

**Monroe-Gregg Board of School Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Administration Office
December 12, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Monroe-Gregg Board of School Trustees began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by School Board President, Mr. Brock Sears, at 6:35 P.M. in the Administration Office. Board members in attendance included Mr. Tom Kennedy, Mrs. Celina Clements, Mr. Jack Elliott, and Mr. Tim Pridemore. Superintendent, Dr. Kirk Freeman, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. John Crum, and School Board Attorney, Mr. Steve Harris, were present. Principals in attendance included Mr. Mike Springer, Mrs. Brandy Hyatt, and Mrs. Melissa York. MGTA Representatives, Mrs. Casey Honkomp, and Ms. Julie Dimmack, were in attendance as well.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION

Student recognition awards are sponsored by the Monrovia Alumni Association each month. Coffey Compass Realty donated pizza coupons to each of our December recipients. Students recognized were Everett Arnold and Grace Peters- MES; Molly Harris- MMS; and Dorothy Dimmack- MHS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Elliott to approve the Executive Session & Regular Board Meeting Minutes from November 14, 2022. Mrs. Clements seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve claims #96941 through #97120 as presented in the amount of \$2,341,280.03. Seconded by Mr. Pridemore, the motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Pridemore made a motion to approve all personnel recommendations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF ELEMENTARY ROOFING CONTRACT

Assistant Superintendent, Mr. John Crum, advised the Board that public notices were made in local newspapers and two bids were placed at the bid opening on December 6, 2022. Master Steel Roofing, Inc. came in with the lowest bid at \$1,875,000.00 with an alternate amount of \$16,770.00 to include snow guards. The total bid was \$1,891,770.00. Moisture Management reviewed the bid and deemed Master Steel Roofing, Inc. responsible and qualified for the project. Mr. Crum asked the Board to approve the contract and give Dr. Freeman authority to sign a Notice to Proceed. Mr. Kennedy asked whether the bond amount would still allow for the bus replacement plans. Mr. Crum confirmed bus replacement was still possible. Mr. Sears asked whether the bid amount was locked in and inquired about allowances. Mr. Crum stated the price was locked in and a \$30,000.00 allowance was built in. Mr. Elliott made a motion to approve the contract and give Dr. Freeman authority to sign a Notice to Proceed. Mrs. Clements seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MONROVIA PARKS & REC BOARD

The Monrovia Town Council recently adopted an ordinance 2022-07 creating a Town Parks and Recreation Board. The Council asked that Mr. Brock Sears be appointed as the ex officio member representing Monroe-Gregg Schools. Dr. Freeman asked for Board approval to appoint Mr. Sears to the Monrovia Parks & Recreation Board. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve. Mrs. Clements seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLASSIFIED & ADMINISTRATOR HANDBOOK CHANGES

In November, Dr. Freeman asked the Board to table this item for review in December. The Administration team has now finalized their recommendations for Board approval. Mr. Elliott made a motion to approve the changes. Mr. Pridemore seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF PAY INCREASES FOR CLASSIFIED STAFF

Corporation Treasurer, Mrs. Kelly Dillon, prepared a proposal for pay increases for classified staff. Dr. Freeman shared that the increases would ensure all classified employees will earn a minimum of \$15 per hour effective January 1, 2023. Mr. Kennedy inquired about whether there would still be an opportunity to make adjustments. Dr. Freeman stated that this increase addressed the bulk of the concerns the Board had regarding classified staff pay. However, future adjustments would be reviewed as necessary. Mr. Pridemore made a motion to approve the pay increases as presented. Mrs. Clements seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

BOARD POLICY VOLUME 34 NEOLA UPDATES-FINAL REVIEW & APPROVAL

School Board policy changes and updates were presented to the Board for review and consideration in November. Dr. Freeman asked for approval of these changes. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to amend Policy 6325 to adjust the small purchases threshold to \$150,000.00 and approve all other updates. Mr. Pridemore seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

MONROVIA MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Middle School Principal, Mrs. Brandy Hyatt, provided highlights regarding recent happenings at the Middle School. No Board action was required on this agenda item.

THANK YOU TO BOARD MEMBER, MR. PRIDEMORE

Dr. Freeman thanked Mr. Pridemore for his 12 years of service on the Monroe-Gregg School Board of Trustees. All Board members expressed appreciation for his dedication and commitment to Monrovia schools. We wish Mr. Pridemore and his wife the very best as they look forward to spending more time traveling.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Dr. Freeman shared the following items with the Board:

District:

- We've increased our substitute teacher pool in the last month by 7. We also have two more individuals going through the background check process. Thank you again to the Board for the pay increase. It is definitely helping to attract applicants.

Monrovia Elementary School:

- Students adopted a sea turtle at the beginning of the year. Recently, they attended a Google Meet with the Hawaii Island Hawksbill Project to learn more about turtles and conservation.
- The Student Council started back up. Students recently went on a field trip Christmas shopping for a family in need. It was a great experience for students.
- The annual Christmas card contest just concluded. Two student drawings were selected for the elementary Christmas card. One winner was selected for the district Christmas card. We have an extremely talented group of students! Thank you to Art Teacher, Mrs. Turpin, for coordinating.
- The elementary is getting creative with PD time- Specials teachers are chaperoning grade level field trips so classroom teachers can do professional development. Trial run is December 15th- 3rd graders will be going to a Girl Scout Camp for hands-on activities. We are interested to hear back on the success.

Monrovia Middle School:

- Students presented High School Musical last weekend. Great student involvement and great crowd! It's wonderful to see students push themselves outside their comfort zone and try new things!
- EL Teacher, Mrs. Amy Dunn developed an Ambassador Club to help our new students with language learning needs. Great way for students to build a sense of community within the school.
- MMS collected over 300 food items for the Bulldog Blessings Pantry during a food drive sponsored by the National Junior Honor Society. SADD club is assembling stockings for the pantry for their December distribution.

Monrovia High School:

- Varsity football went to Regionals- First time ever in class 3A! Very proud of Coach Olson and the players.
- Basketball season kicked off! Our Unified Basketball program recently competed in between the JV & Varsity Basketball game at Cascade. Everyone enjoyed it. Thank you to AD, Nick Purichia for making this happen.
- IASP Academic Spell Bowl State Regional was hosted by MHS for the very first time! Southport HS won and advanced to the state competition at Purdue.
- Christmas programs are in full swing. The band did a wonderful job at their Christmas concert with a full crowd. Christmas Choir Concert is the 14th. We are very lucky to have such an amazing music department. Thank you to Mr. Willett and Mrs. Slavens and the students for all their hard work.
- FFA Toy Drive just wrapped up. Thanks to our FFA for coordinating the effort to collect and donate toys to the WCBK Truckload of Toys event.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

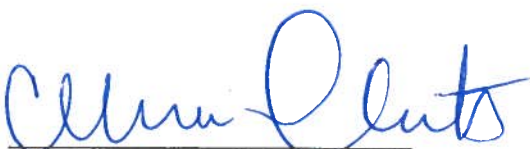
There were no final public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pridemore made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Elliott. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M. by School Board President, Mr. Sears.



Mr. Brock Sears, Board President



Mrs. Celina Clements, Board Secretary