

MONROE-GREGG SCHOOL BOARD REPORT
FEBRUARY 2020

From Communications Director, Mark Jaynes

For the second consecutive month, the Monroe Gregg School Board heard from parents' expressing concerns over the direction of the Football program and treatment of players either enrolled or not enrolled in Advanced Physical Education. Larry Hayes pointed to what he called a lack of leadership and an increasingly negative environment mounting as the Varsity Football team spiraled toward a 0-10 season. By seasons end, Hayes said players had lost the desire to participate. He didn't feel enough was being done to maintain a positive atmosphere under the pressure of a winless season. Christie Suttons' concerns stemmed from what she called an insistence, her son take Advanced PE or Weight Training. She said a policy issued by the Football program is a direct contradiction to school policy. She says she prefers her son take more weighted classes in an effort to gain admission into college, but feared "retribution," if her son did not sign up for the class.

Board President Jack Elliott thanked the parents for their input and says the Board and Administration are looking into the concerns expressed now that Superintendent Dr. Kirk Freeman has returned from Medical Leave. As far as Dr. Freeman, he too expressed an interest in gaining closure on the matter. The coach in question is scheduled to meet in Executive Session with the School Board within a few days.

In other matters, 1.3 million in claims were approved. DECA Club sponsor Matt Hankins says Home Bank has donated 300 dollars and the Board honored High School Principal Mike Springers' request for 3,000 dollars to cover the cost of the DECA Clubs' trip to compete in State Competition in March. The Student Transfer Application was updated. 246 student transfers were approved prior to the start of this school year. The deadline for application was moved to mid-September 2020 for the upcoming school year.

In personnel matters, Janelle Shanahan was hired as an Elementary Special Education Aide. The High School Communications teacher and Director of Communications, Mark Jaynes salary was set at just under 43-thousand dollars effective in July of 2020. A couple of other ECA moves were made.

Anne Burns of Five-Star, the Corporations IT Coordinator, received permission to dispose of E-Waste-technology. Monrovia Middle School Principal Rebecca McPherson received Board approval for two Field Trips. The annual 8th grade trip in April to Springfield, Illinois to visit Abraham Lincoln sites and the annual 6th grade trip to Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry in May.

At Monrovia Elementary, the Mooresville Master Garden Club will work with students to plant trees on the campus. They were also given the okay to expand their Outdoor Classroom and received a 2,000 dollar donation to their Pre-school Special Needs program courtesy of Jim Campbell.

Students of the Month also were honored:

Dylan Milam and Mackenzie Hicks were introduced by Monrovia Elementary Principal Melissa York. Becky McPherson recognized Kaitlyn Mattocks as the Middle School Student of the Month and High School Principal Mike Springer welcomed Levi Rupert. Thanks to the Alumni Association for sponsoring the award.

Finally, all welcomed back Dr. Kirk Freeman who had triple bypass surgery just a month ago. He expressed gratitude for the outpouring of support he and his family received during his recovery and says in a very short period of time, he and his family truly feel as though they are home.