

## **MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Meeting, March 16, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.**

### **MONROE COUNTY BOARD OFFICE**

#### **I. Roll Call**

- a. Mr. Wickline called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- b. Board members present in addition to Mr. Wickline included Sally Wallace, Sabrina Stutts, Candace Sabol and Everett Fraley.

#### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **III. Approval of Agenda/Adjustments**

- a. Mr. Wickline noted that Checks 86852 and 86881 should be pulled and voted on separately. Motion to approve the agenda with the adjustments was made by Mr. Fraley. The vote to approve was unanimous.

#### **IV. Public Comments**

- a. There were no Public Comments

#### **V. Public Calendar Hearing 2021-2022**

- a. Johnathan McPherson discussed three calendar options and survey results. Option One begins August 12, 2021. Option Two begins August 16, 2021. Option Three begins August 16, 2021 with three staff development days. There were 621 survey results. 80% want to continue to use Non-Traditional Instructional Days.

#### **VI. Policies and Procedures**

- a. Dr. Basile spoke about Option 3 of the Temporary COVID-19 Leave Policy. She stated it had been out on a 30-day comment period and there had been responses from all three unions asking that the wording be changed. Dr. Basile noted she had spoken with Monroe

County's attorney and they stated the Board having hearings if employees are denied days for COVID-19 is not beneficial since quarantine information comes from the Health Department. Removal of telework would entail that payroll would have to go back and refigure pay and days. Dr. Basile recommends that the Board approve the policy as previously written.

- b.** Mrs. Wallace requested that the policy be discussed in executive session and made the motion to enter into executive session over the Temporary COVID-19 Leave Policy at 6:13 p.m. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- c.** Mr. Fraley made the motion to return to regular session at 6:29 p.m. and the vote to approve was unanimous.
- d.** Mrs. Wallace asked Mr. Dixon why they wanted to remove Telework from the policy? Mr. Dixon stated that he wanted it to be fair between professional and service employees. He noted not all service can work from home. Trying to circumvent any litigation issues that might arise from the wording. If an employee is deliberately not adhering to policy, then they will be held accountable by board. Mr. Fraley stated he wants the best option for teachers. Mr. Dixon stated again there is language that needs changed to ensure fairness to all employees. Dr. Basile said that the Health Department makes determination of contact and tracing. Mr. Wickline had concerns about grievances being filed. Mr. Dixon stated there is no assurance that a grievance won't be filed if telework is removed. Dr. Basile recommended that the policy be approved as written. Mr. Wickline thinks the board chose the best policy and what was best for all employees. The Board of Health has the final say and to just have a hearing over the Board of Health decisions would not be beneficial.
- e.** Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the policy as written and the vote to approve was four to one. Voting for the policy were Mr. Wickline, Mr. Fraley, Mrs. Stutts and Mrs. Sabol. Mrs. Wallace voted against.

## **VII. Superintendent's Report**

- a.** Dr. Basile noted that JMHS currently has 15 students' eligible for the Promise Scholarship. She stated that county and state numbers are down due to COVID-19.
- b.** Dr. Basile appreciates the school nurses and The Monroe Health Center for giving 60 additional doses of vaccines today to employees and family members of employees. WVDE has sent a follow-up survey seeking numbers of any employee or family member who would like to receive the vaccine and are planning to send additional doses to counties. These will be for ages 16 and over.
- c.** Dr. Basile stated Monroe County had received an email notification of regional board meetings scheduled for the state. She noted that Monroe Counties meeting is June 14, 2021 and asked that if anyone planned to attend they contact Tammy Bishop so she can get everyone registered. She stated the meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. and it will give three training hours for attendance.
- d.** Dr. Basile stated WVDE has requested a federal accountability waiver to waive the requirement to have 95% of student's test on the summative assessment. This waiver is sought due to COVID-19 and not wanting sick students in school.
- e.** Dr. Basile noted that James Monroe High School had received the "go ahead" from Dr. Hansbarger to plan the following events. Graduation will be held outside, with rain dates planned. Senior awards will be held outside, honor society inductions outside, baccalaureate, prom, and senior parade. She stated the parade date is not set yet but she will get that to the board members as soon as possible. Graduation is May 28<sup>th</sup>, Prom is May 8<sup>th</sup> and both will be held outdoors as well, with rain dates available.
- f.** Dr. Basile spoke about the weather cooperating again and construction of the New Peterstown School progressing nicely. She

stated interior walls are up on two wings, steel continues to be placed, the gym has walls, HVAC units are installed, and electrical wires are run in two wings of the building. Dr. Basile noted there were planning meetings scheduled for the playground and athletic facilities. She said COVID-19 has hurt fundraising abilities but she is hopeful to get some fundraising events going in the near future. Dr. Basile also has planning meetings scheduled with employees to begin answering questions they have regarding the relocation.

- g. Dr. Basile noted Monroe County has been made aware of social media posts questioning how the county is using CARES Act funding so she wanted to discuss this with the Board. A handout of all funding was provided. The Board had discussed the first round of funding back in the summer but she wanted to update them on how those funds were spent. All PPE equipment's including masks, face shields, gloves, etc; student school supplies; water bottle filling stations and water bottles for all kids, cleaning of HVAC systems, cleaning and sanitizing supplies, nightly custodians to spray disinfectant, plexiglass dividers, picnic tables for eating outdoors, food service supplies for feeding students in and out of school setting, substitutes related to COVID-19 absences, virtual school tuition, Wednesday and after school tutoring, Schoology Learning Management System, Summer 2020 extra duty contracts for counselors and school nurse to prepare for opening in August, 2020, technology supplies for teachers and students. The competitive grant was used to pay a portion of the social workers' salaries to assist with mental health services, support for Social/Emotional learning, and additional supplies for PE classes. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding is not available yet but Monroe County is working on a budget for those funds. These have to last for 2 years. The budget for these funds is being worked on and will be submitted to the local board and WVDE for approval.

