

Monroe County Board of Education

Regular Meeting

December 5, 2019

James Monroe High School

I. Roll Call

- a. Mr. Wickline called the meeting to order at 6:02 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. Wickline announced that check number 85512 should be voted separate. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the agenda with the adjustment and the vote to approve was unanimous.

IV. Public Comments

- a. None.

V. Presentations

- a. Gavin, Eli, Kinley and Luke, PMS' Mega Mav Bots, presented their project on the design and equipment that can potentially be used for the playground at the new Peterstown school. Rubber mulch was found to be the best option with the total cost of the playground being \$186,847. They used Google SketchUp to design their new playground. They shared a survey with students and found they would like more swings than they currently have. They showed the board the mega robot they use for competition. They had eleven missions and four runs. Core values include discovery of robots, Google SketchUp, and Bluetooth. Integration is a core value and teaches how to integrate new things into student's lives. They integrated public speaking, with leadership roles given. They will participate in a state competition in Fairmont. Team goals have been achieved and they hope to go to the world competition.
- b. Susan Weikle presented the JMHS LSIC Executive Summary, with members Trina Shoda, Debbie Sams and Katie Mann. Mrs. Weikle noted that school performance has been steady for English. Their math goal is to increase

proficiency rates by 2%. The PSAT was administered to all juniors and they are using Khan Academy. They hope to see increases in SAT scores, as well as have 12% of students eligible for Promise Scholarships. They have a goal to increase attendance rates by 2%. They asked the board to continue the online facilitator position for online college courses; safety, including the guard booth and security officer; and staff development for teachers. They are proud of the events in which the National Honor Society is involved. The Grad 20/20 team is focusing on improving attendance rates and graduation rates.

Ian Jackson presented information on the Model UN trip to Atlanta, Georgia. James Monroe was the only school from West Virginia to attend the conference. The team will also be attending the Harvard University Model UN Competition. He shared information learned during the summer for the Boston trip.

Abby Fraley spoke about the Maverick Express newspaper. They have created a website to share information with students and the community. They post several stories each week. The school sponsored a soup dinner for staff. Student leaders are being created each day. Students have taken over roles at the school as appropriate. Mrs. Wallace said JMHS is doing a lot of things that larger schools are doing and have a lot of which to be proud. Mr. Fraley stated JMHS does a nice job of balancing things.

VI. Student Government Report

Abby Fraley, Student Body President, shared that the SGA has recycling bins in use now at JMHS and MCTC. She asked about the status of having the buses park in another place. They would like to have an event or something in memory of Ms. Lambert. Mrs. Basile asked if there is truly a need for additional parking with the added parking that has recently been created. Ms. Fraley feels additional parking is needed for visitors and when there are crowds, like for college day, etc.

VII. Superintendent's Report

- a. Mrs. Basile shared that Cade McMunigal has been selected as a regional finalist of the selection process for the Jefferson Scholarship. He is the first JMHS student to progress this far in the process and the county is very proud of him.
- b. Mrs. Basile thanked the board members who were in attendance at the Career Readiness Key Stakeholders Meeting. The meeting went well, with 50-60 people in attendance, plus students. Mrs. Basile heard meaningful discussions taking place at tables and she looks forward to the full report and recommendations to the county. She appreciated JMHS for hosting and the work they put toward the event.

- c. Mrs. Basile congratulated Mr. McPherson for being chosen as one of 30 from across the state to be part of a violence, loss, and trauma cohort provided by WVDE. This will be beneficial for Mr. McPherson, the Special Education Department, and all the schools as he can bring back valuable information to our classroom teachers to assist them as they educate children dealing with trauma.
- d. Mrs. Basile thanked Joe Jackson and UTC Collins Aerospace for spending a day training some of our teachers on how to use 3D printers and also donating \$500 toward the purchase of supplies and materials for the printers at schools.
- e. We are in the last month of the current construction project for JMHS noted Mrs. Basile. All aspects of the project are expected to be complete by January 6, 2020, except the painting on the front area of the building and the light poles. The poles were returned to the manufacturer because they were not correct.
- f. Mrs. Basile shared that attendance rates have declined over the last month. Current attendance rates are PES at 86.6%, MVS at 85.1%, PMS at 81.3% and JMHS at 79.3%. She reminded the board that with the new accountability system, all schools must have 90% of their students in attendance for at least 90% of the time. Principals and school employees are working hard to try and get student attendance to increase.
- g. Mrs. Basile announced that JMHS currently has 16 students eligible for the Promise Scholarship. Ten are seniors, three juniors, one sophomore and two freshmen. She congratulated them.

VIII. Consent Items

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the Consent Items with the exception noted above. The vote to approve was unanimous. Consent Items are Minutes from November 5, 2019, and November 19, 2019; Payment of Bills, and Transfers and Supplements.
- b. Mr. Lively left the room prior to action on Check Number 85512. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve and the vote to approve was unanimous.

IX. Old Business

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the Board Goals for Student Learning. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. Ashley Mann and Dr. Womack presented the budget request for the Model UN Harvard Trip. The flight cost is \$2,624 with the hotel cost \$3,576. Estimated food costs are \$1,200 for 6 students to attend the competition. The total for the trip is \$7,400. Mrs. Mann has asked that parents either pay or fund raise \$400 for each student. Parents are currently fund raising. Mr. Fraley stated it is a huge honor for JMHS to be the only West Virginia school to be asked to attend the event at Harvard. They are representing the county and state. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve \$5,000 for the

trip to be paid from the excess levy state and national competition funds. The vote to approve was unanimous with Mr. Fraley abstaining as his child is participating.

