

July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## Monroe-Gregg School Board Meeting Report

By: Mark Jaynes

At the July meeting of the Monroe-Gregg School Board, a state-mandated Public Hearing was held to begin the bargaining process between the Board and the Teachers Union. Union representatives were on hand and told the Board their focus would be on improving teacher salaries-especially the starting teacher pay. Monroe-Gregg's starting teacher pay ranks 257<sup>th</sup> out of 287 schools state-wide and the Union hopes that will change.

In the personnel report, the resignation of Kevin Hutchins as Health, PE teacher and Varsity Football Coach was accepted. Hutchins appeared in two State Championship games during his two tenures-winning the 2A title in 2015. Hannah Bright-Hughes resigned as Middle Math Teacher. New hires include Joy Hernandez at the Middle School and Kristina Pendill as an Elementary Developmental Preschool Teacher. Scott Sears and Beverley Sears retired from the Transportation Department. Andrew Grismore and Ben Martin will head up the Middle School Math and Science Departments respectively, and Kathy Sears was hired as Middle School Drama Director with Rebecca Bowen serving as the Assistant Director.

Textbook rental fees were approved for the upcoming school year. All three Extra-curricular Treasurers were retained: Judy Mobley at the High School; Wavelyn Bettenhausen at Monrovia Middle and Amy Cox at Monrovia Elementary.

The 2020 Corporation Budget Calendar was approved which includes a Bus Replacement Plan. The Board voted to continue the practice of not hearing student expulsion appeals.

Melissa Lancaster, Director of Special Education, submitted a request to reduce Pre-School from 4 and a half days to 4 days. The request was made due to the increased volume of mandated paperwork. The Board okayed the request upon learning the amount of actual instruction time would not be affected.

The Board approved a Varsity Volleyball Field Trip to a camp at the University of Kentucky. Finally, the local 4-H and FFA programs were complimented on the successful return of the local Monrovia 4-H Fair held in late June on the Elementary campus. The custodial and maintenance staffs under the direction of Brett Everett were complimented on the interior painting of the middle and high school buildings as-well-as the power washing of the exterior and the repaving of the high school parking lot.