

MONTOURSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR WORK SESSION Virtual

Tuesday, September 28, 2021
7:08 PM

Pledge to the flag
Call to order - Board President
Roll call - Board Secretary

MEMBER

 Daniel L. Albert
 x Susan Beery
 x Scott W. Konkle
 Jennifer L. Marriott
 x Dottie M. Mathers, Vice President
 x William S. Ruffing

MEMBER

 x David Shimmel, President
 x Ronald E. Snell
 x Dale Ulmer
 *Richard Galtman, Solicitor
 x *Christina Bason, Superintendent
 x *Brandy N. Smith, Business Mgr./Bd. Secretary
 *(Non-Voting Member)

OTHERS

 Feerrar, Darrin - Elementary School Principal
 Gnoffo, Joseph - Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
 x Hanner, Tim – Supervisor of Special Education
 King, Christopher - Assistant Middle/High School Principal
 Myers, Curtis - Middle School Principal
 Peipher, Sebastian – Director of Technology
 Taormina, Daniel - High School Principal
 x Yonkin, Jamie - Elementary School Principal
 x Residents x Media x Students

Announcements

Mr. Shimmel announced the executive sessions on 9/14 and 9/28.

Prior Presentation

Mr. Snell said that he believes it is time that the district hires for a curriculum position. He said that he does not think the district needs an assistant superintendent or PR position. Mr. Snell stated that it would be more cost effective to just hire a curriculum coordinator. He said he wasn't sure if the curriculum committees were still meeting.

Mrs. Bason clarified that curriculum committees have been meeting.

Mr. Shimmel stated that he envisioned that most of this position would be curriculum related while working with the committees and at times a communication position would be valuable. He also said he would like to re-address the elementary building projects.

Dr. Beery said the district got a lot of good savings the past few years, but sees this position as a good long-term solution for the district. She said she thinks the communication aspect is more in line with communicating with parents regarding concerns for what is being taught in addition to communication with teachers.

Mr. Snell said there is currently a bill introduced regarding transparency with curriculum for school districts.

Mr. Shimmel asked if putting the positions on the October Board agenda would be too soon.

Mr. Snell said he did not want the position on the agenda in its current form. He said he does not think the district needs an assistant superintendent position. He also said the district needs to be careful with the money being spent.

Mr. Ulmer said the position makes a lot of sense. He said the complexity of administration has changed and this position would be an asset.

Mr. Snell said that a PR person is not needed. He said the district should bring back the fall and spring newsletters.

Mr. Ulmer said that the position isn't a PR person. He said it is a position that will enhance the sharing of valuable information with parents, teachers, and the board.

Mr. Snell said the board should not be branding the school district.

Dr. Beery stated that knowing the expected salary range for an assistant superintendent vs. a curriculum coordinator would be helpful in deciding.

Mr. Ruffing said the assistant superintendent position would be very beneficial. He said that the district would be getting a lot more from the position for not much more money.

Mr. Shimmel said that the progression of the job description will dictate when it will be on the agenda.

Mr. Ruffing shared that he and other board members had received emails from members of the public that said they were intimidated by sharing their opinions in front of others who felt differently than them. He said they preferred virtual meetings so they may speak without fear. Mr. Ruffing said that Mr. Snell said he did not believe that was happening; he asked if Mr. Snell would apologize.

Mr. Snell asked how many emails he received.

Mr. Ruffing said he had received several emails as well as in person conversations.

Mr. Snell said that meetings should be in person with a zoom option.

Public Comment

Greg Dangle said he appreciated the security changes that were made as a result of the last meeting. He said he does not feel there is a need for an assistant superintendent position.

Mr. Shimmel said that the superintendent's job evaluation was done recently and that her performance has been above satisfactory. He said to say that she is not doing her job is a misunderstanding of what the job entails.

Daniel Asiello said that he had good conversations with the principals regarding mask breaks. He also said that the principals should be putting out newsletters to the parents on a monthly basis. He said he believes the superintendent should handle district communication.

Sharon Meyer said that there has to be set mask break times implemented throughout the day. She said that the curriculum coordinator should be the focus, not an assistant superintendent.

