

The regular meeting of the Montgomery County R-II Board of Education was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> in the Jonesburg Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room. During Executive Session the board accepted the resignation of Heather Worsham, from her science and math teaching assignment effective second semester. Joe Klekamp was approved to teach High School math and science. The board also accepted the retirement letter from Maggie Smith effective February 2, 2009. In other Executive Session business the board accepted these extra duty assignment resignations: Gary Ash (High School Cross Country), Jenny Krattli (Junior High Volleyball) and Amanda Mann and Joyce Burns (Junior High Football Cheerleading).

At 7:30 the Montgomery County R-II Board went into regular session. During recognition Dr. Ward expressed his appreciation to Corey Felten for his fine job of running the Montgomery County Basketball Tournament. He also made the Board aware that High School Principal, Lisa Bethel, was presented with the Mid Missouri Counselor Advocate of the Year Award. This award honors administrators that not only advocate for the guidance counselors in a district, but also are an advocate for the students in the building.

Under New Business the board heard a proposal submitted by Jim Beattie from the Montgomery City Kiwanis on an educational mini-grant. This program is to provide opportunities to help kids learn in the Montgomery County R-II Schools. These Mini Grants for Education will give teachers an opportunity to apply for funds provided by the Kiwanis. The grants can be used for activities, equipment, etc that teachers will use to enhance learning. The board is very appreciative and thanked Jim for making this presentation and all they do for the kids of the district. In other business, Mary Brown presented a Vocational Enhancement Grant proposal for business teacher, Shonda Boyer. This grant will enable the upgrade of technology to Ms. Krattli's room. Included in the grant is equipment, software, and room remodeling and repairs. The total of the grant would be in excess of \$87,000, if fully funded. The district cost would be \$27,802.50. The board gave permission to further pursue this grant possibility.

April McCown, Tara Polston, and Beth Chapman presented the Library Media Report. The report includes these weaknesses: Average age of library material outdated, lack of budget to support technology needs, and time restraints for availability for the elementary and middle school student. LMC strengths include: ability to interpret state reports, updating of equipment with budget restraints, addition of research data bases at district level, and the United Streaming license, training, and equipment. Recommendations from the team included: funding *Destiny*, circulation upgrade, increased budget, and alternative library schedules for the elementary and middle school students. If funds are available the board would like to fully fund the new upgrade at a cost of \$14,695.86. This issue is under consideration and will be discussed at the January meeting.

Dr. Ward reported to the board on work that will take place over the winter break. The work will include the repair and replacement of pipes in science room 108 and cleaning out the pit in room 111, at the high school. Also, Salmon Boilers will be replacing one of the tubes in the boiler at the high school. The installation of the energy efficient lights at the high school should be completed by the break. Dr. Ward has contacted ATC Environmental to schedule the three year asbestos review. Dr. Ward reported that two companies have performed energy audits on all five campuses and is awaiting a summary of finds from both. The board approved the listing of surplus items for bids. These items are (2) deep fryers, (3) pianos, and 200 food trays. Dr. Ward informed the board on the possibilities of "block grants" as part of the national stimulus package. If passed, the spending would be for one time expenditures to help jump-start the economy at the local level.

The board, at the request of Dr. Ward, has moved the January Board Meeting back one week to January 15<sup>th</sup> at Montgomery City Elementary.

The board went back into Executive Session to discuss goals and approve Dawn Carter and Rebecca Pund, as substitute teachers.