

MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Roll Call and Call to Order

Board Members Present: President Lawrence VanWasshenova, Vice President Floreine Mentel, Secretary Cynthia Taylor (arrived at 5:26 p.m.), Parliamentarian Cheryl Sweeney, Trustee Matthew Bunkelman (arrived at 5:18 p.m.), Trustee Robert Nichols, and Trustee Rosalie Pasko

Board Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Julie Everly, Katherine Eighmey, Cindy Flynn, Terry Joseph, Jerry Oley, David Payne

Administrators Absent: None

Others Present: Paula Murray, Holly Scherer

President VanWasshenova called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Closed Session

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

Vote: Motion carried by a 5-0 hand vote at 5:15 p.m.

Adjournment of Closed Session and Reconvene

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mr. Bunkelman that the closed session be adjourned and the special work session be reconvened into open session.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 hand vote at 5:45 p.m.

MMS Football

Prior to the 2014 football season, MMS had four teams (two 7th grade and two 8th grade). Since then, there has only been one team for each grade level; however, the same number of students participate, which has made it difficult for all students to get playing time and develop their skills. Varsity football coach, Nick Notario, shared that by adding two teams, it would greatly reduce the number of kids waiting on the sideline to play, and when students receive more playing time, it keeps them engaged and interested in the sport, which will help feed the program in the upper grades.

Currently, Monroe Middle School football teams play at Navarre Field. Mr. Bunkelman suggested developing fields at Custer and/or Arborwood. The visibility of teams at the elementary level might encourage students to be part of the team when they reach the middle school. He also questioned whether or not the district is going to sink money into Navarre Field, and if so, will SMCC and the Timberwolves help pay for the renovations.

Mrs. Everly will contact Dr. Ray to confirm the added cost of two additional teams. Mr. Nichols and Coach Notario feel that the dollar amount shared this evening was high. The same number of students will

participate; therefore, the teams will not need additional equipment. Mrs. Everly will update Board members via Board Briefs, and if the amount requires approval, it will be on the February 28th agenda.

District Finances

Mrs. Eighmey shared information about the district finances with Board members. She explained sources of school aid and how the district receives its foundation allowance. The current foundation allowance is \$7,511, which is a combination of state aid and local property taxes. Even though the foundation allowance has increased, our student enrollment has declined. Mrs. Eighmey shared general fund revenue and expenses, and she will go more in depth at the Finance Committee of the Whole meeting on February 28th.

Mr. VanWasshenova asked when the non-homestead property tax is adjusted. Mrs. Eighmey stated that she receives preliminary taxable value numbers from the county at the beginning of the year. As the county makes changes, it is posted on the taxable value website.

The district receives 11 state aid payments starting in October and ending in August. We receive local tax revenue starting in December and our county settlement in May. The foundation allowance remains the same, but per pupil funding can change. As students move between districts, we receive a portion or lose a portion of the allowance.

Mr. Bunkelman reiterated the fact that we need to increase our involvement with the city and townships as far as their planning and development. He feels the district needs to be proactive and explore how to generate revenue by increasing commercial and residential development.

Mr. Nichols asked for clarification on the purchased services expenditure. This includes third party custodians, social/emotional support services, and substitute teachers. Mrs. Taylor asked for a breakdown of the purchased services. Mrs. Everly will include this information in Board Briefs, and the Personnel Committee will include it as an agenda item at their next meeting.

District Property

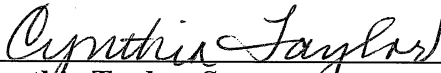
Mrs. Everly had a conversation with Tom Fritz, and he assured her that he would bring forward any offers he receives. She also spoke with Vince Pastue and he informed her that he's working on some other ideas and will bring those forward should the city council authorize him to do so. Mr. Fritz is actively seeking developers to form partnerships, and he understands our interest is to bring more students into the district. He has done some advertising online and met with developers. The Board would like to meet with him to discuss a marketing plan before extending his contract.

Mr. Bunkelman suggested inviting SMCC to partner with the district to improve Navarre Field. He also suggested working with SMCC and the city to develop a plan for renovations to make the property a more viable option.

Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mrs. Taylor that the 5:15 p.m., February 14, 2017, Special Work Session of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

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


Cynthia Taylor, Secretary