

Monroe County Board of Education

Special Meeting

September 26, 2019

Monroe County Board of Education Office

I. Roll Call

- a. Mr. Wickline called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
- b. Members present in addition to Keith Wickline were Everett Fraley, Danny Lively, Candy Sabol and Sally Wallace.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda/Adjustments

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the agenda as written. The vote to approve was unanimous.

IV. Public Comments

- a. None.

V. Work Session with Principals and Central Office Administrators

a. Mrs. Basile distributed information and spoke about areas needing addressed. She asked if there were questions from the board. Our data shows concern for attendance and elementary learning. WV had 348 schools that decreased in student learning scores and Monroe County had a school included in those that decreased. Mrs. Basile asked principals and central office directors to attend the meeting and discuss the needs for their school as the central office works to provide what principals need to be successful chief instructional leaders at their schools. She discussed the WV Standards for Highly Effective Schools that include seven standards: clear and focused mission, instructional leadership, high expectations for all students, positive and safe environments, equitable learning opportunities, frequent monitoring of student learning, and family/community partnerships. Attendance was discussed first as student attendance is tied to all other aspects of learning. If students are not present at school, they cannot learn.

b. Janet Jennings explained attendance data and noted that it focuses on students being present at least 90% of their time enrolled. Some strengths are SAT Teams, the probation officer, the newly installed guard booth at JMHS, Pre-K, the Grad 20/20 Coach, and incentives. Weaknesses are parent involvement, communication between departments, and emotional and trauma issues. Needs are help from AmeriCorp, a warm

and engaging atmosphere, making a connection with students and school, awards and recognitions, revoking license of high school students due to poor attendance, school competitions for school-wide focus, changing the calling system to make calls earlier in the day, and using Zoom data.

Mr. Wickline noted that he had read an article in the Gazette stating that 38% of all students in West Virginia are chronically absent, over 50% at the high school level.

c. Mr. McPherson shared Grad 20/20 documents with action plans for JMHS, PMS, and MVS middle school. Goals are for climate and culture change. Teams will meet monthly.

Mr. McPherson shared Special Education data from the Annual Desk Audit. Goals are to close the gap on proficiency rates, utilize lab time to address deficit areas and follow least restrictive environment for students, and to increase attendance

d. Misty Nelson presented iReady data and discussed scores compared to general summative assessment scores. She stated that iReady is aligned with the General Summative Assessment proficiency rates. She hosted a data review on growth at Data Camp. Needs are for teachers to receive training on what to do with what we know from our data. She noted that academic coaching could help to pull together data and instruction ideas for the classes. Monroe does not currently have academic coaches.

Mrs. Nelson also shared information with the board regarding Data Camp. She spoke about what happens with information gained. She hopes to continue with Leader in Me. Parent involvement training is also a need and is available through the Leader in Me.

e. Leigh Boggess stated that PES is focusing on math, special education and attendance. The PTO is focusing on fundraising for construction of a playground at the new school. She noted that iReady data currently shows significant loss during the summer months. Discipline issues during the first month numbered 42 in fiscal year 2019, with only 20 issues during the first month for this current school year. That is a decrease of 22 discipline referrals thus far into the school year. Recess has been restructured and is helping with discipline issues along with the Leader in Me program. While in ISS, students are taught how to communicate and how they could have handled the situation differently that would not have resulted in ISS. She wants to focus on parent communication for discipline issues.

PES needs include three additional teachers and two coaches. The most important need, according to Mrs. Boggess, is a K-1 transition classroom. First grade classes are at 25 students. Comparing to MVS, first grade class sizes at PES are larger. There is also a need for a mental health counselor or training help to teach good behavior.

Mr. Wickline asked about PES successes and stated that school scores are a direct reflection of the principal and he asked Mrs. Boggess to assure him that PES deficits are being addressed.

d. Pamela Dunford stated that the largest deficits for MVS are seventh grade language arts and math. She listed some strengths as growth in language arts and a wish list of additional cafeteria and gym space. Students were encouraged to eat breakfast during bus hall.

