

**Monroe-Gregg Board of School Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
High School Auxiliary Gym
September 13, 2021**

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, Mrs. Celina Clements at 6:33 P.M., in the High School Auxiliary Gym. Board Members in attendance were: Mr. Jack Elliott, Mr. Tom Kennedy, Mr. Tim Pridemore and Mr. Brock Sears. Also in attendance, Dr. Kirk Freeman, School Superintendent; Mr. Steve Harris, School Board Attorney; Director of Finance, Kelly Dillon; MGTA President, Casey Honkomp; and several community members.

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Elliott made a motion to call the 2022 Budget Hearing to order at 6:34, seconded by Mr. Pridemore. Stifel Financial Advisor, Chad Blacklock presented the Proposed 2022 School Budget, 2022-2026 Bus Replacement Plan, 2022-2025 Capital Projects Plan. There were no questions or comments in the public hearing regarding the 2022 Budget.

Board President, Celina Clements adjourned the hearing at 6:41 P.M.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION:

Student recognition awards are sponsored by the Monrovia Alumni each month. September 2021 award recipients were Clara Ferguson – MES; Charlie Rounds – MES; JJ Hause – MMS; and Brooke Farley – MHS

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Teacher Union President, Casey Honkomp spoke on behalf of the M-GSD Teaching Staff. Mrs. Honkomp shared the overwhelming support from the teachers, to return to masks while in the building, due to the large number of quarantined students and staff. It is in the best interest of the students to receive in-person instruction for a higher quality education.

The following parents and community members requested to speak. Each request was submitted and followed requirements for Board Policy 0167.3 Public Participation at Board Meeting.

Parent, Mrs. Erica Leeds, regarding Quarantine Policy

Parent, Dr. Angela Vaughn-Frederick regarding COVID Mandates and Quarantine Guidelines.

Parent, Brianne Campbell regarding Quarantine Policy

The following parents and community members spoke regarding masks, quarantining and school policies pertaining to COVID-19: Jacqueline Tharp, Melissa Hale and Shawn Massingale. Each speaker was required to state their name, home address and given five (5) minutes to share their concerns with the Board.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The motion was made by Mr. Elliott to approve the following minutes as presented:

Executive Meeting and Regular Meeting from August 9, 2021

Mr. Kennedy seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Mr. Kennedy made the motion to approve claims, #4701 through #4854 in the amount of \$1,598,174.04. Mr. Sears seconded the motion to approve payment of expenditures as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS AND STIPENDS

Mr. Pridemore made a motion to approve all personnel recommendations and stipends as presented with no additions, changes or deletions to the report. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion; motion carried 5-0.

FOOD SERVICE UPDATE BY MANAGER, MRS. LIZ MALONE

Mrs. Malone presented the Board with a book highlighting the 2020-2021 school year. At this time she also took a few minutes to update everyone on procedures and the efforts her staff is taking to feed the students. The most difficult challenge at this time for the cafeteria and Mrs. Malone, is the unavailable food from vendors.

CONSIDERATION OF CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT

Mrs. Dillon provided a list of employees who may receive the cell phone compensation of \$50 per month. Mr. Pridemore made a motion to approve the \$50 per month for each employee as recommended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sears and carried 5-0

CONSIDERATION TO DISPOSE OF OLD EQUIPMENT

Mr. Elliott made the motion to approve the disposal of the Roland Versa Camm US-540 Banner Maker. The equipment is old, broken and of no value to the district. Mr. Pridemore seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF THE UPDATED COVID-19 PLAN

Dr. Freeman asked the Board to approve the updated plan as submitted. This plan was created and agreed upon by the Administrators, Teachers and the School Nurses. The updated plan calls for students and staff to wear masks while in the buildings. This will eliminate excessive quarantining for students and staff, allowing the district to remain open for in-person learning. Mr. Sears made the motion to approve the plan as presented. Mr. Kennedy seconded and the motion carried 5-0. Board President, Celina Clements stated the plan would be reviewed again in 30 days.


OTHER

Dr. Freeman asked the Board to approve a request from Teacher Shelby Dye allowing the FFA students to attend two overnight camps at the FFA Center in Trafalgar, Indiana. Mr. Elliott made the motion to approve as presented, seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pridemore made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Sears. Mrs. Clements adjourned the meeting at 7:23 P.M.


Mrs. Celina Clements, Board President


Mr. Tim Pridemore, Board Secretary