

Monroe City School Board of Education
2006 Tower Drive
Monroe, Louisiana 71201

MINUTES

The Monroe City School Board met in regular session, Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at Monroe City School District Central Office, 2006 Tower Drive; Monroe, Louisiana 71201. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President McFarland. Prayer was offered by Mr. Brandon Johnson and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Vickie Dayton.

Agenda Item 1C – Roll Call

Present: Mrs. Victoria Dayton, Mrs. Jennifer Haneline, Mr. Bill Willson, Mr. Daryll Berry, Bishop Rodney McFarland, Sr., Mr. Brandon Johnson and Mrs. Brenda Shelling.

Action Item 1D – Adoption of the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mrs. Haneline, the Board approved the agenda as printed. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 2 – City of Monroe STEM Check Presentation

Mayor Jamie Mayo, Mrs. Gretchen Ezernach, and Ms. Juanita Woods presented the Board with a check for \$25,000. The City of Monroe has partnered with the school district to assist with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) training for Cyber Literacy I students at Carroll High, Wossman High and Neville High. Graduating seniors will have the opportunity to take tests for IT Certification; which will meet the needs of the business community by placing employees in position to fill needed jobs in the community. Funds will be used solely to purchase mandatory equipment for teachers to teach the program.

Action Item 3 – Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve September 12, 2017 Board meeting minutes; approved travel for Wossman High JROTC to Baton Rouge, LA, November 4-5, 2017 and Lee Junior High Spanish Class to Jefferson, TX, November 8, 2017; approved policies DJEAC (Credit Cards) and JS (Student Fees, Fines and Charges); accepted the first reading of policies JDA (Corporal Punishment) and JGCD (Administration of Medication); approved a Cooperative Endeavour Agreement with Louisiana Board of Regents to provide college access and career readiness services; approved driver's education fee increase from \$250 to \$300, and changed previously approved site #3 (across from Wossman High) to site #2 (adjacent to Wossman High) for the new Martin Luther King, Jr. Junior High.

President McFarland stated that the district has the support of the City of Monroe on movement of the site for the new junior high school. Mr. Willson asked if this is approval to build on the new site or is it contingent upon something happening. President McFarland responded that it is approval to build the school on site #2. He also stated that a community meeting will be held.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 4 – Consent Agenda Items for Separate Consideration

None

Action Item 5A – First Reading of Proposed Bus Operator Activity Leave Policy

President McFarland stated that this is not an action item; it's a first reading. Mr. Willson asked if this policy will be vetted by the appropriate committee prior to the vote. He also inquired about the financial impact and the effect on other groups of employees. Attorney Lawrence stated that he was tasked with drafting a policy to legally supplement pay of bus operators so that they would not lose their regular pay when driving an activity route that impeded their regular route. He stated that it would be equivalent to the Board having the power to give salary supplements as in the case of sales tax disbursement. Mrs. Dayton stated that she would like to see how the draft policy compares to similar policies across the district. Mr. Johnson stated that this is not a raise for bus drivers; its five days that can only be used for taking students on field trips. He further stated that it is unfair for drivers to take personal days to drive for the district. Mrs. Dayton asked that Forethought review the policy prior to adoption. Mrs. Haneline stated that she will make contact with Forethought to vet the policy and compare it to similar policies in other districts.

Action Item 5B – Resolution Authorizing the Naming of New Wossman High Field House

On a motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Willson, the Board approved a resolution authorizing the naming of the new field house at Wossman High as the Pat Williams Field House. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 5C – Resolution Authorizing the Naming of Wossman High Football Field

On a motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Willson, the Board approved a resolution authorizing the naming the football field at Wossman High as the Ray Gambino Field. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 6A – Report of Board Attorney

No report.

Agenda Item 6B – Report of Superintendent

Dr. Vidrine announced that the district will participate in the City-Wide Fire Drill on October 11th at 9:00 a.m. Also, administrators are working diligently with principals and teachers to set SLT's.

Agenda Item 6C – Report of Board Members

Mr. Willson congratulated Neville High School for being recognized by Architectural Digest as being the most beautiful public high school in Louisiana.

Mr. Berry thanked everyone for attending the groundbreaking for Carroll High School Medical Magnet Facility.

Mrs. Shelling thanked the community and public for attending the name unveiling of Roy Neal Shelling, Sr. Elementary School. She commended the principal and staff on the 96th Birthday Bash for Barkdull Faulk Elementary.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Meetings

Board of Education Meetings – Tuesday, November 7th and Thursday, December 7th at 6:00 p.m.

Action Item 8 – Executive Session

On a motion by Mrs. Shelling and seconded by Mrs. Haneline, the Board convened in executive session at 6:38 p.m. to discuss suspected employee misconduct on a school campus; Jimmy Andrews vs. Monroe City School Board, No. 65-11,297 {USDC-W.D. of Louisiana}; and Graphics Packaging International vs. City of Monroe, et al, No. 2011-2031 {4th Judicial Court, Parish of Ouachita}. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Reconvene In Open Session

The Board reconvened in open session at 7:59 p.m. and the meeting continued.

Action

On a motion by Mrs. Haneline and seconded by Mrs. Dayton, the Board adopted a resolution seeking assistance from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor for investigation of suspected misappropriation and mishandling of school funds. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 9 – Recess/Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Bishop Rodney McFarland, Sr.
Board President

Dr. Brent Vidrine
Superintendent

Note: These minutes summarize the final decisions made by the Board at the referenced meeting. This meeting was also audio recorded and that recording is available for review by contacting the Board clerk at laura.jacobs@mcschools.net.