recognize community heroes by putting signs up thanking them. These signs are not cheap and the school needed a lot of them so Rep. Stallworth's donation is greatly appreciated.

**Old Business**

There was none at this time.

**New Business**

There was none at this time.

**Public Commentary-Any Topic**

There was none at this time.

**Closed Session**

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mrs. Mentel to convene in closed session for the purpose of attorney-client privilege, Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 hand vote at 8:35 p.m.

**Adjournment of Closed Session and Reconvene**

Motion by Mr. Bunkelman; support by Mrs. Mentel that the closed session be adjourned and Board Meeting #7 be reconvened into open session.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 hand vote at 10:08 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Bunkelman; support by Mrs. Mentel that the April 28, 2015, Board Meeting #7 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 hand vote at 10:08 p.m.



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Ryan Philbeck, Secretary