

**MACON COUNTY R-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2001**

The Macon County R-I Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, December 18, 2001, at 4:00 p.m. Board members present were Kathy McElwain, John Walker, Jim Cerva, Vern Kincheloe, Toni Riekeberg, and Don Kinkhorst.

President Kathy McElwain called the meeting to order and asked Ashley Campbell, president of the student council, to lead the group with the Pledge of Allegiance. McElwain also invited board members to attend the ‘Wee Deliver’ ceremony to be held January 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 a.m., the ceremony lasts approximately twenty minutes.

President McElwain then announced that Brina Jones had been chosen as a ‘People to People Student Ambassador’ and would be representing Macon. McElwain asked Ms. Jones to address the board on what she would be doing. Ms. Jones reported she would be going to New Zealand and Australia and would be meeting other students and spending time with tribes. They would be learning more about each other’s cultures. She is presently in the process of raising money to go on the trip, the group will be leaving in June and return in July.

David Hamilton entered the meeting.

A motion was made by Jim Cerva, seconded by Don Kinkhorst and passed unanimously to amend the consent agenda by adding under Superintendent’s report item (D) Facilities Report and item (E) Foundation Report.

A motion was made by John Walker, seconded by Jim Cerva 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 each board member should have received a copy of the Annual Report that was prepared for the 2000-2001 School Year. The report contains all of the information that is required by the Outstanding Schools Act of 1993. Copies have also been delivered to the Macon Chronicle-Herald and Macon Public Library, making the report available to the general public.

Superintendent Brown reported they had received the Annual Performance Report from DESE. The district met the standards in ten of the thirteen performance areas; as a result, the district is accredited in the Missouri Assessment Program. The administration is working with faculty and staff to develop strategies that can be implemented to achieve improvement.

Superintendent Brown reported that the annual MSBA Legislative Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, January 29, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. Registration begins

at 9:00 a.m. with the first general session beginning at 10:00 a.m. He asked board members to check their schedules and let him know if they want to be registered.

Superintendent Brown reported that he had visited with Rob Rollings, architect for the school's facilities improvement plan. Rollings had proposed three different plans in implementing air conditioning for the elementary building, which involved electrical upgrades for the a/c and also for newer technology. The facilities committee would be meeting in January to review the proposals.

Superintendent Brown reported that the Foundation had met and filled the seven-member committee, with the superintendent holding an ex-officio position. Committee members are President John Bales (2-year term), Vice President Jack Davison (3-year term), Secretary (hasn't been contacted yet), Member JD King (1-year term), Member Toni Riekeberg (1-year term), Member Kathy McElwain (2-year term) and Member Wilma Maddox (3-year term). The Foundation will be working on a financial package and will keep the board informed.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Superintendent Brown reported the school had received a letter of apology written by Larry and Eric Hartung concerning their unauthorized parachute jumps onto Hugh Dunn Field during the half time of the October 12<sup>th</sup> football game. Brown recommended the board dismiss the charges against the Hartung's. A motion was made by Jim Cerva, seconded by Don Kinkhorst and passed to drop the charges filed against the Hartung's. Vern Kincheloe cast the only negative vote.

Superintendent Brown reported that John Walker had spent considerable time reviewing the 2001 fall policy updates as presented by MSBA. A motion was made by Don Kinkhorst, seconded by Toni Riekeberg and passed unanimously to approve all policy updates by MSBA with the district's changes as presented. Policies that were amended and adopted were:

Policy GBM-AP1 – grievance procedure, which added two representatives from the high school, already had two from the elementary and two from the middle school.

Policy GCBDA & GDBDA – adopt with our modifications, which listed the holidays that our support staff are paid for.

Policy EBC – changed the district as listed from a K-8, to a K-12.

The following four policies were rescinded – IGBCA-AP, DDA, EBDAC, and IGDG.

Superintendent Brown also reported they are looking at adding a new policy that would allow former board members to present diplomas at graduation.

A motion was made by Jim Cerva, seconded by Toni Riekeberg and passed unanimously to approve Joetta Walter's recommendation to revise Policy IGBA to include a schedule that limits the total cost of an independent educational evaluation to \$1,000 and also limit the distance to be traveled for an evaluation to a sixty-mile radius from the district, without prior administrative approval.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Superintendent Brown reported on the Nuts and Bolts Preschool program. The preschool is in its second year as the result of the Missouri Preschool project Grant. The grant total for the first year was \$100,000 and this year is \$63,000. Currently 14 boys and 3 girls are enrolled in the 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily program. Fees for children to participate are charged on a sliding scale based on families' financial need. Of the 17 children enrolled 9 qualify for free or reduced lunches and tuition. Daily activities include all areas of development for each child.

