

MONITEAU SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
April 13, 2020

WORKSESSION

The Committee of the Whole of the Board of Directors of the Moniteau School District met Monday, April 13, 2020, in the Board Room of the C. Foster McGarvey District Administration Center.

Board members present were: Mr. Randy Armagost, Dr. Michael Baptiste, Mr. Mark DeMatteis, Mrs. Linda Dillaman, Mrs. Joann Duke, Mrs. Trixie Heck, Dr. Michael Panza, Mrs. Jennifer Rottman, and Mr. Matthew Zietz.

Dr. Michael Baptiste, Mrs. Linda Dillaman, Mrs. Jennifer Rottman, Mrs. Trixie Heck and Mr. Matthew Zietz all joined via livestream, per regulations to keep groups of no more than 10 people gathering in one location. All other board members were physically present in the Board Room.

Administrators physically present were: Mr. Thomas Samosky and Mr. John D'Amore.

Also, physically present were Mr. Alix Greenawalt computer network technician, Solicitor Ms Andrea Parenti, and Mrs. Devon Rock taking minutes.

Mrs. Paula Bredl, Mr. Jeff Campbell, Mrs. Nicole Fox, Mr. Lance Fox, Mr. Thomas Samosky, Mrs. Aubrie Schnelle, Mr. John Stoughton, Mr. Dustin Thompson, and Ms. Jennifer Zellefrow were all excused from the meeting.

Dr. Panza called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Note: Executive Session was held prior to the meeting for legal/personnel matters.

Moment of silence.

Public Communication

Dr. Panza provided the call-in information for the public, which was 724-637-2117 ext 1900 code 019639. No Public calls were received.

No Old Business Items

No Personnel Items

Miscellaneous New Business Items

Motion was to approve Misc New Business Item #1.

Motion was made by Mr. DeMatteis Seconded by Mrs. Duke

- 1. Retroactively approve using April 8, 9 and 13, 2020 (originally assigned as snow days 2,3 and 4) for school days to show a sign of “good faith effort” as requested by the Department of Education.**

Motion Passed 9-0

No Conference Requests

No Field Trip Requests

Finance

Motion was made to approve Finance Item #1.

Motion was made by Mrs. Heck Seconded by Mr. Armagost

1. Resolution #20-06.

Motion Passed 9-0

No Miscellaneous Request

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Samosky recognized the school police and food service staff that have been passing out free lunches on Tuesdays and Fridays to children 18 and younger. So far, the school has reached 420 children, passed out 3360 meals and 59 weekend backpack programs students. Some of the staff to recognize include Patty Chidester, Cassie Johnston, Audrey Morris, Carrie Plecher, Cindy Roles, Christine Stewart, and Jennifer Zellefrow.

Mr. Samosky also recognized Mr. Fox as KSAC President and Mr. Stoughton as KSAC Secretary. They both were re-elected to their current positions.

Staff Communication

Dr. Panza discussed possible options on how to handle year-end activities that were listed in Mr. Fox's and Mrs. Schnelle's monthly report, such as prom, awards ceremonies and graduation. Several options were discussed such as:

1. Holding the events in the summer, after the restrictions of social distancing have been lifted. Ms Parenti confirmed that this situation should be fine, even with the students having already graduated, considering the current situation.
2. Having the event in a more open environment like the Drive-In Theater, where social distancing can still be followed. StarLight Theater was contacted and they are waiting for guidance from Governor Wolf.
3. Using a bus to transport Administrators to each student to congratulate them personally.
4. Set up the school as a drive-through graduation, with students each having individual times to enter the school and receive their awards/diplomas. This can also be recorded, so each student can receive a copy and see their class.
5. Lastly, do the entire thing virtually.

It was suggested that a survey be sent out to the graduating class and see what option(s) they feel is the best or if they have any others.

Mrs. Heck had a question regarding Mr. Campbell's report and a lightning strike to the sewage plant. It was confirmed that the damage was not enough to be turned into the insurance company by Dr. Panza. He also

confirmed that Mr. Campbell is still testing at the plant per the DEP recommendations.

Mr. D'Amore stated the general obligation note will be complete on May 5, 2020. Budget notebooks can be picked by contacting Mr. D'Amore or the Administration Office. The preliminary budget will be voted on May 11, 2020 and the final budget on June 22, 2020.

Mr. Armagost asked for the opinion of the Board regarding spring sports. The Athletic Committee needs to decide whether to give "Letters" out to athletes though the spring sports season is cancelled. Mrs. Dillaman, Mr. DeMatteis and Mrs. Heck agreed that no one should receive a "Letter" since there was not a season. All were in favor of "No Season, No Letters". Mr Armagost will take this information back to the committee.

Mrs. Duke also thanked the cafeteria workers and administration. She noted that there isn't a person working here that she isn't grateful to. If you would have said three months ago that we'd have all these kids online learning, she wouldn't have believed it. We are in this together and we are warrior strong.

Mrs. Heck had several questions regarding the distance learning process, grading and the current role of the paraprofessionals. Mr. Samosky explained that a donor helped provide internet services for several families in need and that teachers are reaching out to parents and students to help with missing assignments. Work can be completed through the day, with some scheduled time learning activities which can be viewed later, if missed. Grades for students 9-12 are still being recorded, for transcript purposes. Currently, the paraprofessionals are working on professional development, but having them work with children in the future could be an option.

Mrs. Heck requested any information on the Moniteau Food Bank or the Backpack program and if they need donations. Mr. Samosky said he will ask and let her know. The free lunch program is currently funded by a grant. Mr. Samosky had applied for additional funding to help and should hear back soon.

Mr. Zietz noted the Butler County Area Vocational-Technical School is using Canvas for online learning and that they are still trying to figure out their NOCTI certifications. Their next meeting is May 7, 2020. He also mentioned that Jared Ryan received a promotion starting July 1, 2020 and that the budget passed 9-0 .

Lastly, Thanks to Mr. Greenawalt for his technical support and help during the livestream board meetings.

Notes regarding the next agenda.

Nothing to change.

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. .

Motion made by Mrs. Duke

Seconded by Mr. Armagost

Motion Passed 9-0

John D. D'Amore, Business Manager/Board Secretary