- h.** Dr. Basile noted that Monroe County is finalizing summer school plans and will submit that budget and plan to WVDE and our local board for approval. Monroe County's goal is to offer 6 weeks of summer school, 5 days per week, full day sessions. The program will focus on missing skills and learning gaps due to COVID-19 and will also include some fun activities for the students.
- i.** Dr. Basile stated that she and Mr. Fraley traveled to Charleston March 15, 2021 and presented the Needs project for the new roof for James Monroe High School and drains for Mountain View School to the School Building Authority. She noted Monroe County will find out in April what projects are funded. There were \$250 million in requests for the School Building Authority and \$50 million to award so they have tough decisions ahead of them. Dr. Basile appreciates Mr. Fraley taking the day off to lobby for our children and for driving.
- j.** Dr. Basile stated Monroe County needed to plan a special meeting for RIF/transfer hearings. She is looking at a possible date of Thursday April 15, 2021.

#### **VIII. JMHS Student Body President's Report**

- a.** Ms. Jada Stutts referenced a quote "Don't count the days, make the day's count." She stated there was a Student Government meeting today. She said since students are back in school regularly, student grades were improving, and students are becoming more confident in their learning. Club Day went well and will continue occasionally; Freshmen did a "meet and greet". Ms. Stutts spoke about Spirit Week and that the students had lots of fun even with wearing a mask. The pep rally was very positive. She noted they had a door decorating contest and that it had went over well. Spring sports have started and the boys' basketball team is undefeated. Ms. Stutts stated the talent show is scheduled for April 1, 2021 and that YLA is this week.

**IX. Consent Items**

- a. Motion to approve consent items, transfers and supplements was made by Mrs. Sabol and the vote to approve was unanimous. Consent items consisted of approval of payment of the bills, minutes from February 25, 2021 and minutes from March 2, 2021 board meetings and GH and JL student leave request.
- b. Mr. Wickline left the room prior to Mr. Fraley running the meeting. Mrs. Sabol making the motion to approve Check 86852. The vote to approve was unanimous and Mr. Wickline returned to the room.
- c. Mrs. Wallace left the room prior to Mr. Fraley making the motion to approve Check 86881. The vote to approve was unanimous and Mrs. Wallace returned to the room.

**X. Treasurer's Report**

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

**XI. New Business**

- a. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to call the meeting for Proposed Levy Rates to order and the vote to approve was unanimous. Mr. Berry presented the rates given from the Assessor's Office. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the proposed levy rates and the vote to approve was unanimous. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to adjourn the Proposed Levy Rates meeting at 7:20 p.m. and the vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the Board of Education Renovation Bid and the vote to approve was unanimous.
- c. Mrs. King stated MCTC is to do field placements and noted the Health Department had approved. Mr. Fraley asked how many students were involved. Mrs. King noted that the number of students vary by

class. Mrs. Wallace made the motion to approve the Career Readiness Trips and the vote to approve was unanimous.

- d. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve the Peterstown K-8 School Network Supplies Quote from Advantage Technology and the vote to approve was unanimous.

## **XII. Personnel Items**

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve hires, resignations and leave of absence's and the vote to approve was unanimous. Personnel Hires included Keith Carter Girls Varsity Assist Softball Coach at JMHS, Jack Phipps Girls JV Head Softball Coach at JMHS, John Mustain Head Football Coach at JMHS, Patricia Phelps Extra Duty Night Custodian at JMHS/MCTC Wednesday Night's Only, Dennis Bare Extra Duty Night Custodian at MVS Wednesday Night's Only, Annette Yates Extra Duty Night Custodian at PES/PMS Wednesday Night's Only, Katrina King Early Lit/Math After School Tutor at PES, Denise Ward Lang/Math After School Tutor at PMS One Day Per Week, Malory McPherson Lang/Math After School Tutor at PMS One Day Per Week, Karsyn Dusold Lang/Math After School Tutor at PMS One Day Per Week, Brenda Putnam Lang/Math After School Tutor at PMS One Day Per Week, Allen Haag Lang/Math After School Tutor at PMS One Day Per Week, Amy Young Lang/Math After School Tutor at JMHS 2 Days Per Week, Scott Womack Lang/Math After School Tutor JMHS 2 Days Per Week, Amy Meadows Cook II After School at PES/PMS, Jewel Ramsey Cook II After School at JMHS, Lucas Preston Bus 2 After School Run, Richard Bailey Bus 3 After School Run, James Crawford Bus 4 After School Run, James Williams Bus 5 After School Run. A resignation was accepted for Erin S. Dotson Technology Specialist at MVS effective when new hire is in place and has worked with Mrs. Dotson. Terri Pritt was approved for Medical Leave March 15, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Jodi Bowers Medical Leave and Sick Days Donated was also approved.

### XIII. Adjournment

- a. Mrs. Wallace spoke about the book "One Trusted Adult" by Brooklyn Raney and noted that it would be good for new employees.
- b. Mrs. Stutts congratulated James Monroe High School Boys Basketball for beating #1 A ranked team last night.
- c. David Taylor requested the Board enter Executive Session to hear a matter he just became aware of and could not discuss in regular session. Mr. Fraley made the motion to enter into executive session at 7:38 p.m. and the vote to approve was unanimous.
- d. Mr. Fraley made the motion to return to regular session at 7:55 p.m. and the vote to approve was unanimous.
- e. Mrs. Stutts made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. and the vote to approve was unanimous.



President



Secretary