

Monroe County Board of Education

Regular Meeting

February 4, 2020

Monroe County Board of Education Office

Head Start/Early Head Start information was shared at this meeting.

I. Roll Call

- a. Mr. Wickline called the meeting to order at 6:05 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 numbers 85743 and 85744 should be voted separate, and that Hire Number 5 would be effective with the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the agenda with the adjustments and the vote to approve was unanimous.

IV. Public Comments

- a. Mindy Pendergrass spoke, saying that educators are paid to educate. She spoke about concerns she has with children at all grade levels including the use of Juuls and drugs. With the addition of the guard shack and therapists, she feels the schools are beginning at the end. She wants the board to consider changing their ways to look at being proactive. She stated that people turn to addiction because of bad problems. She is angry at the school. Ms. Pendergrass thanked Mrs. Wallace for her undivided attention at a previous meeting. She stated that prosecutors have discretion to decide whether to press charges. She stated that the prosecutor has said three times that the school contacted him about charges.

She wants to appeal the decision to expel. She said that anger can present itself in many forms. She used Hitler and Martin Luther King as examples. One used anger for good and one for bad. She has met one destructive person on the board and feels the district is failing children.

- b. Megan Pendergrass, an honor roll student, honor society nominee, and creative writing finalist spoke, saying she has witnessed so many students with mental addiction, anxiety, depression, and being bi-polar. She said that friends come to

her because they believe the school is against them. When she awakens in the mornings, she sends a text to a student who is in her second period class to make sure he is awake. She has been witness to school injustices at the school including students being suspended, expelled, written up, etc. She stated she has classmates with cuts on their wrists. Some students feel the need to bottle up what is inside and do not ask for help. Some students use nicotine and drugs outside of school and use that to become something more of themselves. She has witnessed anger in other people and feels anger is a second emotion. She states that anger is something that makes people feel different. She is angry a lot but tries to not be angry, but believes some students that are mentally unwell are trying to get better but do not believe they can.

V. Policies and Procedures

a. Mrs. Basile recommended approval for first reading Revision of Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage, and to be placed on a thirty-day comment period. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve and the vote to approve was unanimous.

VI. Student Government Report

a. Abby Fraley, JMHS Student Body President, shared that Riley Sparks, Clay Williams and she will represent JMHS at the state capitol for having 100% of the senior class registered to vote. She thanked the board for their support of the Harvard trip. There were more than 4,000 people from 50 countries in attendance. Jim Nelson spoke to thank Abby for participating in the Planning Commission meeting.

VII. Superintendent's Report

a. Mrs. Basile shared that submission for Major Improvement Projects is due to the SBA on March 2. She asked if the board would like for her to again submit the roof and gutter project at JMHS for consideration. She will complete that and place it on the agenda for the February 18 meeting.

b. Mrs. Basile congratulated Riley Sparks for being honorary Speaker of the House on January 27. She shared that he did a phenomenal job and definitely represented the school and county very well. She also congratulated Abby Fraley for being honorary Secretary of State, scheduled for February 5. Mrs. Basile has no doubt she will also be an excellent representative of the school and county.

c. Mrs. Basile congratulated Caden Glover for competing and winning the Marshall University CTE Herd's Got Talent Competition. He will compete in the finals.

d. Mrs. Basile noted that Federal Programs are expecting cuts to their budgets for next school year based on the decline in enrollment. More information will be shared as it is received.

e. Energy Express Summer School is currently being planned for June 22 –

July 31, Mrs. Basile stated.

