

MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #4

February 25, 2025

7:00 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. Opening Items

[Video Recording](#)

[Audio Recording](#)

1. Call to Order

President Heck called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, Terry Joseph, David Payne, David Malolepszy

Administrators Absent: Cindy Flynn

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Revisions/Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Zimmerman; support by Mrs. Williams to approve the agenda as presented for February 25, 2025.

** No Discussion**

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

4. Superintendent Comments

Audio recording timestamp 1:40 until 17:55

Manor Elementary's Student Board of Delegate presentation, led by Principal Brittney Tylanda, focused on the school's Leader in Me program, which aims to develop student leadership through seven key habits. Manor students – Everly Hyden, Eric Vandeginste Bristol Dushane, Adalynn Rios, Addison Sawdy, and Hayven Cupp introduced themselves and explained how these habits—such as being proactive, thinking win-win, and putting first things first—positively impact their school environment. Manor Elementary has implemented this program since 2014 and achieved Lighthouse status in 2017, a distinction they have maintained. The students highlighted various initiatives, including their Lighthouse and Junior Lighthouse teams, student-led assemblies, buddy classes, and Leader in Me curriculum that fosters leadership and responsibility. They concluded by explaining how these habits shape their daily lives and enhance their overall school experience.

Arborwood Elementary's presentation, led by Principals Laura Lavender and Holly Moore along with students Connor Conway, and Xylia Manning, showcased their school's positive behavior initiatives and student engagement programs. They emphasized their PBIS system and Kickboard platform, where students earn points for demonstrating values such as safety, ownership, attitude, and respect, which can be redeemed for rewards. The school also recognizes students with Eagle Awards and organizes restorative circles led by staff members to promote community and support. Special programs include mentorship from high school basketball players, a motivational visit from Jim "Basketball" Jones, and fun traditions like a Thanksgiving Turkey Trot and an annual transportation show. The presentation ended with a spirited school cheer, highlighting Arborwood's commitment to fostering a supportive, engaging, and enthusiastic learning environment.

5. Public Commentary-Agenda Items Only

None at this time.

B. Board Discussion and Action Items

1. Acceptance of Reports
 - Contracted Services Report

2. Consent Agenda

Motion by Mrs. Myers; support by Kerri that Agenda items under B.2.a be considered as a Consent Agenda and that the Consent Agenda items be approved as recommended.

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - January 25, 2025 – Board Meeting #2
 - February 10, 2025 – Special Work Session
 - February 11, 2025 – Work Session
 - February 11, 2025 – Board Meeting #3
 - February 18, 2025 – Special Board Meeting – Open
 - February 18, 2025 – Special Board Meeting - Closed

3. **New Business – Action/Discussion Items**

- a. **Adoption of Amended 2024/2025 Budget for the General, Food Service, Student/School Activity, 2020 Bond Debt, Sinking, Building and Site, and 2020/2023 Bond Capital Projects Funds**

Motion by Mrs. Vincent; support by Mr. Zimmerman to adopt the amended 2024/2025 budget for the General, Food Service, Student/School Activity, 2020 Bond Debt, Sinking, Building and Site, and 2020/2023 Bond Capital Projects funds as presented

** No Discussion**

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

- b. **Tennis Court Restoration**

Motion by Mrs. Williams; support by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the Tennis Court Restorations at Monroe High School at a cost not to exceed \$339,600 from Courtsmiths. Funds for this purchase will come from the Site Sinking Fund.

Board Discussion, Q/A audio recording timestamp 22:07 until 24:10

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

- c. **Auditorium Curtains**

Motion by Mrs. Williams; support by Mrs. Vincent to approve the following purchase of auditorium stage curtains at Monroe High School for a cost not to exceed \$70,346.00 from Farnham Equipment Company. Funds for this purchase will come from the District General Fund.

Board Discussion, Q/A audio recording timestamp 24:50 until 26:14

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

d. Recommendation for Reinstatement

Motion by Mrs. Myers; support by Mr. Zimmerman to accept the recommendation of the committee for a full reinstatement of Student A.

No Discussion

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

4. Old Business

a. Minutes Revision

Motion by Mrs. Myers; support by Mrs. Terrasi that the signed minutes from the January 28, 2025, Board Work Session be removed and replaced with the revised minutes as presented.

Board Discussion, Q/A audio recording timestamp 29:06 until 31:04

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

5. Superintendent's Comments

Audio recording timestamp 31:32 until 34:36

ELEMENTARY BUILDING REDESIGN: At the last meeting, the Board of Education approved plans to open Arborwood South as a 5th and 6th grade building for the 2025/2026 school year. Last Friday, we announced that the building will be led by Laura Lavender as Principal and Kevin Pilgrim as Assistant Principal. Kelly Lake will be the new Principal at Waterloo when it reopens in the fall. I want to publicly congratulate these administrators.

We have committed to Spring Break as the deadline to share the following updates:

Name the teachers at 5/6 Building

Name the teachers at Waterloo

Validate the K-4 teachers in other district elementary schools

Changes to intradistrict elementary school boundary lines

School building start/end times

8th GRADE OPEN HOUSE: Monroe High School will hold its annual 8th Grade Open House NEXT Tuesday, March 4, from 5-7:30 p.m. The evening is an opportunity for 8th grade students and their parents to learn about the opportunities available at Monroe High School. The evening includes a clubs and activities festival in the commons, followed by an overview of Monroe High School, and wraps up with information break-out sessions.

CALENDAR REMINDERS: As a reminder, Friday, March 7th, is a Half Day for Students, with Teacher Records in the afternoon.

SPRING PLAY: The Monroe High School Spring play is just a little over two weeks away. The Drama Club will present Radium Girls, with shows running March 14th – 16th. The production is based on the true story of female laborers who were poisoned by their factory’s radium-based paint. Although the play ranges from 1918 through the 1940s, most of the narrative is centered on events in New Jersey in the mid-1920s.

GREAT GATSBY GALA: Speaking of the 1920s, our Great Gatsby Gala is THIS Friday evening! We are looking forward to a wonderful evening with music, dancing, and raffles, with all proceeds benefitting the kindness initiatives here in Monroe Public Schools.

6. Public Commentary-Any Topic

None at this time.

7. Board Member Commentary

Audio recording timestamp 34:49 until 45:16

Mr. Zimmerman: Thank you to Mrs. Shook for the hard work she completed on the budget and for the comprehensive presentation of the Budget Amendment.

Mrs. Myers: Thank you for the update on the 5/6 Redesign. Request made for funds tracking on cost of redesign.

Mrs. Terrasi: Thank you for the changes to the minutes

Mrs. Vincent: Suggestion to add a column in original timeline doc for 5/6 costs

Mr. Heck: NHS Induction Ceremony

8. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Zimmerman; support by Mrs. Williams that the February 25, 2025, Board Meeting #4 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 6-0 “Aye” vote at 7:46 p.m.

Stacey Terrasi, Secretary