

**MACON COUNTY R-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2001**

The Macon County R-I Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, November 29, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Kathy McElwain, John Walker, David Hamilton, Toni Riekeberg, Jim Cerva, Vern Kincheloe, and Don Kinkhorst.

President Kathy McElwain called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. President McElwain called Girl Scout' Erin Roberts forward. Ms. Robert's read a poem entitled 'The Flag of the United States of America' and then led the group in the pledge to the flag. McElwain then reminded board members that Macon's school district was asked to get 1,300 signatures on the survey to give school districts the ability to have a bond issue pass by a simple majority vote.

A motion was made by John Walker, seconded by Jim Cerva and passed unanimously to amend the consent agenda by adding to New Business item (H) Calendar.

A motion was made by Toni Riekeberg, seconded by John Walker and passed unanimously to approve the remaining items on the consent agenda, which consisted of minutes of previous meeting, attendance report, revenue/expenditure comparison, treasurer's report, and monthly bills.

Superintendent Brown reported that American Education Week was celebrated during the week of November 11-17. Various activities occurred at each grade level.

Superintendent Brown reported that board members would be receiving a list of students to select a nominee for the John T. Belcher Memorial Scholarship contest sponsored by Missouri School Boards Association. This selection needs to be completed by January 18, 2002.

Superintendent Brown was pleased to report that Macon school district had been selected as a scoring site for the Missouri Assessment Program. The scoring will occur the weeks of June 10-28, 2002. In return, the district will receive a grant in the amount of \$18,000 to be used to purchase twenty 20-inch computer monitors that will be the districts to keep when the scoring is completed. This is a three-year commitment. Macon will have five of the twenty-four positions to fill for the scoring process, which will be offered to the third grade teachers first.

Superintendent Brown reported on the results of the survey of area schools' group health insurance programs/rates completed by Tim Dunaway, superintendent of the South Shelby School District. The average cost for all school districts' per employee rate was \$259.35; Macon's rate was below average at \$244.13.

Superintendent Brown reported on the letter received from Public Entity Risk Managers regarding renewal rates for the district's property/casualty insurance package. The

renewal premiums for most coverages have increased reasonably. The property package will be \$7,575 higher if the current coverage for flood and earthquake is continued. The district does have the option of decreasing the premium by opting out of one or both of those risks. Also the district may double their liability insurance limits to \$2,000,000 by choosing a different package offered by Great American Insurance Company, for an additional cost of \$905. The workers compensation renewal quotes have not been received yet. The Board will need to make a decision at the December board meeting regarding these issues.

Superintendent Brown reported on distribution of activity ticket monies. Totals by accounts are: athletic account 65%, band 15%, chorus 15%, and activity ticket 5%.

Superintendent Brown reported on the proposed projects to improve Tigerette Field. Parents of softball players are initiating the work. Projects include outfield fence, landscaping, sign renovation; concrete work and restoring light posts. Total estimated cost of the project is \$2,798.69; of which Macon Baseball Association has pledged a donation of \$2,000.

Superintendent Brown reported the Facilities Improvement Committee met on November 15 with Rob Rollings, architect. Rollings prepared a preliminary draft outlining various needed improvements. Brown invited board members to stop by his office and read the draft. The committee will be meeting again in January to prioritize items.

OLD BUSINESS:

Superintendent Brown asked the Board to delay consideration of MSBA's fall updates to board policies until the December board meeting.

A motion was made by David Hamilton, seconded by Jim Cerva and passed unanimously to accept the bid of \$53,670 from Central States Bus Sales recommended by Gerald Mansfield for a 2002 General Motors, 71 passenger school bus.

A motion was made by John Walker, seconded by David Hamilton and passed unanimously to sell the trade-in bus to Masters Transportation for \$7,000 as recommended by Gerald Mansfield.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sue Campbell, MAP assessment coordinator reported to the board on the changes brought about by the passage of Senate Bill 319 that became effective July 1, 2001. The major changes are eliminating the retesting for students scoring at "Step 1" on the MAP exams, mandates assessment of students in grades 3-6 to determine their reading level, and retention of students in grade 4 if they are reading below the third-grade level. Campbell reported that the district is still awaiting the APR results from DESE on the MAP results. Data analysis meetings will be organized once the results have been posted in order to help teachers make decisions on where the students needs are not being met.

Elaine Nuhn, librarian gave a presentation on the library/media centers for the district. Marilyn Hartung was not present due to a death in the family and Nuhn reported for her. The main concern in the elementary library is the lack of space. There is not enough space to seat two classes because new computers and other audiovisual equipment have been added; this was a concern in the MSIP exit report. On the elementary level they are very close to their goal of 15% of the school's total budget to be used for library funds. Nuhn reported that she feels the district does a good job in technology in the high school/middle school library media center, and that the library has flexible hours to work with faculty to improve student performance.