- f. Mrs. Basile noted that Kiddie Fair is being planned for April 29 and 30.
- g. Mrs. Basile shared with the board that flu season is upon us. The county has been averaging 60-80 absences per school each day. A letter was sent home to parents by Mrs. St. Clair with guidelines on when not to send their child to school and tips on how to reduce the exposure to illnesses.
- h. Mrs. Basile announced that she had received a letter from the PSD regarding the fire flow water source for the new school. She has forwarded the letter to the county's engineers who are also working with state officials. The letter says that the PSD cannot provide 500 gallons per minute of water flow without lessening flow to residents in the area, should they need it in the event of a fire. The engineers are working with officials and PSD employees to determine the next steps. She stated that it appears that the PSD may require a pump or something of that nature.
- i. Mrs. Basile shared that Mrs. King and she will have a follow-up meeting on Thursday with a company to discuss the possibility of offering some virtual CTE concentrations. They want to continue to grow MCTC but also acknowledge declining enrollment and budget constraints. They are hopeful that virtual offerings will be a path to offer more programs.
- j. Mrs. Basile congratulated six JMHS students who attended the Harvard Model UN competition: Lauren Ballard, Abby Fraley, Sidney Karnes, Madison Bragg, Ian Jackson, and Cade McMunigal. She has heard wonderful reviews from the trip and she hopes they will share some of their experiences with the board in the near future.

VIII. Consent Items

- a. Mrs. Wallace made the motion to approve the Consent Items with the exception of check numbers 85743 and 85744. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. Consent Items include Minutes from December 17, 2019, January 7, 2020, and January 21, 2020; Payment of Bills and Transfer and Supplements.
- c. Mrs. Sabol left the room prior to this action. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve check numbers 85743 and 85744. The vote to approve was Fraley, yes; Lively, yes; Wickline, yes; Wallace, yes. Mrs. Sabol returned to the room.

IX. Old Business

- a. Mrs. Basile shared the changes made to the Monroe Health Center Design and Space for the JMHS Wellness Center Renovation Plan. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the Plan. The vote to approve was unanimous. The project will begin and end during the summer months.

X. New Business

- a. Mrs. Wallace made the motion to approve the Student Leave Request for Mohler. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the Noncommercial Broadcast Ownership Report for MCTC. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- c. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the MCTC Skills USA Law and Public Safety Budget. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- d. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the MCTC Skills USA Carpentry Class Budget. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- e. Mr. Lively made the motion to approve the MCTC Out of State Travel Request to Pearisburg, Virginia. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- f. Mr. Lively made the motion to schedule a special meeting for RIF and Transfer Hearings on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. at the board of education office. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- g. Mr. Fraley noted how desirable a full time Music teacher would be at MVS. Mrs. Wallace added that it would bring in more candidates. Mrs. Mann reported that Allen Haag has agreed to teach through the end of the year. He is musically inclined. Mr. Lively shared that is a valid concern to help with schedules, although all schools have scheduling issues and needs, so this may be opening Pandora's box. Mrs. Basile stated that Tim Berry asked that the Board remember he has budget concerns. Mr. Wickline stated PES has a fulltime position and that MVS deserves the same. Mr. Lively asked about enrollment numbers and Mrs. Basile stated the two Peterstown schools have more than 200 additional students. Mr. Fraley also spoke about the need at MVS because of MVS only having one cafeteria. Mrs. Wallace spoke about the history of the school and made a motion to post a fulltime music teacher at MVS for next school year. The vote to approve was Wickline, yes; Fraley, yes; Wallace, yes; Sabol, no; Lively, no. The motion passed 3-2.
- h. Mr. Wickline spoke about talent in the county and proposed a \$500 stipend for a JMHS Drama Sponsor, a \$500 stipend for a MVS Drama Sponsor, and a \$500 stipend for a PMS Drama Sponsor. Mr. Wickline made the motion to hire three sponsors as noted. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- i. Mr. Fraley asked for a student to be named to the WHFI Radio Station Committee that may have interest in broadcast. He also would like a board member to be named to the committee. Mrs. King reported that MCTC has two students that would be a great asset to the committee. Mr. Fraley asked about students interviewing other students and Mr. Blevins stated that was already being done. Mr. Lively agreed students need to be involved in the committee. He does not believe a board member should be on the committee because it may stifle the committee. He does not believe the committee is required to have a

board member on the committee. He stated board members are available if needed. Mrs. King thanked the board for their support. Mr. Fraley feels it would be beneficial to have a board member on the committee and the addition should be considered. Mrs. Wallace would like to participate, but she is a candidate for re-election. Mrs. Sabol is willing to be a part of the committee. Mr. Fraley made the motion to designate Mrs. Sabol to be a member of the committee. The vote to approve was unanimous.

