

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting, May 4, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.
MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL

I. Roll Call

- a. Mr. Wickline called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- b. In addition to Mr. Wickline, Everette Fraley, Candace Sabol, Sabrina Stutts and Sally Wallace were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda/Adjustments

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the Agenda/Adjustments and the vote to approve was unanimous.

IV. Presentations

- a. Melissa Perdue spoke about the Special Education Annual Desk Audit. She feels that Monroe County should focus on increasing summative assessment scores. Mrs. Perdue also feels Monroe County should focus on reducing the number of students on homebound instruction.
- b. Major Longanacre spoke about the JROTC three-year Department of Defense Inspection. He played a game with the board members asking them trivia questions. Major Longanacre stated JROTC was established during 1916 in the WWI era. He said it was developed to generate leaders for the military. The mission of JROTC is to motivate youth to become better citizens. The way they do that is to provide structure and organization, community involvement and academics. Major Longanacre stated that JROTC is the largest character-building program in the school system. They study budgeting and finance and talk with students about physical fitness and personal appearance. He stated that personal appearance is important that you can't go out looking goofy and expect to be taken serious about a job. Major Longanacre stated that another part of the program that is mandated is ceremonies, customs and courtesies. Personal Growth and behavior based on the Army values. He stated JROTC teaches their students decision making skills, leadership, first aid and public speaking. Major

Longanacre stated that this program must have two instructors in order to run per the Department of Defense. One is a Commissioned Officer and one is a Non-Commissioned Officer. Instructors must have 20 years of experience to step into the classrooms along with other requirements. He stated to watch the students transform is his highest honor. The JROTC Program earned Honor Unit with Distinction during the Army review and students received a gold star to wear on their uniforms. Major Longanacre invited the board members to stop by and watch the growth of the students and he thanked the board for allowing him to speak and share the JROTC Program with them.

- c. Delegate Longanacer also spoke on The House of Delegate bi-partisan House Resolution regarding Chapter 18 of the WV Code. He does not like to speak politics while in uniform so therefore has changed. As a delegate he feels that you have to make decisions that not everyone is happy with. He stated he was not going to put the school union first. He is going to put the students first. He spoke on Charter Schools. He said that he dropped out of school at 16 because the public school system did not help him. He was out of school for 2 years. He wanted an education and a relative got him back into school. Delegate Longanacre stated he cleaned the school for his tuition to private school. He stated that sometimes private schools work where the public schools fail and public schools work sometimes when private schools fail. He feels the Charter Schools work for the students that need them. Delegate Longanacre stated he wants to see West Virginia Public Schools get better and not compete to be in last place with Mississippi. He feels he can do better than 80 years of policies that did not have the students best interest in place. Delegate Longanacre stated that he is forming a committee with a Bi-Partisan effort they are wanting to revise WV Code and make it work for the students and have teachers able to teach what needs to be taught. He again thanked the board for giving him the opportunity to speak, and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Wickline asked how many students are in his JROTC program and how many JROTC programs are there across the state. Delegate Longanacre stated they have 33 cadets right now in the program. Between Sergeant Wiley and Major Longanacre they have 60 years of experience. He feels their program numbers are declining because enrollment is declining. He stated

moms and dads are moving away for work and that is a statistic, take it or leave it. Mr. Wickline also stated that the overwhelming majority of students attend public schools and why did the legislature not correct the problems there first, rather than a hand full of those that can afford private schools or charter schools? Mr. Wickline also asked if he thinks that parents should not be taxed for students going to public schools. Delegate Longanacre stated that is the consensus. He thinks you should be able to get your money back from the public school system. He said our students are leaving the state when they graduate. Mr. Wickline stated that if you send your kids to private schools that you should pay for those services. He would like to know why the counties could no longer collect union dues for employees. Delegate Longanacre said that counties can still collect Union dues. Mr. Wickline stated that the county has been told they cannot. Dr. Basile stated that counties can no longer collect Union Dues from employees' wages as has been in the past. Mr. Spangler stated that the school board can no longer collect union dues and take them out of employee paychecks. Delegate Longanacre said he will research that. Mr. Wickline asked about the legislation passed to allow those without a teaching degree to teach.

Delegate Longanacre stated that if a person can pass a drug test or a background check give them a praxis and see if they can teach. That would stop your teacher shortage, that is the way we looked at that bill. When asked about homeschooling, Delegate Longanacre stated that if you choose to homeschool a student that you should get money back to help with your books and such. Mrs. Stutts spoke about concerns she has with some homeschool students not receiving instruction. Delegate Longanacre said there are some kids that will flunk out of homeschool but some will go on to get their GED and go on to college. He said that is the same with public school system and feels there are problems with the school systems in West Virginia. Delegate Longanacre said we fail at public education, homeschooling and charter schools. Mr. Wickline asks why they are not fixing the public school problems instead of putting them off. With the school board, if there is a problem in this county it is on the next board agenda to be addressed. Delegate Longanacre said to answer his question they did try and do something with Chapter 18 previously

