

MINUTES

Monroe City School Board
2101 Roselawn Avenue
Monroe, Louisiana 71201

The Monroe City School Board met in a special called meeting, Monday, January 26, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. at the Monroe City School Board Central Office, 2101 Roselawn Avenue, Monroe, Louisiana 71201. The meeting was called to order by President Dayton. Prayer was offered by Rev. Larry Stafford. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

Item 4: Roll Call

Board Members Present

Mrs. Victoria "Vickie" Dayton
Mrs. Victoria "Vickie" Krutzer
Mr. James Mickey Traweek
Mr. Jessie Handy
Bishop Rodney McFarland, Sr.
Mrs. Stephanie Smith
Mrs. Brenda Shelling

Action Item 5 – Adoption of the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Traweek that was seconded by Mrs. Krutzer, the Board approved the agenda as printed.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 6 – Approval of Voting Method for Board Officers

Public Comment

Ms. Helen King questioned the date and time change of the Board meeting. She stated that when meetings are held at noon the people most affected by Board decisions are unable to attend.

President Dayton stated that because of the election timeline, it was imperative that a meeting be called before the end of January. She noted that the noon meeting was scheduled at that particular date and time to accommodate all Board members.

Board Discussion

Attorney Lawrence noted that this particular method is one that has been used in the past. He stated that this method is designed to be different from the previous method which resulted in a non-election of officers.

Mr. Handy asked Attorney Lawrence when this method was used by the Board.

President Dayton replied that it was in 1998.

On a motion by Mr. Traweek that was seconded by Mrs. Krutzer, the Board approved the one vote per nominee method of electing Board officers for 2009, whereby all candidates for the office of President of the Board will be nominated at one time, and each Board member will cast a single vote in favor of the candidate of their choice. The candidate who receives the most votes wins the election. The same method will be used to elect the Vice President of the Board.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 7 – Election of Board Officers for 2009

President Dayton passed the gavel to Superintendent Dupree. He then called for the election of Board President.

Mr. Traweek nominated Mrs. Shelling.

Mrs. Smith nominated Bishop McFarland.

It was moved by Mr. Handy to close the nominations.

For Mrs. Shelling: Mrs. Dayton, Mrs. Krutzer, Mr. Traweek

For Bishop McFarland: Mr. Handy, Mrs. Smith

Recused: Bishop McFarland, Mrs. Shelling

Mrs. Shelling received the majority votes and was elected Board President.

Superintendent Dupree congratulated President Shelling. He passed the gavel and the meeting continued.

President Shelling called for the nomination for vice president:

Mrs. Dayton nominated Mr. Traweek.

Mrs. Smith nominated Bishop McFarland.

President Shelling closed the nominations.

Mr. Traweek asked Attorney Lawrence if he could vote for himself since there will be no pay increase.

Attorney Lawrence replied yes.

For Mr. Traweek: Mrs. Dayton, Mrs. Krutzer, Mr. Traweek, Mrs. Shelling

For Bishop McFarland: Mr. Handy, Mrs. Smith

Recused: Bishop McFarland

Mr. Traweek received the majority votes and was elected Board Vice President.

Mr. Traweek said, “Now that elections are over, the Board needs to move forward and take care of business.”

Mrs. Krutzer and Mr. Handy thanked Mrs. Dayton for serving as Board President.

Mrs. Dayton said, “The year 2008 was a time for character building. I pledge to do my part to move the district forward in 2009.”

President Shelling thanked the Board for her appointment as president. She said, “This is a new beginning. It is my prayer that this Board will be transparent and open to the public. I plan to conduct business above-board; non-racial and non-divisive. Working together we can do it. I ask for your guidance, support and prayers I have developed a Ten Point Plan that I will share with the Board at the next meeting.”

Agenda Item 8 – President’s Reports and Announcements

President Shelling announced that she will be in Washington, DC from January 31st to February 4th attending the National School Boards Association Federal Relations Network Conference. She asked that the February 3rd meeting be changed.

Agenda Item 9 – Superintendent’s Reports and Announcements

None

Public Comment

Ms. Sandie Lollie congratulated President Shelling and Vice President Traweek. She asked the Board to address the MFP matter as soon as possible.

Action Item 10 – Recess/Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Traweek that was seconded by Mr. Handy, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Mrs. Brenda M. Shelling
President

James A. Dupree, Ed.D.
Superintendent