

Monroe County Board of Education

Regular Meeting

January 19, 2021

Monroe County Board Office

I. Roll Call

- a. Mr. Wickline called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.
- b. In addition to Mr. Wickline, Everett Fraley, Sally Wallace, Candy Sabol, and Sabrina Stutts attended in person.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda/Adjustments

- a. Mr. Wickline noted that Check Numbers 86706 and 86713 should be voted separate. Personnel item C1 should be voted separate also. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the agenda with the adjustments and the vote to approve was unanimous.

IV. Public Comments

- a. Adam Dixon thanked the board for support on behalf of AFT for their work on not having paid leave for Covid-19 related absences. AFT is asking for paid leave for service and professional personnel regardless of where the virus was contracted. Mr. Dixon feels that action could be discrimination against employees, and that future grievance/litigation is possible. He stated Roane County Policy states that the board has discretion to not use sick days. Employees expecting to retire could be affected by having to use sick days. Asymptomatic employees could put others in danger because of fear of using days. Mr. Dixon suggested child care be provided.
- b. David Taylor stated that there have been instances where bus operators have not been able to use a professional day, but have had to use sick days when others have not. He noted that service personnel come into contact with many people every day. Mr. Taylor wants a secure plan in place for employees. Dr. Basile stated that the Health Department makes the call when employees are to be quarantined and makes employees aware of contacts.
- c. Michael Fraley thanked the board and spoke about a news program from Summers County. He thinks this is something that JMHS could do and he is researching what is needed for the program. He has compiled a list of supplies that will cost approximately \$2,200.00 but is asking the board of \$5,000.00 for the new program with anchor, weatherman, sports and release on Maverick Express. This program could cover live streams such as sports and could boost morale and

inspire students. Mr. Fraley thinks this would be a great learning tool. Dr. Basile suggests he meet with Principal Angela Mann. Mr. Wickline stated that he would need a sponsor for the program. Everett Fraley stated he would need a sponsor as well and an itemized list of supplies. He noted there might be a college in WV that might offer resources for the program. Michael Fraley replied that Ms. Connell has agreed to be sponsor the program. He has an Amazon list of supplies and wants to speak to Summers County about their program.

V. Superintendent's Report

- a. Dr. Basile stated the County has had 90 employees who have received the first round of vaccines. Monroe County is not scheduled to receive any vaccines this week but should resume weekly clinics next week.
- b. Dr. Basile shared she has been working with Mr. Shirey regarding some upgrades to the Board room and have asked his classes to make some counter spaces similar to what is in the State Board meeting room. Cabinetry falls under some of his standards and he is excited for the students to work on this project. Mr. Shirey is working up a material list and will get that to her. She is looking forward to seeing what the students create and feels this is something that will potentially be used for decades to come.
- c. Dr. Basile shared that Monroe County plans to begin Wednesday tutoring on January 27, 2021. This will allow time for schools to be ready and notify parents.
- d. Dr. Basile stated the interior colors have been chosen for the new Peterstown K-8 School. She presented a display board of the color scheme to the board members.
- e. Dr. Basile shared that all 3 unions have contacted Monroe County asking the county to develop a policy similar to Roane County's policy regarding employee leave due to Covid-19. Monroe County has currently approved for employees to be given administrative leave if they are quarantined due to an exposure at work. The difference in Monroe County's policy and Roane County's policy is that Roane County is giving days regardless of where the employee is exposed. A copy of the policy was given to the board. Dr. Basile will place this on the next agenda if the Board would like.
- f. Dr. Basile presented the following chart for virtual school numbers. There 238 students who attended virtual school first semester and there are 191 attending second semester.

- g. Dr. Basile stated she had attended some meetings with JMHS and MCTC discussing Monroe County's embedded credit policy. The County needs to update their policy as the students are eligible for additional embedded credits that are not listed in the current policy. Dr. Basile appreciates the guidance counselors and administrators from both schools working on this and hopes to have a new policy to the Board in the near future for consideration.
- h. Dr. Basile stated WVDE had notified counties that funding will be available to high school athletic programs to assist due to Covid-19 losses. The County appreciates WVDE's assistance with funding the sports programs.

Mrs. Wallace recommends broader requirements for tutoring. She is concerned about various needs of students. Dr. Basile responded that the 21st Century grant will be providing after-school virtual tutoring.

Mrs. Wallace wants to encourage all employees to vaccinate as Covid-19 is not going away. Mr. Fraley responded over time employees will agree to be vaccinated and it will not be necessary to force anyone. Mr. Wickline stated Monroe County cannot force anyone to be vaccinated. He also stated it is not known of the benefits and/or negative effects of the vaccine.

VI. Treasurer's Report

- a. Mr. Berry virtually presented the Treasurer's Report and Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the report and the vote to approve was unanimous.

VII. JMHS Student Body President's Report

- a. Jada Stutt's spoke saying she is excited about returning to school. She also reports it was a good first day back in session.

VIII. Consent Items

- a. It was noted that the January 7, 2021 minutes should have Mr. Wickline's name added to item 1B, and one sentence be removed that was redundant. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the other consent items with the exceptions noted above. The motion to approve was unanimous. Those items are Payment of Bills, Transfers and Supplements.

- b. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve check number 86706 with the vote to approve unanimous with Mrs. Stutt's abstaining.
- c. Mrs. Wallace left the room prior to this action. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve check number 86713 and the vote to approve was unanimous. Mrs. Wallace returned to the room.

IX. New Business

- a. Mrs. Wallace made the motion to approve New Peterstown School change order for additional card readers and weather delays. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. MCTC Director Tricia King presented data requesting a new program of study, Human Services. She is requesting WVDE funding for the first year of the program and then County funding afterwards. Mrs. Wallace had questions and concerns. She is concerned that the classes will take graduates a long time to get a degree. Mrs. Wallace would like to see more hands on classes and feels the Technical Center should choose more Technical Related Classes. Mrs. King replied she doesn't want the perception that students attending MCTC do not go to college, because some do. Mrs. Wallace would also love to attract more Adult Programs.
- c. Mr. Wickline asked if college credits can be obtained for the courses. Mrs. King replied Dual Credits will be explored.
- d. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve and the vote was unanimous.

XI Personnel Items

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve personnel items A and B the vote was unanimous. Those items are hires of Judy Ann Meadows, English Learner Teacher at PES; Jodi Bowers Special Education Tutor, After School at PMS; and Pamela Grajo Mullins Wednesday Tutor at JMHS. A retirement was approved for Rebecca Cyrus Gilbert Pre-K Teacher at PES, effective on June 30, 2021.
- b. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve personnel item C, the resignation of Cassandra B. Wood as a Substitute Teacher, the vote to approved was unanimous with Mrs. Wallace abstaining.

XII. Executive Session

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to enter Executive Session to Discuss the Update on Litigation at 7:35 p.m. under the guidelines of 6-9A-4 and the vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. Mr. Fraley made the motion to return to Regular Session at 8:08 p.m. and the vote to approve was unanimous.

XII. 2020-2021 Board Goals

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to review and table the 2020-2021 board goals. The vote to approve was unanimous.

XII. Discussion

- a. Mrs. Wallace spoke about the Jesse Choose Love Movement. She had handouts for teachers to use. Mrs. Wallace had an example of kindness, gratitude and love. She has books that teach acts of kindness she will give to the Trauma team.
- b. Mr. Wickline asked the Board to remember employees and families that are affected by Covid-19.

XV. Adjournment

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.



President



Secretary