but the unions said no and it was taken off the agenda. Delegate Longanacre said we can't get mad at each other over charter schools. Mr. Fraley said he is not against homeschooling that he had a child that was homeschooled for four years but there are parents that are not qualified to teach homeschool so where are the checks and balances to keep those students from failing and now they are giving parents a motivation to homeschool by giving them money. What is legislative going to do about that? Dr. Basile spoke about the regulations being removed for homeschool students. The checks and balances are gone and parents no longer have to check in each year and show adequate student progress. Legislation has changed the ability to hold parents accountable. She is concerned about the lack of regulations for homeschool. Delegate Longanacre stated we need to fix the homeschool problem but we need to fix the public school system problem of teachers showing videos in classrooms and asks how we are going to fix that. Mrs. Wallace stated she was teacher for years and wanted to know how he could reconcile getting his paycheck from our public school system, picking on a few teachers, being for charter schools, and being against the unions when they built this nation, and work in the public school system. Delegate Longanacre said that by her sarcasm there was no way she was going to agree with him. Delegate Longanacre said that if they wanted to help their state legislators fix the problems, he welcomed their help. He said that if we nit-pick the homeschoolers not doing a good job and was honest we would nit-pick the teachers in our school system that are also not doing a good job. Mr. Wickline announced that his time is over and that he appreciated him coming and his time and service to the country.

V. Public Comments

- a. Mr. Wickline stated there were no public comments.

VI. Superintendent's Report

- a. Dr. Basile announced that the JROTC Army review yielded a score of 99.25 out of 100 which qualifies the unit as a Honor Unit of Distinction. This is the first time the unit has received this rank and we are extremely proud of the cadets. She stated she went down and

watched some of the review and they did a great job. The cadets were very nervous but were well trained for the event. Dr. Basile would like to recognize them at a board meeting in the near future and let them tell the Board about the review.

- b. Dr. Basile noted that the boys' basketball team played for the regional championship last week and were defeated in overtime by Greenbrier West. She is very proud of the boys.
- c. Dr. Basile provided the BOE a copy of the updated spring calendar of events. Highlighted are new or revised dates of activities. Dr. Basile stated the senior parade is planned for May 22nd and will follow the same route as last year, leaving Peterstown, driving 219, circling through JMHS, further going to Union and ending at MVS. Emergency responders and police will assist.
- d. Dr. Basile announced WVDE anticipates the Pfizer vaccination being available for children ages 12 and older. They have asked Monroe County to begin gathering parent interest so they know how many to order next week. Dr. Basile stated she would send this survey out but wanted to notify the board first.
- e. Dr. Basile explained that Transportation will now be a part of district accountability and Monroe County has received their preliminary scorecard and it is good. Dr. Basile stated she cannot release the efficiency scorecard yet since it is preliminary but it looks at data and she is pleased with this report.
- f. Dr. Basile announced that our middle and elementary schools are beginning summative assessment this week and it will run several weeks.

VII. JMHS Student Body President's Report

- a. Jada Stutts gave a quote saying "Don't be afraid to give up the good to go for the great!". She stated that Administration was working hard to get ready for Prom and Graduation.

VIII. Consent Items

- a. Mrs. Sabol motioned to approve all Consent Items and the vote to approve was unanimous. Consent items consisted of Approve Board Minutes from 4-6-2021, and Board Minutes from 4-20-21, Payment of Bills, Transfers and Supplements, "The View" Rental Contract for

James Monroe High School Prom, Bluefield State College Partnership Agreement and Zonar GPS System for Transportation.

IX. New Business

- a. Ashely Mann presented a request to compete in two History Bowl Tournaments. One on May 8th and one on May 9th. The Competitions are being held in Charleston. Dr. Basile stated that Dr. Hansbarger had reviewed their Covid-19 safety plan and did not have health concerns for the students to compete. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the 8th Grade Request to compete in WV History Bowl Competition. The vote to approve was unanimous.

X. Old Business

- a. Mr. Fraley made the motion to approve the Revised Temporary COVID-19 Leave Policy to include caring for immediate family and waive the comment period. The vote to approve was three to one with Mrs. Wallace, no because of wording, Mr. Wickline abstained, Mrs. Stutts yes, Mrs. Sabol yes and Mr. Fraley yes.

XI. Personnel Items

- a. Mrs. Sabol made the motion to approve Personnel Items and the vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. Personnel hires are Dennis Bare as Temporary Custodian at PMS.
- c. Resignations are Brandon Comer as Grounds-man/General Maintenance, Jennifer Gunter as Substitute Licensed Practical Nurse, Kelly Beverage as Digital Learning/Technology Coach for Mountain View Schools.
- d. Re-Hires are Scott Stewart as HVAC/EPA Certified Technician/General Maintenance and Lanell Carter as Evening Shift Custodian at MCTC/JMHS.

XII. Adjournment

- a. Mrs. Stutts stated it was teacher appreciation week and she appreciates everything our teachers, service personnel and administrators do for the students.
- b. Mr. Fraley made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. and the vote to approve was unanimous.



President



Secretary