Superintendent Brown reported on the Safe-Schools Grant. The alternative school which has been named 'Bridges' is in its' second year. There are currently eleven students enrolled in the program. The students progress at there own rate on pass-key software and are also required to serve 80-hours of volunteerism of some kind in the community. This year the grant was a 50/50 match, of which the school is responsible for their half, which is \$35,932. Next year the grant will be a 25/75, the district will be responsible for the 75%. This will be the last year for the grant, unless it is rewritten to possibly include the middle school. There is no revenue coming in from the alternative school.

Superintendent Brown reported on the Safe and Drug Free Schools grant. Red Ribbon Week activities were conducted in each building. Missouri Highway Patrolman Brent Bernhardt is coming December 20<sup>th</sup> to speak on topics covered in the D.A.R.E. program. Rob Pilkington from the University of Missouri will also be present to discuss their School Violence Program they provide to districts. In March of 2002, a district-wide program will be offered to parents, the topic being "How to Recognize the Signs of Drugs and Alcohol in your Child".

Superintendent Brown gave an overview of the Technology Grant received for the 2001-2002 school year. The district received \$26,290 from the state; the district's match was \$8,365. Technology funds are spent according to the district tech plan formulated by the technology advisory committee and approved by the Board. Grant monies have been used to upgrade the network infrastructure, additional network drops, purchase a web server, memory upgrades, and salaries.

Superintendent Brown also reported that the district received a Video Grant for the 2001-2002 school year in the amount of \$5,115, of which \$465 is district match. Video grant monies were used to buy an upgraded projector housed in the Library Media Center to be checked out to staff members to use in their rooms for presentations or instruction.

Superintendent Brown reported that under the direction of Suzy Thompson, the Student Council has revised their constitution. Representatives from the Council were present and described the changes to the board.

Superintendent Brown asked Russell Ford, representing Edison Schools to address the board on their summer school program. Their program is a 168-hour program, 24 full

days (7 hours/day) of instruction. The curriculum, as well as all supplies and materials, are provided by Edison, which becomes the property of the district. The cost to the district is 29% to Edison of the net profit, the remaining 71% the district keeps. Edison also provides a guarantee, if the district does not see increased student performance and a strong academic program of studies they will pay a cash penalty of \$10,000.

A motion was made by Don Kinkhorst, seconded by John Walker and passed unanimously to participate in the Edison Schools Edison Extra Summer Adventure Program for the 2002 summer.

Superintendent Brown reported that Larry Theerman has prepared a calendar for the 2002-2003 school year and gave a copy to board members. Nine early-release dates are scheduled, as well as three full days for teacher in-service. Theerman and Brown have not had an opportunity to make the calendar available to the faculty and staff and would like to delay adoption of a formal calendar until the January board meeting.

A motion was made by John Walker, seconded by Don Kinkhorst and passed unanimously to increase vocational fees to \$1,290 for the 2002-2003 school year. Currently, tuition is \$1,260 for three hours of instruction.

A motion was made by John Walker, seconded by Toni Riekeberg and passed unanimously to give permission to Larry Theerman to apply for vocational enhancement grants for the 2002-2003 school year. These grants are available with a funding ratio for equipment purchases of 75% by the state and 25% by the district. Materials' and supplies' expenditures are reimbursed 50% by the state.

A motion was made by Toni Riekeberg, seconded by John Walker and passed unanimously to appoint the position of elementary principal as the district's homeless coordinator.

A motion was made by Toni Riekeberg, seconded by John Walker and passed to accept the low bid from Westport for the district's worker's compensation in the amount of \$59,330 and approve the entire comprehensive insurance package as outlined, for a total premium amount of \$100,747.31. David Hamilton abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by Don Kinkhorst, seconded by Jim Cerva and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of Kim Wiggans, para-professional in Special Education effective December 14, 2001.

President McElwain read thank you cards the board had received.

Superintendent Brown recognized the following students and staff:

Missouri All-State Honor Band – (Gene Edwards, Director & John Wiggans Associate Director of Bands) - Wessall Abdel-Khader, Daniel Bond, Rachel Harrison, Max Parkinson  
All-State Orchestra – Brendan Bennett

All-State Honorable Mention Band – Amber Laughlin  
Centralia Tournament – Tigers Championship Title - (Jason Sutherland Head  
Coach and Dustin Fanning, Assistant Coach  
Centralia All-Tournament Teams – Jimmy Sangster and Erik VanDelft  
Student Council members for presenting changes to constitution tonight.

Set the next regular scheduled board meeting date to be Thursday, January 17, 2002, at  
7:00 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.” Vern Kincheloe seconded the motion. Those voting yea –  
John Walker, Jim Cerva, David Hamilton, Don Kinkhorst, Vern Kincheloe, Toni  
Riekeberg, and Kathy McElwain. Those voting nay- none. Motion passed.

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Kathy McElwain, President

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Deborah Baker, Secretary