

**Monroe-Gregg Board of School Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Administration Office
November 14, 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 6:30 P.M. in the Administration Office. Board members in attendance included Mr. Tom Kennedy, Mrs. Celina Clements, and Mr. Jack Elliott. Superintendent, Dr. Kirk Freeman, and Assistant Superintendent, Mr. John Crum, 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, as well as, Athletic Director, Mr. Nick Purichia, were in attendance.

CONSIDERATION OF DONATION FROM SICHTING FAMILY

The Sighting Family presented a donation of \$2,900.00 to Athletic Director, Mr. Nick Purichia, for the Athletic Department. Mr. Purichia graciously accepted and thanked the Sighting family for their support. Mrs. Clements made a motion to accept the generous donation, seconded by Mr. Kennedy. The motion carried 4-0.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION

Student recognition awards are sponsored by the Monrovia Alumni Association each month. Chicago's Pizza of Mooresville also donated pizza coupons to each of our November recipients. Students recognized were Kane Baylor and Jeremy Behling- MES; Steven Pryor- MMS; and Whitney Willett- 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 October 3, 2022, Work Session Minutes from October 6, 2022, and Special Meeting Minutes from October 18, 2022. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve claims #6644 through #6807 as presented in the amount of \$2,333,422.15. Seconded by Mr. Elliott, the motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board requested that it be noted in the minutes that the middle school boys and girls basketball coaching positions receive equal compensation. For this season, the boys basketball coaches agreed to split the total compensation of all four coaching positions amongst three coaches; therefore, the compensation amounts are different than what the girls coaches will receive. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve all personnel recommendations. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Clements and carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF EXTENSION ON HADLEY PROPERTY

Dr. Freeman asked the Board to extend the closing of the Hadley Property to February 14, 2023.

Mr. Elliott made a motion to approve the extension, seconded by Mrs. Clements. The motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF 2023-2024 CALENDAR

Dr. Freeman asked the Board to approve the 2023-2024 calendar as created by the Discussion Team. Start and end dates are similar to past calendars. Three (3) e-learning days were included, and snow days were added back to the calendar due to the state's new stipulations surrounding e-learning requirements. Mrs. Clements made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 calendar. Mr. Kennedy seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF STRATUS CLEANING CONTRACT

Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Crum, shared that the district is short of custodians, and attempts to hire new personnel have been unsuccessful. Mr. Crum presented a contract to hire Stratus Building Solutions to clean Monrovia Middle School through May 26, 2023. Mr. Crum shared that outsourcing will help make cleaning the building more manageable for our current staff. Mrs. Clements requested assurance that background checks would be performed on all cleaning personnel and that teachers would be notified of the new personnel in their classrooms. Mr. Crum indicated he would follow up. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the Stratus Contract as presented. Mrs. Clements seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF LIABILITY INSURANCE RENEWAL

Dr. Freeman and Mr. Crum met with John Parmley from HBG Insurance regarding the district's liability insurance renewal. The rates are 30% higher this year due to increased property values, growth, and an increase in the number of Worker's Compensation claims. Dr. Freeman recommended the Board select the \$10,000.00 deductible to reduce the district's premium. Dr. Freeman also stated training will be provided to staff to help reduce Worker's Compensation claims in the future. Mr. Elliott made a motion to approve the insurance renewal. Mrs. Clements seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLASSIFIED & ADMINISTRATOR HANDBOOK CHANGES

Dr. Freeman asked the Board to table this item for review in December. The Administration team is recommending additional changes. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to table the discussion until the December meeting. Mrs. Clements seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

ICC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

High School Principal, Mr. Mike Springer, presented highlights of the November 2, 2022 ICC Conference Symposium held at Monrovia High School. Mr. Springer thanked Mr. Mark Jaynes and Mr. Nick Purichia for their organization of the event which included 80 students and athletic directors from schools within the ICC conference. The symposium's panel discussion and key note message, "Educational Based Athletics," were impactful for all audience members.

No Board action was required on this agenda item.

CONSIDERATION OF JAZZ BAND TRIP

Mr. Brian Willett, Band Director, submitted a proposal for members of the Monrovia Jazz Band to take an educational trip to include four (4) stops in Indiana and Ohio from January 29, 2023 through February 2, 2023. The trip would include performance opportunities each day. Students would be responsible for the cost associated with the trip, and fourteen (14) adults would chaperone. Mr. Elliott made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kennedy seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

FIRST READ OF BOARD POLICY VOLUME 34 NEOLA UPDATES

School Board policy changes and updates were presented to the Board for consideration. Dr. Freeman will ask for approval of these changes at the December Board meeting. Board action is not required at this time.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Dr. Freeman recommended an increase to substitute teacher pay in an effort to be competitive within the area. The increase would be \$80.00/no degree, \$90.00/with a degree, and \$110.00 for retired teachers. Mrs. Clements made a motion to approve the increase for substitute teachers. Mr. Elliott seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Dr. Freeman also highlighted recent happenings at each of the school buildings as follows:

Monrovia Elementary School:

- Students had a virtual visit with Hunter's Honey Farm and created plans to help save the bee population.
- YMCA tutoring sessions are up and running with a focus on reading and math. Administration & teachers are engaged in the program, making it their own to ensure it meets our students' needs.
- PTO reinstated Popcorn Friday. This is a great treat for the first Friday of every month.

Monrovia Middle School:

- Special education teachers and students completed a service project by delivering treats to our bus drivers, cafeteria staff, custodians, and classroom aides.
- Mr. Savini, our new 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher, started the S.A.D.D club back up. He's had a great turnout of student participants.
- Spooktacular Learning Day- Teachers transformed classrooms and implemented hands-on lessons that excited the students.

Monrovia High School:

- Media contacted the high school to have a press conference regarding the recent medical emergency. It was a great opportunity to thank our nurse, officers, and staff for the life saving measures provided.
- Mr. Reeder was named the Caleb Mills Indiana History Teacher of the Year as recognized by the Indiana Historical Society.
- FFA- Thirty (30) students attended the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. Our National Agriscience Fair Bronze Finalist, Kaylan Beach, was recognized.
- The Bulldog Brigade earned 6th place at ISSMA State Finals.
- Varsity Football made history by winning the 3A Regional Championship!
- Girls Varsity Golf earned the highest GPA of all fall sports with a 3.93 average.
- Girls Soccer won their first ever Sectional Championship. Four players made ICC All Conference.
- Three Varsity Cross Country runners were Regional qualifiers.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

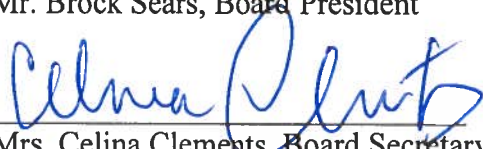
There were no final public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Elliott made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Clements. 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