X. New Business

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve one half day Excused Absence for the PMS' Mega Mav Bots for December 6, 2019. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. Mr. Lively made the motion to approve the JMHS Band Request for Out of State Travel on December 5, 2019. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- c. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the Out of State Travel Request to Christiansburg, Virginia, for the PMS Fifth Grade. The vote to approve was unanimous.

XI. Personnel Items

- a. Prior to any action being taken, the board spoke about Mrs. Anne Lambert and Mr. Freddie Parker and the years they had each given to Monroe County Schools. A moment of silence was taken.

Mr. Lively made the motion to approve all Personnel Items. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Personnel Items include Hires of Sabrina E. Bryant as a Substitute LPN; Crystal G. Wilson as a Substitute Secretary; and David A. Johnson as a Substitute Teacher following retirement. A Mutual Agreement was approved for Donna M. Boothe. Leaves of Absence were Extended for Timothy P. South and Wanda J. Sparks. Brady T. Chinault was approved as a Volunteer. A Retirement was approved for David A. Johnson, Science Teacher for JMHS, effective December 31, 2019.

XII. Public Comments

- a. None.

XIII. Discussion/Action

- a. Mr. Lively made the motion to not join the West Virginia Proposed Litigation for Damages Attributed to Opioid Epidemic Lawsuit. The vote to approve was unanimous.

XIV. Discussion Items

- a. In discussing the MVS school name, Mr. Fraley would like to change the school name to something using the town name. He had been told that students chose the name of the school. Mr. Wickline noted that students

decided the name, colors, etc. for JMHS, with two from each class providing input. Mr. Lively worries the suggestion to change the name is coming from a minority in the community. Mrs. Wallace noted that the school combined three schools when formed. She said they wanted a new beginning and a new name. The decision was reflective of the county. She noted that it is a different scenario from the new Peterstown School, as it was three communities coming together. Mr. Fraley stated he has had 20- 30 people address this issue with him over the last year. Mrs. Sabol has heard comments several times over the years.

She was told there was a committee and the choice of the name and mascot was voted. Mr. Fraley's suggestion would be to form a committee to see if people would want to change the name of MVS. Mr. Lively stated that this may put the principal in a hard position as she is new to the county. He feels the school can do things to draw in the community without changing the name. Mrs. Basile suggested allowing her to reach out to WVDE for guidance.

b. Mrs. Wallace noted that Zero Tolerance means that a Level Four offense means one shot and you are out. She stated that is state law and all board members are familiar with it. Her church has a magazine that had interesting information about zero tolerance. She feels disciplinary policies criminalize children as early as Prek. Extreme behaviors often create a school to prison pipeline. She reported 2.8 million students were suspended from school across the United States. Mrs. Wallace knows that Level Four infractions do not allow a choice from the board with regard to expelling students. She suggests that changes be made through voting for legislators and electing officials who may be in more support of alternate punishments. She asked the board to be aware of who they vote for and be aware of what is happening in the legislature.

c. Mr. Fraley shared that he had been approached by elementary parents about disruptions caused by students with unique challenges and behaviors. Some parents feel the students who disrupt the classrooms cause students to be frustrated. He wonders if a self-contained special education class can be created or if there is a short term or long term solution. Mrs. Wallace had previously discussed a BD class that the county had years ago. Mr. Fraley asked if the answer is isolating more students.

Mr. Lively stated the county is already over the funding formula. Mr. Lively also stated the schools need to have the teachers recognize the issue within the class and start at the school level, not at the board level. Mr. Lively said they cannot start with the board. Mr. Fraley said people are afraid to speak up at board meetings. Mr. Lively said the issues need addressed within the school. Mr. Lively also said the board cannot micromanage the system. Mr. Fraley said that teachers have tried and

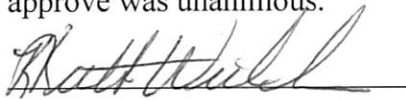
struggled with the issue. Mr. McPherson will assist teachers in looking at behaviors and developing behavior plans, if needed. Smaller settings are available through various pull out scenarios and IEP teams decide the appropriate placement for each child. Mr. Lively wants to encourage teachers to speak to principals and take care of this at the school level. Mr. Wickline asked if the services for special education students are the same at MVS and PES. Mr. McPherson said not necessarily, because services are based on student needs. Both schools offer labs and co-teaching, etc., but the services are based on the IEP.

d. Mrs. Wallace spoke about the parent who spoke at an earlier meeting. She has discussed the nurse shortage issue with Head Start and Preschool and they feel we are going to have a greater need for a fulltime nurse. Mrs. Wallace feels the part time nurse position should be increased to fulltime. A discussion was held about the nurse positions within the county and that MHC has a fulltime LPN at each school. The board pays one half of their salary for the assistance to the school system. Mrs. Basile noted there was a check approved tonight for the payment of those LPN services. Mr. Wickline stated the new school at Peterstown would take care of that concern. Mrs. Sabol stated the MHC LPN is truly closer to Peterstown Middle School by being at the end of the playground and could literally be at the middle school in a minute if she were needed.

e. Mrs. Wallace would like the board to consider adopting a child from the Angel Tree located at Jewell's IGA.

XV. Adjournment

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.



President



Secretary