

**MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Work Session  
February 23, 2026  
**5:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

Our Mission Statement:

Monroe Public Schools will empower each student to achieve their full potential through rigorous and engaging academics, a culture of excellence, belonging, and perseverance, a community of kindness and inclusivity, and unique opportunities that inspire lifelong learning.

Our Vision Statement:

Unlocking the potential of each student through academic excellence, unique opportunities, and a sense of authentic belonging.

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**

**Video 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, Treasurer Kerri Williams, Parliamentarian Brian Sabbadini, Trustee Gary Jenkins, Trustee Stacey Terrasi

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

Board Members Absent: Secretary Mary Vincent

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

Administrators Absent: Cindy Flynn

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

#### **B. Discussion Items**

##### **1. Community Partnerships and Mental Health Services**

*\*Audio recording timestamp 1:09 until 1:17:15\**

The Board heard presentations from community partners and discussed how Monroe Public Schools can collaborate with them to help give additional support to students and families. Representatives from Men on a Mission – Roosevelt Barnes, Ike Smith, and Larry Aaron – described plans for a school-based mentoring model that includes athletics, life lessons, and small-group “breakout” conversations, with an emphasis on engaging families, addressing barriers such as transportation and attendance, and offering earlier intervention and alternatives to discipline. A Board Member asked when their job fair occurred and whether it would be held again, and another Board Member asked for a short overview of the mentoring concept being developed with district staff and what the district could do to help the group. The CEO of Monroe Community Mental Health Authority, Lisa Graham, outlined CMH services, including 24/7 crisis response, a mobile crisis team that follows up after deployments, and a behavioral health urgent care clinic (same-day walk-in care) while emphasizing access regardless of insurance and opportunities to better coordinate care with schools; Board Members asked how CMH is managing the volume of crisis and urgent care visits and how many psychiatrists are available. The Board then received an overview of the county-funded ESS (Enhancing Strengths and Supports) program from Lauren Hannah and Melissa Strong. This program serves primarily grades 5–8 through intensive academic and behavioral supports, data-informed case planning, and transition plans back to home schools; Board Members asked about the student-to-staff ratio, whether there is any cost to host the program on a campus, and whether space could be provided within the district to reduce transportation barriers and strengthen in-school relationships.

##### **2. Strategic Plan Final Presentation**

*\*Audio recording timestamp 1:20:13 until 1:54:08\**

Superintendent Shaw presented the Board with the finalized District Strategic Plan, complete and prepared for official publication. Board Members praised the layout and readability, requested clearer definitions for public-facing data points (such as the poverty metric), and recommended refining language to reflect continued implementation of existing initiatives rather than suggesting new ones. Questions were asked about use of acronyms, vendor/program names, and measurable goals. Board Members also sought clarification on staff support structures, including mentor roles and participation expectations. Administration will incorporate the suggested revisions before final publication.

#### **C. Public Commentary**

None at this time.

**D. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Sabbadini; support by Ms. Myers that the 5:30 p.m., February 23, 2026, Work Session of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 “hand” vote at 7:27 p.m.

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**Mary Vincent, Secretary**