

MINUTES

Monroe City School Board
2101 Roselawn Avenue
Monroe, Louisiana 71201

The Monroe City School Board met in regular session, Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at Berg Jones Elementary School, 3000 Berg Jones Lane; Monroe, Louisiana 71202. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Traweek. Prayer was offered by Mrs. Krutzer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Mamie Williams.

Agenda Item 4: Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mrs. Victoria “Vickie” Dayton, Mrs. Victoria “Vickie” Krutzer, Mr. James Mickey Traweek, Mr. Clarence Sharp, Mr. Verbon Muhammad, Mr. Glynn Ludley

Board Member Absent: Bishop Rodney McFarland, Sr.

Administrative Staff: Dr. Kathleen Harris, Attorney L. Douglas Lawrence, Dr. Phedra Brantley, Mrs. Betty Carroll, Mrs. Derenda Flowers, Mrs. DaVona Howard, Mr. Josh Leporati, Mrs. Sallie Sutherland, Dr. Tammye Turpin, Ms. Mamie Williams

Action Item 5 – Adoption of the Agenda

On a motion by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mrs. Krutzer, the Board approved the agenda as printed. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 6:A – Approval of Board Minutes

On a motion by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mr. Muhammad, the Board approved the June 7, 2011 minutes as printed. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 6:B – Personnel Agenda

Mrs. Krutzer asked Dr. Harris if the hiring freeze is being adhered to with the exception of cohort classroom teachers.

Dr. Harris replied that the hiring of teachers is based on the number of enrolled students.

On a motion by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mr. Muhammad, the Board approved human resources agenda items A-E. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 7 – Consent Items for Separate Consideration

None

Action Item 8:A – 2011-2012 Board Meeting Schedule

Mrs. Krutzer requested that meeting dates following holidays be changed.

Mr. Traweek suggested that the schedule be approved and that changes be made as the meeting date approaches.

On a motion by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mr. Sharp, the Board approved the 2011-2012 Board meeting schedule as printed. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Addition to the Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mrs. Krutzer, to add to the agenda the scheduling of a special called meeting for Monday, June 27th, to address the district's property and casualty insurance. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mrs. Krutzer, the Board scheduled a special called meeting for Monday, June 27th, 12:00 p.m. at Central Office. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 8:B – 2011-2012 Official Journal

On a motion by Mr. Sharp and seconded by Mr. Muhammad, the Board selected the Monroe Dispatch as the official journal for 2011-2012. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 8:C – 2011-2012 Property and Casualty Insurance

Mrs. Dayton noted that the insurance agents are present and have disseminated copies of the insurance proposals for review. Due to budget constraints, insurance coverage is being reviewed for additional savings and a final document should be ready for presentation by the end of the week.

On a motion by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mr. Sharp, the Board tabled action on this item. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 8:D – Prismatic Diagnostic Study

Dr. Harris noted that the preliminary diagnostic study was presented at the finance committee meeting. The report contains numerous cost saving measures and quality improvement suggestions. It is her recommendation to adopt the 2011-2012 budget and incorporate Prismatic's cost saving recommendations into the budget as needed.

Action Item 8:E – 2011-2012 Budget Resolution

Mrs. Dayton stated that she is aware of the budget timelines; however, a meeting is needed to fully understand the budget because there are several key areas that need to be addressed.

It was moved by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mrs. Krutzer, to approve the revised 2010-2011 budget resolution only. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 8:F – Transportation Assistant Manager Job Description

It was moved by Mr. Muhammad and seconded by Mr. Sharp, to approve the Transportation Assistant Manager job description.

Mrs. Dayton stated that she is in support of advertising but the final decision to hire will be based on funding. The motion carried on a majority vote. Mr. Ludley and Mrs. Krutzer opposed.

Action Item 8:G – Advertisement for Transportation Assistant Manager

On a motion by Mr. Muhammad and seconded by Mr. Sharp, the Board authorized the administration to advertise for a Transportation Assistant Manager. The motion carried on a majority vote. Mr. Ludley and Mrs. Krutzer opposed.

Action Item 8:H – Advertisement for Half-time Transportation Dispatcher

On a motion by Mr. Muhammad and seconded by Mr. Sharp, the Board authorized the administration to advertise for a half-time Transportation Dispatcher. The motion carried on a majority vote. Mr. Ludley and Mrs. Krutzer opposed.

Agenda Item 9 – Report of Superintendent

No report given.

Agenda Item 9:A – Report of Board Attorney

Attorney Lawrence informed the Board that the Department of Justice is in receipt of information concerning Cypress Point. He emphasized that a decision is needed as soon as possible as school will begin soon. Also, the report to the DOJ concerning magnet programs at Carroll is due on or before June 30th. A copy of the report will be shared with the Board.

President Traweck asked Attorney Lawrence to provide the Board with an update on all lawsuits and legal matters.

Agenda Item 10 – Report of Board Members

Mr. Muhammad noted that a transportation committee meeting will be scheduled soon.

Mrs. Krutzer noted that a finance committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 27th, immediately following the special called meeting.

Mr. Traweck reported that the new administration building is near completion and should

be ready in approximately 30 days. The Neville locker room is on schedule and the Lee Jr. High gymnasium is slightly off schedule. The QSCAB money has been received and is being invested.

Agenda Item 11 – Future Meetings

The next scheduled Board meeting is July 12th and is tentatively scheduled for Minnie Ruffin.

Action Item 12 – Executive Session

President Traweck noted that Attorney Jon Guice is present, and available if needed, for the executive session item dealing with the employee grievance complaint.

On a motion by Mrs. Krutzer and seconded by Mr. Sharp, the Board convened in executive session at 6:55 p.m. to receive information on employee conduct involving a tenured teacher and to receive additional information in connection with an employee grievance complaint. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 13 – Reconvened in Open Session

On a motion by Mrs. Krutzer and seconded by Mr. Muhammad, the Board reconvened in open session at 7:40 p.m.

On a motion by Mrs. Dayton and seconded by Mr. Sharp, the Board tabled action on Action Item 11:2 (employee grievance complaint) until the next Board meeting. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mrs. Krutzer and seconded by Mr. Muhammad, to approve human resources agenda item F:1 (scheduling of a tenure hearing for Mr. Daryl Seay). President Traweck recused and passed the gavel to Vice President Muhammad. Mr. Muhammad also recused and passed the gavel back to President Traweck. In favor: Mrs. Krutzer; Opposed: Mrs. Dayton, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Ludley; Recuse: Mr. Muhammad, Mr. Traweck. The motion failed.

Board Discussion

Mrs. Krutzer questioned the dress code change that is in the Board packet. She then asked if the policy needs Board approval.

Dr. Harris replied that the document is not a policy – it is a procedure. The document operationalizes the policy so that administrators can administer policy JCDB. The dress code was updated to eliminate any references that was discriminatory, and to standardize the dress code in every school. She noted that policies are always general so that procedures can be put in place.

Attorney Lawrence stated that the Board may adopt a district-wide policy on dress code; however, it is not mandated. If a dress code policy is adopted, parents/guardians and staff

must be advised.

Dr. Harris stated that the dress code procedure is part of an unapproved student handbook that is disseminated yearly by each school. She further stated that it is her expectation that handbooks are standardized so that all students are treated the same regardless of the school they attend. It is recommended that the procedure be forwarded to Forethought for input.

Mrs. Dayton indicated a policy committee meeting will be called to address this and other pending policies.

Action Item 14 – Recess/Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. upon a motion by Mrs. Krutzer and seconded by Mr. Sharp. The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Mr. Mickey Traweek
Board President

Dr. Kathleen Harris
Superintendent