

Monroe County Board of Education

Regular Meeting

May 19, 2020

Monroe County Board of Education Office

I. Roll Call

- a. Mr. Wickline called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
- b. Keith Wickline and Danny Lively were present. Members present, via TEAMS due to the Coronavirus, were Candy Sabol, and Sally Wallace. Everett Fraley arrived later due to a road blockage.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda/Adjustments

- a. Mr. Wickline noted that check number 86117 will be voted separate. Mr. Lively made the motion to approve the agenda with the adjustment and the vote to approve was unanimous.

IV. Public Comments

- a. Melissa Boggs spoke about senior events and the prom. She stated that some events have been requested by the school but the health department has not approved those. She feels a voice or support needs to be put out there. She noted that the health department meets Wednesday, May 27, at 5:00 p.m. She is aware that things need to be in place. She feels the prom may be a stretch. She would like to know the logic behind parade shut down by the health department.

Shannon Parker also spoke and feels it is her duty to fight for our kids. She wants to talk about alternative ways to hold events. She noted that the West Virginia Pageants Association 2020 is proceeding with a prom at the Civic Center in July. Many Monroe County students are planning to attend that prom along with students from Ohio and Kentucky. She noted that Tazewell County is planning to hold a three-high-school prom event on Main Street on July 25.

Regina Thomas spoke about what other schools are doing in bordering counties. She noted that our students see that and feel there are controllable things that can be put in place for the students.

Mr. Wickline shared that Dr. Basile and the board support these activities. Plans have been submitted, revised and resubmitted, and the Monroe Health Department has not approved. Students don't understand why other

counties have events.

Dr. Basile spoke about the prom and parade proposals made to the health department.

Mrs. Wallace noted that she can see a prom where participants have their picture taken while in prom attire. She agrees we need to do more for the students, and does not want us to feel like our hands are tied.

Mr. Lively asked if the American Legion might lead the parade.

V. Student Government Report

- a. No report was given.

VI. Superintendent's Report

a. Dr. Basile congratulated our Youth in Government students who were elected to 2020-2021 youth leadership offices. Those are Jada Stutts, Youth Governor; Stephanie Persinger, Chief Justice; Cameron Thomas, Senate President; Lauren Ballard, Speaker of the House; Madison Vass, Senate Clerk; Luke Jackson, House Clerk; Jacobey Meadows, House Chaplain; and Luke Fraley, Senate Chaplain. This is the fifth year in a row that JMHS has had the Governor Elect.

b. Dr. Basile informed the board that a decision would need to be made soon regarding how to use the additional funds for the new Peterstown School. She has on this agenda to discuss and/or take action on the PSD public sewage. We have been working with the PSD, state officials from the public water authority, and the SBA to determine if we can use any excess funds for public sewage or for another school in the county, such as a new roof for JMHS. She has verbal authority to use \$157,000 of the SBA funds toward running public sewage to the site. That is the cost of the septic system, which is cheaper than originally estimated. The school committee had previously discussed one or two rows of bleachers in the elementary physical education space and two additional classrooms. The additional classrooms were not put out for bid as ad alternates because the project was thought to be over budget.

c. Dr. Basile shared that Monroe County was chosen as the only county in the State to pilot free internet being offered to students in remote areas for three months. Each principal sent Mrs. Tuggle a list of students who do not have internet. WVDE has collaborated with a satellite internet company to test how well the internet works in very remote areas. We are thrilled for this opportunity for fifty of our students and are hopeful WVDE will find a way to provide internet to every student in West Virginia. WVDE is also working with counties to try to get internet to every student though E-Rate funding.

d. Dr. Basile reminded the board of the Ground Breaking Ceremony on May 29 at 3:00 p.m. at the new school site. We will keep the group to less than 25 and although it will not be the large celebration we hoped for, it will be a celebration.

e. Dr. Basile noted that school employees have worked a staggered schedule Monday and Tuesday of this week to pack student belongings. Students will pick up their belongings May 20 to May 22. Each school principal created their schedule for pick-up. Employees will work a staggered schedule to close out their work areas for the summer from May 26 to May 29.

f. Regarding, the radio station, Dr. Basile shared that she had mailed letters to the WV Ethics Commission, Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and WVDE asking for official opinions. An official opinion will go through their legal team's review. As soon as she receives all the responses, she will provide copies to the board. Mrs. Wallace asked if there might be an answer prior to the General Election.

VII. Treasurer's Report

- a. Mr. Berry presented revenue and expenses year to date. Mrs. Wallace made the motion to approve the report and the vote to approve was unanimous.

VIII. Consent Items

- a. Mr. Lively made the motion to approve the Consent Items with the exception noted above. The vote to approve was unanimous. Those items are Minutes from May 5, 2020; Payment of Bills; Transfers and Supplements; and a Teacher in Residence Partnership Agreement with Concord University.
- b. Mr. Wickline left the room prior to this action. Mr. Fraley conducted the meeting. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve Check Number 86117 and the vote to approve was unanimous. Mr. Wickline returned to the room.

IX. New Business

- a. Dr. Basile shared information regarding the hail and storm damage to JMHS, MCTC, and Early Head Start. Sealed bids are required. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the publication of bids for the project. The vote to approve was unanimous.

X. Personnel

a. Mr. Lively made the motion to approve the Personnel Items as listed. The vote to approve was unanimous. Those items are the Hire of Brenda C. Turner for 2020-2021 as a Substitute Teacher; the Rehire for 2020-2021 of Rebecca H. Crabtree; and the Retirement of Wanda J. Sparks, Cook II, one half time, effective May 1, 2020.

XI. Discussion and/or Action Items for Peterstown School

- a. Dr. Basile shared information on using the public sewage system verses using a package plant and potential funding options. No action was taken.
- b. Dr. Basile also shared information in the Reduction in Lease Purchase Funding for the Peterstown School from \$1.9 million to \$1.3 million. No action was taken.

XII. Public Comment

- a. None.

XIII. Discussion items

- a. Mrs. Wallace referenced reading in the Monroe Watchman that funds are needed to adopt seniors and thereby send best wishes. The cost is \$54 per senior ad. She asked if the board wanted to purchase a space.
- b. Mr. Wickline previously sent a text to board members about the board putting a notice in the Monroe Watchman thanking our employees for all they have done. Mr. Fraley will do this.
- c. Mr. Fraley asked if fall classes might be held virtually or by internet. Dr. Basile stated all avenues are being considered and no final decision has been made at the state level.
- d. Mr. Fraley asked about the JMHS newspaper and the interviewing of candidates being declined. Dr. Basile stated she was unaware but would check on this with school administration.

XIV. Adjournment

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.



President



Secretary