Joy Grimes and Rita Bales each gave a report on health services for the district. Mrs. Grimes reported on the increased numbers of children with special health needs, medications, treatments, and families of lower social economic status who can not afford dental and medical insurance, and the lack of Medicaid providers in our area. Mrs. Bales presented a summary of the health services that have been provided for the middle/high school students and staff. She stressed that she felt that the health services they provide are very important because some of the children would never get any help if it weren't for what the district provided. She also stated that their objective was to keep the children healthy so they can stay in the classroom to learn. They try to promote good health habits with the students as much as possible. Concern was noted for the continual decreased funding from the Missouri School Age Children's Health Services Grant.

A motion was made by Don Kinkhorst, seconded by John Walker and passed unanimously to reapprove the 2001 Professional Development Plan for 2002. There were no changes in the plan from last year.

A motion was made by Jim Cerva, seconded by Toni Riekeberg and passed unanimously to approve Superintendent Brown's request to apply for four facilities improvement grants, each in the amount of \$100,000. Grant money is available from the State for renovations to aging school buildings. A grant will be written for each of the districts' buildings, including the elementary, middle school, high school, and vocational school.

President McElwain appointed a committee of Toni Riekeberg and John Walker to make a recommendation for a graduation speaker for the Class of 2002.

A motion was made by David Hamilton, seconded by Don Kinkhorst and passed unanimously to renew the Missouri School Boards Association for 2002 membership at a cost of \$4,108 per Superintendent Brown's request.

Superintendent Brown reported that the terms of Kathy McElwain, Toni Riekeberg, and Don Kinkhorst would be up for election on April 2, 2002. According to the 2002 Missouri Election Calendar candidate filing begins on Tuesday, December 18, 2001, and closes on Tuesday, January 15, 2002.

A motion was made by Toni Riekeberg, seconded by Jim Cerva and passed unanimously to notify the public that candidates may file in the superintendent's office during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday, everyday except December 24 and 25, 2001 (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day) and December 31, 2001 and January 1, 2002 (New Year's Eve and New Year's Day).

A motion was made by John Walker, seconded by Toni Riekeberg and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of high school paraprofessional Lynn Phillips.

A motion was made by Don Kinkhorst, seconded by David Hamilton and passed unanimously to regretfully accept the resignation of cafeteria manager Laura Shoemaker, who will retire at the end of this school year.

A motion was made by Toni Riekeberg, seconded by Jim Cerva and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of elementary school paraprofessional Sharon Lees.

A motion was made by Jim Cerva, seconded by John Walker and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of bus driver Lynda Sandner.

A motion was made by John Walker, seconded by David Hamilton and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of middle school custodian Jackie Melton.

Superintendent Brown reported that a survey had been conducted among the faculty regarding adding time to next years' calendar for MAP data analysis and teacher preparation and collaboration. Faculty member's were in favor of adding seven minutes to each school day and then dismissing early on Friday's once each month. This early-out time would be used for the extra-needed teacher preparation. Another survey would be taken of the staff to find out if they would prefer attending district teachers' meetings or having an in-service held in our district to meet our teacher's needs.

Superintendent Brown recognized the following students and staff:

Melissa Sandner and Melissa Pagliai, recent R-1 graduates receiving American Farmer awards.

Macon High School varsity cheerleaders placing 1st in MSHSAA state competition, Class AAA – Large Varsity. Suzy Thompson, coach.

Macon High School students selected to Northeast District Honor Bands, Gene Edwards, Director of Bands; John Wiggans, Associate Director.

Macon High School students selected to Northeast District Honor Choirs, Gloria Guinn, Choir Director.

Macon High school football players selected to the All District Football Team, Walt Thompson head coach.

Harley Huffman presented honorary diploma.

Colonel Billy J. Burse for speaking at the Veterans Day ceremony.

President McElwain read thank you cards the board had received.

The next regular scheduled board meeting will be Tuesday, December 18, 2001, at 4:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Toni Riekeberg moved that the Macon R-1 Board of Education enter into executive session as provided by Missouri Law, Section 610.021, for the purpose of discussing personnel, specifically employment of certificated and non-certificated personnel. Macon R-1 Board Policy BC, Section 3, states that “The Board reserves the right, as provided by law, to conduct closed meetings, including any records or votes, to the extent that they relate to: actions relating to the hiring, firing, disciplining or promotion of particular district employees.” Don Kinkhorst seconded the motion. Those voting yea – John Walker, Jim Cerva, David Hamilton, Toni Riekeberg, Don Kinkhorst, Vern Kincheloe, and Kathy McElwain. Those voting nay- none. Motion passed.

Kathy McElwain, President

Deborah Baker, Secretary