

Monroe School District #1J
Regular Board Meeting
Held at Monroe High School
October 10, 2011

The board meeting was called to order by Chair Tony Stroda at 7:00 P.M.

Members present: Tony Stroda, Robert Warden, Jennifer Gamache, Superintendent Randall Crowson, Secretary Christine Manley.

Late: Mylrea Estell and Student Council Representative Alex Baker.

Absent: Nancy Burnett.

Also present: Building Principals Bill Crowson and Brenda Goracke; patrons Tim Nash, Betsy Pitcher; and TriCounty Tribune reporter Sara Moser.

Robert Warden moved to approve the minutes of September 12, 2011 as written. Second: Jennifer Gamache. Motion carried 3/0.

The consent agenda was reviewed and one item added:

3. A. Accept letter of resignation, Cathy Burson

NOTE: Mylrea Estell arrived at 7:05 P.M.

The listing of bills paid and the expenditure statements for September were reviewed and discussed. Jennifer Gamache questioned the high cost of printing the grade school parent-student handbook. Can the handbooks be recycled back to the school if there are multiple students and multiple handbooks in the family? Randall Crowson will send out a note to parents to return unused handbooks to the school. These handbooks can be used for staff and new students when supplies run low.

NOTE: Alex Baker arrived at 7:08 P.M.

The bills reviewed continued. The District now has an account at RFP Market for district gasoline.

There is a correction on the Interdistrict transfer request: Misa Bishop requests a transfer to Corvallis School District, not Junction City School District as posted on the agenda. Mr. Crowson explained that he has approved this request for this year only. He also explained that area superintendents have discussed various options with the new transfer law.

The amended LBL-ESD Local Service Plan was reviewed and discussed. There were no objections.

The Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon School for the Deaf was reviewed and discussed.

The lists of volunteer coaches and surplus items were reviewed.

The letter of resignation from Cathy Burson, grade school head custodian was read. This position is being advertised to in-district employees at this time.

Robert Warden moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Second: Jennifer Gamache. Motion carried 4/0.

The letter of support for the Sixth Street grant with the City of Monroe was read and discussed. Mylrea Estell moved to support the grant by signing the letter. Second: Robert Warden. Motion carried 4/0.

Board members read the thank you letters to Benton County Sheriff's Office, Samaritan Health Plans, and Pacific Power.

Item 5. A. Grade School field was tabled until Mr. Nash arrives.

There was no public input.

Bill Crowson presented a chart showing the status of each high school class and their progress toward passing required state assessments. After Mr. Crowson explained each class's progress there was general discussion. The Board thanked Mr. Crowson for the update.

Item 5. A. was removed from the table. Tim Nash explained that he has attempted many times to contact his representative from the Corp. of Engineers, without luck. He explained that if the grant with the Corp. of Engineers does not succeed, he will still be able to manage the project with private funds. There was general discussion regarding private donations of time and services to clear and level the area for ball field(s) and a parking area. Tony Stroda requested that the Nature Trail be left alone. There was some discussion of rebuilding the trail in another location. Mr. Nash will solicit funding beginning with his personal donation, then he'll see if there is anyone who would like to match his donation. The Board's consensus is to continue with the project and keep them informed of the progress.

The current enrollment K-12 is 479 students.

Randall Crowson included the following in his administrative report:

- House Bill 3681 Interdistrict Transfer process. There are no rules written for this House Bill because the legislator feels it is self-explanatory. However, none of the LBL area superintendents are certain of how to implement this law. The new law will allow open enrollment beginning with the 2012-13 school year and sunset in 2017.
- The state wide Homeless report was reviewed.
- Former board member Robert O'Brien's memorial service was held last week. After discussion, the Board's consensus is to send a letter to the family. Personal donations can be made to Monroe Fire Department or Hospice.

Brenda Goracke reported that football and volleyball seasons are almost over. There will be a Lego Robotics competition in December. Mr. Beatley advises the program.

Ries & Sons Heating & AC, Inc. was discussed. The Board's consensus is that until the Board can find another company as qualified as Ries & Sons Heating & AC, Inc. regarding geothermal heating and cooling systems, the District will continue to work with Ries & Sons Heating & AC as their sole source.

The Board again reviewed and discussed the following new and revised policy and administrative regulations:

- 1) EFAA District Nutrition and Food Services, new
- 2) EFAA-AR Reimbursable School Meals, new
- 3) JE Student Attendance, revised
- 4) JED Student Absences & Excuses, revised
- 5) GBCA Staff Religious Dress, new
- 6) GBCA-AR Staff Dress & Grooming, new

Mylrea Estell moved to approve the above listed policy and administrative regulations as presented. Second: Robert Warden. Motion carried 4/0.

Mr. Crowson informed the Board that he has contacted the current transportation contractor and informed him that bids will go out for school year 2015-16 as per contract requirements and the auditors requests. The contractor also wished to assure the Board that he has legally protected the operation of the company in case anything happens to him.

Mr. Crowson explained that he has obtained a 15 year loan at 3.5% interest for the heating system conversion project at the high school. The current boiler will be inspected and used until the new system is in place. Once he receives authorization to proceed with the project from the Department of Energy, he will contract with Pacific Power, and the electrician and contractors. Heat pumps and ductless systems will be installed in the main building, and propane heaters will be installed in the old gym/auditorium. Board members expressed their appreciation of Mr. Crowson pursuing these grants.

The 2010-11 Drug & Alcohol Report was reviewed and discussed.

The 2010-11 school and district Report Cards were reviewed. The high school received an "outstanding" rating, and the grade school rated a high "satisfactory" rating. The Board commended the staff on this achievement.

The leave approval process from the MTA negotiated agreement was reviewed. After discussion, the Board voiced no objections to Mr. Crowson continuing to approve or deny special leave requests. The Board only ask that Mr. Crowson continue to remain consistent in his decisions.

Chair Stroda adjourned the meeting at 8:47 P.M.