

**Monroe-Gregg Board of School Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Administration Office
December 11, 2017**

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 Board President, Mr. Jack Elliott at 6:30 P.M., in the Administration Office conference room. Board members in attendance were: Mrs. Celina Clements, Mr. Tom Kennedy, Mr. Tim Pridemore and Mr. Chris Williams. Dr. William Roberson, Superintendent; and Mr. Steve Harris, School Attorney were both present. Also in attendance were administrators, staff and community members.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION

December Student of the Month Recognition sponsored by the Monrovia High School Alumni Association: Nash Turpin – MES; Mallory Milton – MES; Ava Ash – MMS; Keith Belakiewicz – MHS. Each principal publically acknowledges the accomplishments of a student from their building each month. It is an honor to have students and their families attend the school board meeting and be recognized for their achievements.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments at this time.

COMMUNITY MEMBER JONI NEWLIN

Joni Newlin, Community Member requested to address the School Board regarding Dr. Roberson's contract. (See attachment)

The following Board members responded:

Mr. Kennedy stated he did not agree with a contract that did not have anything listed under the addendum. He stated he did not like the current contract and therefore would not agree to an additional three years as proposed.

Mr. Williams stated he had approved all previous contracts. He trusted Dr. Roberson was doing a good job and in all honesty had not read the previous contracts. However, when presented with a new three year contract, he felt it was important to read the proposed contract before agreeing to three more years.

Mrs. Clements stated the Board had not discussed offering Dr. Roberson an additional three years and did not feel comfortable agreeing to the contract without additional clarification and discussion.

Mr. Elliott stated that the Board had several weeks' prior notice, regarding a motion to extend Dr. Roberson's contract for the ninth time would be made at the November Regular Board Meeting.

Dr. Roberson stated that, a respected Attorney, who knows in-depth the law regarding public school business, wrote his contract. There has never been anything added under the addendum section by the Board in the previous eight Board approved contracts. Dr. Roberson stated he follows Board Policy and takes great pride in doing the best job possible for kids.

Dr. Roberson asked the Board to add School Board Policy #1230 to Appendix A. The School Board did not make a motion to add School Board Policy #1230 to his contract. The school district has upgraded facilities without a tax increase over the past 5 years and has 7.2 million in cash balance under his leadership. Dr. Roberson asked that all of the contention would stop now, and he would be allowed to retire with dignity on June 30th allowing him the opportunity to complete his commitment to the students of Monroe-Gregg.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

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

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Mr. Kennedy seconded, motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Mr. Pridemore made the motion to approve claims #8250 through #8399 as presented in the amount of \$1,455,590.05. There being no changes or additional claims, Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Roberson recommended the Board approve the Personnel Report including 1 additional recommendations. The motion to approve all recommendations as presented to the Board was made by Mr. Williams. Mrs. Clements seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF BOARD POLICY #1630.01 & #3430.01

Dr. Roberson recommended approval for Board Policy #1630.01 and #3430.01. The policy changes were necessary in order to be consistent with Policy #4430.01 which was approved on August 8, 2016. Mr. Pridemore made a motion to approve the changes, seconded by Mrs. Clements. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF AUDITORIUM PLAQUE HONORING VETERANS

High School Teacher and Monrovia Alumni, Mr. Steve Reeder presented a mock workup of the Monrovia Veteran's Plaque. Mr. Reeder explained how the names were obtained and how the project has come together. Mr. Reeder's student from 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school year, have worked very hard to make this project a reality. This plaque will be 4 feet by 8 feet and displayed for everyone to view.

Dr. Roberson recommended approval of the plaque and also asked for permission to partner with the Monrovia Alumni on this project. If the Alumni Association is unable to raise sufficient monies to pay for the plaque, the school district will pay the difference. If approved, this plaque will be proudly displayed in the lobby area of the new Performing Arts Center and will honor past and present veterans. Mr. Williams made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Pridemore, motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER DEDICATION CEREMONY ON MAY 6, 2018.

The Dedication Ceremony for the Performing Arts Center will be May 6th at 2:30 PM. The committee will continue to meet and work out all the details surrounding this exciting event.

CONSIDERATION OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Dr. Roberson asked the Board to approve scholarship money from the Linda Hutsell (Verizon) Scholarship Fund each year, for the next four years, in the amount of \$2,000 per year. This money would help Dakota Lanham, a Monrovia graduate and current teaching aide for Monrovia Elementary pursue his dream of teaching. In return Dakota will give back to Monrovia by agreeing to teach at Monrovia Elementary for at least 2 years following graduation. The previous recommendation to assist Dakota in November did not work out and this would be in place of the November recommendation.

Mr. Pridemore made the motion to approve as presented. Mr. Kennedy seconded, motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION TO HOST THE INDY HOOPS GAMES YEARLY

Athletic Director, Brian Lewis requested the youth league, Indy Hoops be allowed to host tournaments each year at Monrovia High School. Mrs. Clements made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Motion carried 5-0.

OTHER

The Teacher appreciation grant was distributed ton December 8, 2017. Teachers who received a 4 on their evaluation received \$573; teachers receiving a 3 received \$429. All staff received the annual stipend. This year's stipend amount was \$1,000.

The Hoosier Heartland School Trust asked each school in the trust to provide \$40,289 in order to maintain a balance large enough to continue the Insurance Trust. Each school agreed to meet their obligation and provide the funds required.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Clements. The Board President adjourned the meeting at 7:22 P.M.



Board President



Board Secretary