

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monroe-Gregg School District
Monrovia Elementary Media Center
March 10, 2008
6:30 p.m.

Present were Mr. Jack Elliott, Mr. James Shields, Mr. Scott Everett, and Mr. Paul Kaiser. Mrs. Nancy Dorsett was unable to attend.

Pledge of Allegiance

I. Call to Order

Mr. Jack Elliott, Board President, called the board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Curriculum, Building Updates, and Other Reports

Student of the Month

Mr. Chris Sampson, Monrovia Elementary Principal congratulated fourth grader Madelynne Wright on being chosen as the elementary Student of the Month. Mr. Sampson described Madelynn as a committed student who is always willing to participate in discussions and assist others. Madelynne's commitment to excellence shows in her academic achievements. Madelynne's teacher, Mrs. Weiss, says that she is a wonderful addition to the classroom.

Mrs. Bobbie Jo Monahan, Monrovia Middle School Principal, congratulated Jonathan Skillern on being chosen as the middle school Student of the Month. Jonathan is a sixth grader who was described as a student who will succeed because of his positive attitude.

Mr. Duffy Hagist, Monrovia Senior High School principal, congratulated senior Mina Potamousis as the high school Student of the Month. Mina is ranked fifteenth in her class and will receive an academic honors diploma. She is a member of National Honor Society, show choir, and participates in many volunteer activities.

II. Curriculum Building Updates and Other Reports (continued)

Purdue Literacy Presentation

Mrs. Melissa York, Monrovia Elementary kindergarten teacher, began her presentation by thanking the Board for her Purdue Primary Literacy Coordinator training. The goal of the program is to assure successful literacy achievement for every student. Mrs. York is receiving training to become a literacy coordinator for the primary grades. Mrs. York explained that there are three components to the program; reading, writing and language/word study. The literacy coordinator is considered a learner, teacher, colleague, mentor/instructional leader, and researcher.

Mr. Paul Kaiser, Superintendent, advised that the goal for the 2008/09 school year is for Mrs. York to work one-half day and then work with other classroom teachers the other half day. He noted that the literacy program is instrumental in increased test scores. Board members and Mr. Kaiser thanked Mrs. York for her presentation.

Band Program Presentation

Mr. Brian Willett, Monrovia high school teacher and Band Director, distributed information to board and audience members. Mr. Willett's report gave a brief history of the band and its accomplishments.

Mr. Kaiser and Mr. Willett spoke of the benefits of purchasing more band instruments. An influx of instruments would provide for more players in the program and would allow greater involvement by students.

Mr. Willett explained his request for new band uniforms. The band is currently using uniforms that are fourteen years old. A band uniform is typically guaranteed for eight years. The uniforms that are being requested are machine washable which will enable the band to save the \$1,200 that is spent yearly in cleaning fees. After questions and discussions Mr. Kaiser and the board members thanked Mr. Willett for his presentation.

II. Curriculum, Building Updates, and Other Reports

Principals' Report

Mr. Sampson, Mr. Hagist, and Mrs. Monahan distributed their building newsletter and outlined the current and future activities in their buildings.

III. Minutes

The motion was made by Mr. Greg Gore to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2008 Regular Meeting and the Executive Session of the same date. Mr. Gore's motion was seconded by Mr. James Shields and carried 4-0.

IV. Claims

The motion was made by Mr. Greg Gore to approve claims #9509 through #9642 in the amount of \$1,086,849.17. This motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Everett and carried 4-0.

V. Personnel

A motion was made by Mr. James Shields to approve the employment recommendations as listed with the salary within the parameter of the approved salary schedule. The motion was seconded by Mr. Greg Gore and carried 3-1.

VI. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Mr. Jack Elliott, board president, advised the audience that the board members receive their information packet a week before the meeting date. This allows board members the opportunity to ask the superintendent's office any questions they may have before the meeting. There were no comments or questions from the audience.

VII. Construction Updates

There was nothing to present at this time.

VIII. Quotes, Bids, Donations and Purchases

The motion was made by Mr. Scott Everett to approve and pay for one-half (1/2) of the cost for new band uniforms. Mr. Everett's motion was seconded by Mr. Greg Gore and carried 4-0.

IX. Staff Development, Trips, and Projects

There was nothing to report at this time.

X. Other Business and Information

The motion was made by Mr. James Shields to approve the Summer Drivers Education Program, seconded by Mr. Scott Everett and carried 4-0.

The motion was made by Mr. Greg Gore to approve the Strategic Planning Team that will develop a recommendation to the Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Mr. James Shields and carried 4-0.

X. Other Business and Information (continued)

The motion was made by Mr. Greg Gore to approve the Educational Services Agreement, seconded by Mr. Scott Everett and carried 4-0.

XI. Policy and Guideline Considerations

The motion was made by Mr. Greg Gore to approve the financial goal related to instructional expenditures, seconded by Mr. James Shields and carried 4-0.

The motion was made by Mr. James Shields to approve the recent Board Policy Updates dated September 2007, seconded by Mr. Greg Gore and carried 4-0.

XII. Committee and Community Reports

The next Strategic Planning Team meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2008 in the Monrovia Elementary school cafeteria. The meetings are open to the public.

Mr. Greg Gore advised audience members that there were currently forty-two members on the Committee. The members are from different geographical areas, different occupations, and represent a wide range of opinions. He noted that the Committee is comprised of a diverse group of individuals.

XIII. Board Members and Superintendent Comments

Mr. Kaiser gave a Power Point presentation on the current status of the Hall Early Childhood Center. His presentation included the core beliefs of the Center, why the Center was necessary, enrollment numbers and student to teacher ratio.

XIII. Board Members and Superintendent Comments

Mrs. Tammy Denny, Hall Early Childhood Center director, stated that she had received positive feedback from parents and State agencies.

Mr. Kaiser also discussed the Head Start program which is housed in the building as the Early Childhood Center; and he noted that the Hall Civic Association would like to move into the original Hall Elementary building. The Association is currently writing a grant that would allow them to take over the original building. Mr. Kaiser noted that there would be a cost savings to the corporation of approximately \$8,000-\$10,000 yearly on utilities.

XII. Adjournment

The motion was made by Mr. James Shields to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Greg Gore and carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Board President, Mr. Jack Elliott

Board Secretary, Mr. Scott Everett