

MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Work Session

February 24, 2025

5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Our Mission Statement:

Monroe Public Schools is committed to being the premier education organization in the region. We are devoted to promoting high expectations for all in a state of the art 21st century curriculum. We recognize that all of the students and the communities that we serve are our customers, and we promise to make all decisions in their best interest.

Our Vision Statement:

With the support of our highly effective staff and community stakeholders, every student will experience a comprehensive state and nationally aligned instructional framework within a learning community which supports individualized learning goals, development of the whole self, and continuous inquiry into passions resulting in a clearly declared post-secondary vision and plan.

Purpose of our Meeting

This is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There are times set for public participation during the meeting as indicated in agenda items (VI) and 10 (X). Members of the audience who wish to address the Board of Education in person this evening are asked to complete the public commentary forms, located on the table at the back of the room. Once filled out, please return to the Administrative Secretary to the Board prior to public comment.

A. Roll Call

Audio Recording

1. Call to Order

President Heck called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Board Members Present: President Tom Heck, Vice-President Darla Myers, Secretary Stacey Terrasi, Parliamentarian Kerri Williams, Trustee Mary Vincent, Trustee Larry Zimmerman

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mr. Heck	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Mr. Jenkins	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Mrs. Myers	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Mrs. Terrasi	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Mrs. Vincent	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Mrs. Williams	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Mr. Zimmerman	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>

Board Members Absent: Treasurer Gary Jenkins

Administrators Present: Andrew Shaw, Cassie Shook, Cindy Flynn, Terry Joseph, David Payne, David Malolepszy

Administrators Absent: None

3. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Discussion Items

1. MASB Bylaws Resolution

Audio recording timestamp 1:15 until 5:40

Board Member Mary Vincent, who is also a member of the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Resolutions and Bylaws Committee, led a discussion on MASB bylaws and resolutions. She shared with the board that the resolutions were approved at the 2024 Annual Leadership Conference and that she would be attending the upcoming MASB R&D Committee meeting in Lansing, where she could propose edits, removals, or additions to the resolutions and bylaws. Mrs. Vincent explained that the bylaws govern MASB as an organization, while the resolutions guide its lobbying efforts for public education. She encouraged fellow Board Members to review the documents and provide any suggestions for modifications. Recommendations would then be voted on by the committee before being presented at the next annual leadership conference, where representatives from various districts would have the opportunity to provide further input. Mrs. Vincent is currently serving her third year on the Resolutions and Bylaws Committee.

2. Superintendent Goals

Audio recording timestamp 5:50 until 5:40

The Board reviewed the Superintendent's goals for the 2024/2025 year for Superintendent Andrew Shaw. These included literacy program evaluation, innovation initiatives, and academic performance. Discussion centered on the need for clearly defined and measurable goals. There was also discussion about aligning future superintendent goals with specific components of the evaluation tool to ensure they are relevant to Board oversight responsibilities. Superintendent Shaw will incorporate the suggested goals and present a revised version for review by the Board.

3. Policies po2510, po3213, po5517.02, and po9130

Audio recording timestamp 35:59 until 1:34:22

The Board discussed policies related to textbook definitions, instructional materials, student supervision, and the complaint process. Concerns were raised about ambiguity in the policy language, particularly regarding whether certain instructional materials should be classified as textbooks. A revision was proposed to remove the phrase "that is available," clarifying that textbooks are principal instructional sources, not merely available resources. Discussion also addressed the recent handling of a book found inappropriate for middle school students, with a focus on whether policy procedures were followed correctly. Board Members questioned whether supplemental materials should require additional oversight and whether the Board should be involved in permanent removals. There was agreement that the book review process was followed

but that refining policies regarding complaint handling and instructional material evaluation could be beneficial. A proposed policy revision was introduced to ensure that any material permanently removed from the curriculum must be brought before the Board for approval. Additionally, the Board discussed the process used for vetting books and the role of third-party sources in book selection.

4. Policy po0152

Audio recording timestamp 1:34:38 until 1:37:12

The Board discussed a proposed revision to the policy regarding officer positions, specifically the role of the parliamentarian. Currently, the policy states that the Board shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Parliamentarian, and Treasurer. Some Board Members questioned whether a parliamentarian is necessary as a designated officer position, suggesting instead that parliamentary procedure should be a shared responsibility among all Board Members. A revision was proposed to make the position optional, allowing the Board to decide each year whether to appoint a parliamentarian. There were no legal requirements mandating the position, and the Board will review potential policy language changes for future consideration.

5. Neola Policy Updates

Audio recording timestamp 1:37:27 until 2:10:02

The Board reviewed a series of proposed Neola policy updates, including revisions related to employee training, student conduct, and federal grant compliance. The Board discussed a policy requiring CPR certification for coaches, confirming that the district is already meeting this requirement. The Board also reviewed updates to student conduct policies, including the addition of language addressing artificial intelligence (AI) use and academic integrity. There was discussion regarding how teachers can detect AI-generated content and whether additional training is needed. The Board examined federal grant compliance policies, noting that updates align with federal regulations and must be followed for continued funding. It was clarified that first readings of policies will now require a formal Board vote to acknowledge receipt, allowing for transparency and public review before the second final reading and adoption. Also, if a policy only requires a technical correct, it is not required to go through the two-reading requirement; instead, the policy will be brought at the next meeting for the reading and adoption. These policy revisions will be presented for a first reading at the next regular Board meeting.

C. Public Commentary

None at this time.

D. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Zimmerman; support by Mrs. Williams that the 5:30 p.m., February 24, 2025, Special Work Session of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 "Aye" vote at 7:48 p.m.

Stacey Terrasi, Secretary