

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MOUNTAINBURG SCHOOL BOARD

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2017

5:30 P.M.

1. Call to order

Presiding officer was Robin Willroth. Meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. Other board members present were Karen Walker, Jason Watkins, Mike Moxley, and Boyd Mize. Administrators present were Dennis Copeland, Tandi Jones, Jason Rutherford and Debbie Pinkerton.

2. Consent agenda (attachments)

A. Minutes of November meetings

B. Financial report

Watkins moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Moxley seconded. Motion passed at 5:35 p.m.

3. Informational items

A. Board meeting schedule

Copeland told the board that the board meetings might need to be rescheduled because the third Monday in January is Martin Luther King Day and a scheduled holiday for the school, the third Monday in February is President's Day, a scheduled holiday not to be used to make up a snow day, and the third Monday in March is during spring break. Consensus of board was to reschedule board meetings as follows: January 9th at 5:00 p.m., February 26th at 5:30 p.m. and March 26th at 5:30 p.m.

B. School election

Copeland said petitions could be filed to run for school board from February 22nd at noon until March 1 at noon.

C. HBO visit

Copeland said he had been contacted by a representative from HBO about using school facilities for a production. They will visit again tomorrow afternoon. He said he told them the board will have to approve this.

D. Administrator comments

Rutherford said semester tests were today and tomorrow, wrapping everything up, and music concert was great.

Pinkerton said first semester was very good and commended the special education staff.

Jones said a lot of exciting things had been happening: spelling bee with 4 going to the county spelling bee, 2 placed 3rd in a chess tournament, wax museum by students dressed as characters they had studied and done biographies on, middle school also had a spelling bee and those not exempt are taking semester tests.

4. Regular agenda

A. Student waiver request to participate in MHS work leave program

Copeland recommended approving the student waiver request for Destiny Pixley to participate in the MHS work leave program for the 2017-18 school year. Moxley moved to approve the recommendation. Watkins seconded. Motion passed at 5:50 p.m.

B. Public comments on the 2017-18 master plan - Corrected to be 2018-19 master plan

Copeland said some items on the previous master plans have been taken care of and said suggestions could be made for the 2018-19 master plan to be approved in January. Some items suggested were: fieldhouse roof needs to be looked at, old concession field house that was condemned needs to be demolished, air conditioning for gym when money is available, middle school playground improvements, storage buildings at elementary.

C. Parent request to address the board – Jessie Beller

Willroth read a prepared statement: Mr. Beller, the school board has read your complaint and statement to the board. Under advice from our school attorney, we will go into executive session and discuss your complaint. The law does not allow us to discuss school personnel or discipline of a child in open session. Please understand that we must follow due process with employees and they have a right to be heard as well.

C. Executive session on personnel

Moxley moved to go to executive session. Walker seconded. Motion passed at 5:55 p.m.
Moxley moved to leave executive session. Watkins seconded. Motion passed at 7:26 p.m.

Willroth asked if any board members have any questions of Mr. and Mrs. Beller that can be asked in open session? Willroth stated we are sensitive to and care about all of our students and we want them all to have a safe and secure learning environment. We have reviewed and discussed the statement to the board and other information presented in the folders and we take these types of situations very seriously. Mr. Copeland assures us that district policy and state law will be followed.

E. Personnel employment – superintendent for 2018-19

Watkins moved to name Dr. Debbie Atwell for superintendent for the 2018-19 school year. Moxley seconded. Motion passed at 7:29 p.m.

Mr. Copeland read a letter from Dr. Atwell accepting the position. (letter attached)

Adjournment: Moxley moved to adjourn. Mize seconded. Motion passed at 7:31 p.m.