Brenda Oberheim said that many members of the public said last meeting that they did not want an assistant superintendent position. She said that she believes virtual meetings aren't fair because not everyone has the internet.

Mr. Snell said it should be a requirement that the Board and Administration have their camera on for the meeting.

Zachary Smith said that he appreciates the virtual meetings because of how far away he lives. He said that it is more convenient. He also said that he feels more comfortable speaking in a virtual setting.

Agenda Items

- **General**

- G-1 Approval of a use of facilities request from Kenny Smith, Montoursville Youth Football and Cheer, Lyter Elementary Gym, September 13, 2021 to November 18, 2021 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 5:15 PM – 7:15 PM. (Attachment)

Motion: Mathers Second: Snell
Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
No: None
Absent: Albert, Marriott
Result: **Motion Carried**

- **Personnel**

- P-1 Approval of the following addition to the staff (Attachment):

<u>Employee</u>	<u>New Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Susan Wood	Educational Interpreter	September 29, 2021

Motion: Mathers Second: Ruffing
Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
No: None
Absent: Albert, Marriott
Result: **Motion Carried**

- P-2 Approval of the following resignation from a member of the Support Staff:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Mary Hensler	Paraprofessional	September 10, 2021

Motion: Ruffing Second: Mathers
Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
No: None
Absent: Albert, Marriott
Result: **Motion Carried**

- P-3 Approval of the following resignation from a member of the Professional staff:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Daniel Heinrichs	Biology Teacher	September 15, 2021 – will hold for 60 days

Motion: Mathers Second: Ruffing
Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
No: None
Absent: Albert, Marriott
Result: **Motion Carried**

Mrs. Bason said that Mr. Heinrichs has been an asset to the District and she wishes him well.

P-4 Approval of the following addition to the Professional Staff, tentative effective date November 28, 2021:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Replacement For</u>
Shane Laudenslager	Special Education	Masters Step 14 \$77,526 pro rata	Ashley Heckrote

Motion: Ulmer Second: Beery
Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
No: None
Absent: Albert, Marriott
Result: **Motion Carried**
Mr. Laudenslager gave his professional background.

P-5 Approval of the following addition to the Support Staff, effective September 29, 2021:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Rate of Pay</u>	<u>Replacement For</u>
Rebecca Chow	Paraprofessional	5.5	\$12.50/hour	Mary Hensler

Motion: Mathers Second: Beery
Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
No: None
Absent: Albert, Marriott
Result: **Motion Carried**

P-6 Approval of the following additions to the extracurricular activity positions for the 2021-2022 school year:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Replacement For</u>
Kristen Gist	Choral Performance at Loyalsock Valley Elementary School	\$212.00	Jaclyn Gilbert
Kristen Gist	Chorus Director	\$1,311.00	Jaclyn Gilbert
Katrina Emick	Bus Monitor	\$700.00	Paula Pulizzi and Deb Taylor

Motion: Ulmer Second: Beery
Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
No: None
Absent: Albert, Marriott
Result: **Motion Carried**

P-7 Approval of the following additions to the coaching staff for the 2021-2022 school year:

<u>Coach</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Replacement For</u>
Caitlin Shek	Cheerleading	Assistant	\$2,100.00	Jessica Cole
Thomas George	Girls Basketball	8 th Grade Coach	\$2,600.00	Ashley Burger

Motion: Mathers Second: Ruffing
Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
No: None
Absent: Albert, Marriott
Result: **Motion Carried**

P-8 Approval of the following addition to the teacher substitute list for the 2021-2022 school year:

Substitute
Shannon Rockwell

Motion: Mathers Second: Beery
 Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Snell, Ulmer
 No: None
 Absent: Albert, Marriott
 Result: **Motion Carried**

Mr. Snell asked Mr. Shimmel to have a second public comment period.

Mr. Shimmel stated that the public was already given the opportunity to speak.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING 8:05 PM

Motion: Ruffing Second: Konkle
 Yes: Beery, Konkle, Mathers, Ruffing, Shimmel, Ulmer
 No: Snell
 Absent: Albert, Marriott
 Result: **Motion Carried**



David Shimmel, President



Brandy N. Smith, Board Secretary