

# MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #2

January 28, 2014

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, Trustee Mr. Aaron N. Mason, Trustee Ryan Philbeck, and Trustee Wendy Spicer

Board Members Absent: Parliamentarian Dr. Tedd March

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

Administrators Absent: Jerry Oley, David Payne

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

### **MHS Student Recognition**

Mr. Vergiels introduced Monroe High School junior Kyla Smith who won a United Nations writing contest. This was the first time that Monroe High School was involved in the competition. In July, she will spend 12 days in New York, Canada and Philadelphia learning about the UN. Kyla plans to work in international affairs, and feels this trip will be very beneficial to her goal.

### **Sodexo Presentation**

For the third year in a row, Sodexo sponsored the Healthy High School Challenge, and for the third year in a row, Monroe won a cash prize. This is a nationwide competition where Sodexo encourages students to purchase healthy meals, snacks and beverages. Over 320 schools participated in the challenge and Monroe High School won second place for the second year in a row. For placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the challenge, Mrs. Boykin presented the Student Council with a \$2,000 check.

### **Manor School Focus Update**

Mrs. McMahon shared demographic and statistical data for Manor School. Dr. Weber, who is Manor's consultant, will be at the next school improvement meeting to work with the staff. Mrs. McMahon feels they are on target with what they need to be doing in the classrooms. They continue to look at the data very closely. Each Thursday, every grade level meets to discuss the data. The school improvement coach also meets with the teachers putting together pacing charts to stay on target. Teachers are focusing on a whole grade level rather than just their class.

Mr. VanWasshenova appreciated the information that Mrs. McMahon provided.

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

There was no public commentary at this time.

### **Approval of Minutes**

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

- January 14, 2014 Work Session

- January 14, 2014 Board Organizational Meeting
- January 14, 2014 Board Meeting #1

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

### **Reports and Update**

December 16, 2013 Board Curriculum Committee Minutes and TSSI Informational Report – Contracted Coaches were received without comment.

### **Staff Resignations**

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor to approve the resignation from Monroe Public Schools for David Ray effective January 29, 2014 and Letitia Kunselman effective January 31, 2014.

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

### **OCHS Director Contract Extension**

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Mason to approve authorization to the Superintendent to negotiate an agreement with Mason Consolidated Schools for reimbursement of employments costs for the placement of Stephanie Cavanaugh in the position of Orchard Center High School Director for the remainder of the 2013/14 school year effective March 3, 2014 to June 30, 2014.

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

### **Revised Monroe County Adult Education Consortium Operating Agreement**

Motion by Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor; support by Mr. Philbeck to approve the revised Monroe County Adult Education Consortium Operating Agreement for 2013-2014 trimester three.

Discussion: Mr. VanWasshenova noted that the revised agreement does not include a board member from each district on the advisory committee. Dr. Martin stated that it was their intention to keep board members on the committee, and he will correct this omission in the operating agreement.

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

### **MHS College Pendant Board Purchase**

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mr. Philbeck to approve the purchase of MiCore Bulletin Boards for Monroe High School from J.M. Pruz Company at a cost of \$4,695.00 to be paid from the MHS building budget.

Discussion: Mrs. Orr explained that as part of the college going culture initiative at Monroe High School they want to recognize publicly those students that are going on to a post-secondary institution. This would involve hanging boards, similar to colored bulletin boards, around the outside of the media center, and on each bulletin board will hang pennants from different universities and colleges. Student names will hang next to the university pennant or pennants that they have been accepted to. Then at the end of the year, there will be a ceremony called Decision Day. Families will be invited to attend, and students will pick which university they plan to attend.

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

### **Superintendent Comments**

- With today's cancellation, we have had eight weather-related cancellations for the school year and will have to make up two of those days in the future. We have not yet determined when that is but we will keep you posted.
- Due to school cancellations, the Compass testing at Monroe High School will be rescheduled. This is an important component of Direct College. Nearly 500 of our students signed up to take the test.

- Last week was the kickoff of the literacy project through the Education Foundation. This project is being led by Mrs. Knabusch-Taylor and Mr. VanWasshenova, and both are very pleased with the progress so far.
- The National Technical Honor Society induction ceremony will be held at Monroe High School on Tuesday, February 18. Monroe Middle School will have their National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony on Wednesday, February 19. Both ceremonies will start at 7:00 p.m.
- On February 19, Monroe High School will host a representative from the Kendall College of Art and Design, a part of Ferris State University, to talk with students interested in pursuing advanced studies in art, design or digital media. As one teacher described it, "Our kids can be admitted to college right here in their high school classroom." In addition, the Kendall representative will be able to award scholarships. This is another example of the culture shift at MHS. Just recently 50 students, mostly seniors, toured Eastern Michigan University for the day.
- Monroe High will host its annual 8<sup>th</sup> grade open house for students and parents on Thursday, February 6.
- Congratulations to Monroe Middle School students for raising \$425 during school spirit week just before Christmas. This money was used to buy toys for young patients at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital.
- There will be an early release on Wednesday, February 5.

### **Old Business**

Mr. Yeo introduced and welcomed Stephanie Cherry. Ms. Cherry is the new dean of students at Monroe High School.

Mr. Mason mentioned this marks the fifth year that Monroe Public Schools, along with other schools in the county, have participated with the Monroe Middle College and this will be the first graduating class.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

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

There was no public commentary at this time.

### **Closed Session**

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to convene in closed session to review material subject to the attorney-client privilege. Open Meeting Act, Sect., 8(h).

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 hand vote at 7:50 p.m.

### **Adjournment of Closed Session and Reconvene**

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Mr. VanWasshenova that the closed session be adjourned and Board Meeting #2 be reconvened into open session.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 hand vote at 8:55 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Mason; support by Mr. Yeo that the January 28, 2014, Board Meeting #2 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 hand vote at 8:55 p.m.

*Jane Knabusch-Taylor*  
Jane Knabusch-Taylor, Secretary