

Monroe County Schools

News Release

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For immediate release - October 11, 2005

Two expulsion hearings for possession and sale of marijuana at school highlighted the October 10, 2005, regular meeting for the Monroe County Board of Education. Following the hearings for two male students at James Monroe High School, one a junior, the other a senior, both students were expelled for one full year.

Students expelled from school are provided alternative education services through the alternative school.

Under Old Business, the Board corrected motions improperly made at a September 27, 2005, special meeting by rescinding the motion and then voting unanimously to provide bus operators with 1/10th of their daily pay for middle of the day runs, and 1/7 of their daily pay for afternoon runs, with details worked out and voted on by the bus operators. Drivers had approved the proposal earlier that day by 100%.

A second motion, one that had not been part of the meeting call for the September 27 meeting, and which had earlier been part of the motion regarding bus operator pay, involved the paying of classroom aides who assist with students at school. They are to receive 1/10th of their daily pay per hour for any hours associated with field trips during the day when they are supervising students on the bus. This would be in addition to their regular pay for the day.

Under New Business, the Board approved budget supplements, transfers, and paying bills as presented. They approved making the superintendent's goals the same goals in the County's

Five Year Strategic Plan, and approved the draft of the plan's goals and objectives.

Under Personnel, the Board approved the retirement of Susan Cobb, effective January 2, 2006; approved the resignation of Tanya Reece as Golden Horseshoe Coordinator and the resignation of John Mustain as softball coach at James Monroe.

Transfers approved included Judy Mann as Autism Mentor, Peterstown Elementary; Marie Munsey, Early Childhood Aide, Peterstown Elementary; and Patty Brodie to special education aide, James Monroe.

Sandra Mann was granted a medical leave of absence for approximately one year, effectively immediately; Jennifer Ridgeway was granted family leave from Sept. 26 - January 3, 2006; and Tami Brown was granted family leave from Oct. 20 - Nov. 22, 2005.

Todd Mann, Richard Martin, Patricia Shaver and Charles Shoda were hired as substitute teachers. Christina Thompson was hired as a substitute custodian.

In extracurricular, David Witt and Steve Newberry were hired as \$1 assistants for James Monroe baseball. Denise Jackson and Elizabeth Pritt were hired as bus aides for Head Start and Stephen Johnston was hired as the Head Start bus operator. Terri Pritt was hired as a clerk for the central office and Brenda Bowers was hired as a coordinator for Golden Horseshoe.

The following individuals were hired for after-school programs through the 21st Century Community Learning Center Program: Instructors: Sherry Baker, Brenda Bowers, Elizabeth Canterbury, Gary Crosier, Donna Duncan, Misty Fisher, Sandra Humphries, Jodi Karnes and Jeannine Utterback. Bus Operators include Frank Mohler, Rebecca Allen, Vicki King, Steve Johnston, and Herb Thomas. Regina Wikle and Dixie Mullins were hired as substitutes for the program.

AmeriCorps workers hired were Patricia Beasley and Christina Niece.

At 8:15 p.m. the Board entered into an executive session to discuss personnel but took no action following the hour behind closed doors.

Under Discussion, the Board agreed to meet next on October 25 at Peterstown Middle School, rather than Oct. 18. Superintendent Lyn Guy provided information on Operation REACH which will involve Monroe County as students converge from other states to participate in a program to fix up homes of those needing housing assistance. The home improvements, which are provided free to recipients, will occur during the last two weeks of June following massive planning on the part of the REACH construction staff. Students participating in the project will reside at James Monroe High School. The Board asked that Rev. Mike Linger, who is coordinating the program in Monroe County, attend the Oct. 25 meeting to discuss the program in more detail. The Board had approved the school's involvement in the program in March of 2004 for the summer of 2006 because of the opportunity to provide assistance to nearly 80 families in the area.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be October 25, 7:00 p.m. at Peterstown Middle School.