- j. Mr. Fraley would like for Ms. Dunford to put together a committee to see if they would like to change the name of MVS to include the name Union. Mr. Fraley's intention is to try to connect Union alumni to the school and reconnect the community to the school since Union High School no longer exists. Mr. Lively stated that the board has not heard from their PTO, faculty senate, etc. nor has he heard any comments. He has been asked why this board is wanting to change the school name and he is not sure why. The faculty senate and principal have not been to speak to the board. Mr. Lively asked why they are doing this. Mr. Fraley said some MVS faculty members have approached him and asked him about changing the name of the school so he agreed to have the board look at it. Mr. Lively contends the board is taking action for no reason, however Mr. Fraley disagreed. Mr. Lively noted that a lot of work went into the name of the new school prior to it's opening. Mr. Fraley wants to find out if it is a majority. If the committee does not want to change the name, then that will be the end of the discussion. Mr. Lively asked who would be on the committee and Mr. Fraley stated that would be up to the principal. He suggests an online poll or a faculty vote. Mrs. Sabol asked if the subject is something continuing to be asked of Mr. Fraley. He stated that he has had several people ask about it over the last six months. Mr. Wickline suggested the faculty senate discuss it at the February 14 meeting and report to the board. No action was taken.
- k. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the Student Transfer Requests for two Jackson students. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- l. Mrs. Wallace made the motion to Grant the Permission to WV DII and UC to Survey Students, Teachers, and Parents for Preschool, Head Start, and Kindergarten Students. The vote to approve was unanimous.

XI. Personnel Items

- a. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve all Personnel Items. The vote to approve was unanimous. Personnel Items include the Hire of Robert Wickline as \$1 Assistant Softball Coach for JMHS; Chad C. Parker as Varsity Assistant Softball Coach for JMHS; Timothy Hancock as Science Fair Coordinator; Haley R. Williams as a Substitute Teacher; Scott E. Womack as Foreign Language Teacher for JMHS, effective with the 2020-

2021 school year; and Allen J. Haag as After School Tutor at MVS, a position to be shared with others.

- b. Resignations were accepted for Jessica Thompson and William R. Tuggle as Substitute Teachers; T. Vickie King as a Substitute Bus Operator; and Erin S. Dotson as SAT Site Coordinator for MVS.
- c. Leaves of Absence were approved for Erin S. Dotson, Danny H. Richardson, Jr., and Timothy P. South.
- d. David Wright was Removed from Hire as \$1 Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach for PMS.

XII. Public Comments

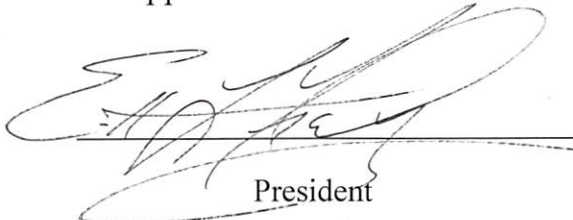
- a. None.

XIII. Discussion Items

- a. Mrs. Wallace spoke about the Jesse Choose Love Movement which serves to counteract bullying. It promotes courage, forgiveness and gratitude.
- b. The floor scrubber issue at JMHS has been resolved.
- c. Mr. Lively asked about absences due to flu.

XIV. Adjournment

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to rescind the motion to adjourn. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- c. Mr. Fraley made the motion to enter Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. under the guidelines of 6-9A-4. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- d. Mr. Fraley made the motion to return to Regular Session at 7:44 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- e. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.



President



Secretary