Mrs. Dunford reported needs for MVS include training in ELL students, parent involvement, Khan Academy training, facility, increases in vertical planning time on PL days, and academic coaches.

Melissa Griffith spoke saying she feels the school is supported by the central office. With three new special education teachers, all deadlines are being met. She feels like the numbers in special education classes need to be monitored. She noted that PLC times are going well and data is the focus. She notes it is positive having two offices housed on the second floor. A discussion was had about ELL students and Grab N Go breakfast. Mrs. Jennings stated MVS breakfast number of meals served is drastically decreased this school year and she will assist MVS in re-working a schedule to offer both breakfast and grab-and-go in a manner that meets student needs and is least disruptive to learning. Mr. Wickline stated we are in the business of teaching kids and we have to get the kids there to teach them.

e. Leslie Ferguson is excited to see language arts and seventh-eighth grade math scores at PMS. She is disappointed in scores in eighth grade science. Three teachers have attended WVDE training in writing questions for assessments and this has helped them gain a deeper knowledge. Student data notebooks are useful as well as IPI data. iReady training and Data Camp has been helpful. The school has had trauma training and is happy to have a graduation coach through Grad 20/20. They will focus on attendance. PMS will celebrate successes and birthdays. The school would benefit from counseling courses and changes to special education labs to address deficits. Mrs. Ferguson would like for PMS science to collaborate with MVS science. She finds the walk-throughs Mrs. Basile has required weekly with maintenance and custodians of the facility very beneficial. She thanked her custodians and the maintenance departments for taking care of issues at her school in a timely fashion.

Mr. Wickline congratulated the school on six/eight tested areas and has concerns about one low science area, eighth grade science. He asked Mrs. Ferguson if the low area would be addressed.

f. Mrs. King stated that the guard booth has helped with attendance issues at MCTC. Calls home are being made first period for absent students. Parents are appreciative of this. CTE data is not yet available but is completed. She noted that there was positive placement after last year's graduation. She spoke about NOCTI testing, business reviews, portfolios, and governor's workforce. NOCTI scores were very much improved. Placement percentage was the highest in the region. Fiscal year 19 had 111 potential completers, with 101 actual completing. The current year has 112 possible completers. Strengths are the dedicated staff, SWP, CTE math and English, health, six

college credits, and Early Childhood credits.

Needs for MCTC are scheduling and space in the building to house all technical school programs.

g. Susan Weikle stated that strengths for JMHS are the graduation rate and safety. Discipline issues are being consistently addressed.

Juniors will take the PSAT on October 16, which will help with benchmarking. JMHS plans a clean campus with more painting. Ice Cream has been a wonderful addition and has helped with the culture. Juniors and seniors have applied to be mentors for ninth grade students to offer mentorship to help the younger students be successful. The online facilitator is beneficial for dual credit courses. School spirit is helping to encourage all students to be involved in school. Leader in Me is very positive. The Monroe Health Center therapist is an asset to the school. More time from the counselor would be beneficial. JMHS has job shadowing and community services. JMHS gives more scholarships than surrounding counties and that is commendable to our communities as we are smaller than some districts and giving more scholarship monies than the larger districts. The school has academic pep rallies and a Grad 20/20 coach, activities to bring staff together and Chromebook charging stations.

Needs for JMHS are different benchmarks, iReady benchmarks are not valid at the high school level, they need tutoring to begin earlier in the school year, teacher training, and a new gym floor and roof.

Weaknesses are math, attendance, low student interest in school, and a young staff. They would like more clubs to offer field trips and Chromebook charging areas are needed.

h. Mrs. Basile summarized needs heard tonight focus on academic coaches, attendance incentive funds, parent involvement, facility needs at MVS and MCTC, vertical planning time, and trainings for teachers on EL students and Khan Academy.

VI. Public Comments

a. None.

VII. Adjournment

a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.



President



Secretary