

MINUTES

Monroe City School Board
2101 Roselawn Avenue
Monroe, Louisiana 71201

The Monroe City School Board met in regular session, Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at the Monroe City School District Media Center, 2009 Auburn Avenue; Monroe, Louisiana 71201. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Traweek. Prayer was offered by Bishop Rodney McFarland, Sr. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Neville High School student, Blake Weems.

Agenda 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

Administrative Staff

Mr. Julian Gray
Mrs. Derenda Flowers
Mrs. Betty Carroll
Mrs. Vickie Irwin
Mr. Andrew Hill
Ms. Mamie Williams
Mr. Bobby Williams
Mrs. Teresa Foreman
Ms. Karla Bowlin
Attorney L. Douglas Lawrence

Action Item 5 – Adoption of the Agenda

On a motion by Mrs. Smith that was seconded by Bishop McFarland, the Board approved the agenda with the addition of agenda item 7:6 (recognition of the Neville High School Varsity Debate Team) and action item 8:C (Superintendent search process).

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 6 – Approval of Board Minutes

On a motion by Bishop McFarland that was seconded by Mr. Handy, the Board approved the minutes of January 26, 2010 and January 28, 2010 as printed.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 7:1 – Request for funds for Carroll High School Choir Travel to New York

Mr. Gray recognized Dr. Veronica Lewis. She noted that the choir has been invited to perform at Carnegie Hall. Several fundraisers have taken place and others are being planned. She stated that since the Board is responsible for students' academic, vocational and cultural wellbeing, the Board should financially support this momentous effort. She asked that the district provide a third of the cost, which is approximately \$15,000.

Bishop McFarland stated that it is difficult to commit to a financial contribution at this time because the exact amount that is needed is not presently known. He asked that this item be placed on the next agenda for action.

Board members thanked Mr. Roosevelt Pine for his dedication to the students of the district.

President Traweck requested that the choir perform at an upcoming Board meeting.

Mrs. Shelling noted that the choir will perform at the Louisiana School Boards Convention that will be held in Monroe in March.

Action Item 7:2 – Permission to Travel

On a motion by Mr. Handy that was seconded by Mrs. Shelling, the Board authorized travel for Lincoln Elementary School Dance Team to Dallas, TX; February 26-28, 2010.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 7:3 – Permission to Travel

On a motion by Bishop McFarland that was seconded by Mrs. Smith, the Board authorized travel for Barkdull Faulk Elementary School Science Club to Galveston, TX; May 6-7, 2010.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 7:4 – Permission to Travel

On a motion by Bishop McFarland that was seconded by Mr. Handy, the Board authorized travel for Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School Dance Team to Orlando, FL; February 19-22, 2010.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 7:5 – Permission to Enter into a MOU for an Energy Efficiency Plan

Mrs. Flowers noted that Johnson Controls made a presentation at the January 19th Facilities Committee meeting. She stated that a Memorandum of Understanding will allow for a preliminary analysis to see if it would be advantageous to enter into an energy efficiency contract. The MOU will not be limited to one company; it will allow others to develop Energy Efficiency Plans.

Mrs. Krutzer asked if the district will provide a Scope and Sequence so that all vendors will provide the same analysis.

Mrs. Flowers stated that this is a free service; therefore, she is not sure if the district can specify services.

On a motion by Mrs. Smith that was seconded by Bishop McFarland, the Board authorized the administration to enter into a MOU with vendors interested in developing a Preliminary Analysis for an Energy Efficiency Plan.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 7:6 – Recognition: Neville High School Debate Team

Mrs. Shelling was informed by Ms. Patricia Turner that Neville High School Debate Team won numerous first place trophies at the Debate Tournament. The debate team leader introduced the team members. He then spoke of their winnings at the tournament. It was noted that Ms. Turner won the Top Coach Award.

Board members congratulated the team on their accomplishments.

Action Item 8:A – Human Resources Agenda

On a motion by Bishop McFarland that was seconded by Mrs. Krutzer, the Board approved the human resources agenda of February 9, 2010 as presented by the administration.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 8:B – Authorization to Utilize the Services of AA World Recycling, Inc.

Mr. Gray stated that there is an abundance of old computers that are stored at Georgia Tucker. The district does not have the staff to remove data from the computers. AA World Recycling, Inc. will pick-up, remove data and destroy or recycle the computers.

On a motion by Mrs. Krutzer that was seconded by Bishop McFarland, the Board approved the services of AA World Recycling, Inc. to pick-up, remove data and destroy or recycle computers stored at Georgia Tucker.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Action Item 8:C – Superintendent Search Process

It was moved by Mrs. Shelling and seconded by Mr. Handy, to appoint a search firm to search for a superintendent of the Monroe City School District and to present the names at the next Board meeting.

President Traweck asked Board members to submit names to him. Thereafter, he will meet with Vice President McFarland to compile the list and research firms prior to the Board meeting.

Mrs. Shelling withdrew and restated her motion. It was moved by Mrs. Shelling and seconded by Mr. Handy, to utilize the services of a search firm to search for a superintendent of the Monroe City School District.

In favor: Mr. Handy, Bishop McFarland, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Shelling

Opposed: Mrs. Dayton (stated that the community would be better served if the Board conducted the search but will support the majority of the Board), Mrs. Krutzer, Mr. Traweck

The motion carried on a majority vote.

President Traweck asked if an RFP is needed.

Attorney Lawrence stated that the RFP process will add an additional thirty days to the search. Alternatively, the Board can choose a firm from a compiled list.

Agenda Item 9 – Board Committee Updates

Facilities Committee: Mrs. Shelling – A meeting is tentative scheduled for February 18th at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Handy asked if the architects completed the facilities study at Carroll High.

Mr. Traweck stated that he will make contact with the architects for an update.

Policy Committee: Mrs. Smith – A meeting will be called as soon as possible.

Agenda Item 10 – Superintendent's Reports and Announcements

None

Agenda Item 11 – President’s Reports and Announcements

None

Action Item 12 – Executive Session

On a motion by Mrs. Krutzer that was seconded by Mrs. Smith, the Board convened in executive session at 7:00 p.m. to receive information on the following lawsuits and to take action in open session as may be required:

1. Monroe City School Board vs. Bui {No. 09-10271, OWC, District 1E}
2. Monroe City School Board vs. Detiege {No. _____, OWC, District 1E}
3. Monroe City School Board vs. Warner {No. 08-22163, OWC, District 1E}
4. Russell vs. Monroe City School Board {No. 07-0047, 4th JDC-Parish of Ouachita}
5. Andrews vs. Monroe City School Board, {No. 11, 297—USDC-W.D. of Louisiana}
6. Monroe City School Board vs. Corletta Williams {06-4771, 4th JDC-Parish of Ouachita}

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:15 p.m. and took action on item 12:6.

On a motion by Mrs. Shelling that was seconded by Bishop McFarland, the Board authorized Attorney Lawrence to sign the Consent Decree with the United States Department of Justice, referencing Andrews vs. Monroe City School Board {No. 11, 297—USDC-W.D. of Louisiana}

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 13 – Recess/Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m. upon a motion by Bishop McFarland and seconded by Mrs. Smith.

The motion carried on a unanimous vote.

Mr. Mickey Traweek
Board President

Mr. Julian M. Gray, Sr.
Interim Superintendent