

**MACON COUNTY R-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2003**

The Macon County R-I Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, November 24, 2003, at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Jim Cerva, Danny Orbin, Scott Blodgett, Eugene Stueve, David Hamilton, and Toni Riekeberg. Allison Rowland was absent.

President Riekeberg called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She noted that no one had signed up for public comment and then asked everyone to join her in the pledge to the flag.

President Riekeberg reported that she wanted one item pulled from the consent agenda for discussion, item D. Revenue/expenditure comparison, and asked if anyone wanted any other items pulled. She also wanted to add one item to the agenda, under Old Business, item D. Information on the 2004-2005 Budget. There being no further requests she asked for a motion to approve the amended consent agenda.

A motion was made by Jim Cerva, seconded by Scott Blodgett and passed unanimously to accept the amended consent agenda, which consisted of:

- A. Approval of amended agenda.
- B. Minutes of previous meeting.
- C. Attendance report.
- E. Treasurer's report.
- F. Monthly bills.
- G. Approve the 2002-2003 audit report.
- H. Consider revisions to board policies – fall updates.
- I. Comprehensive School Improvement annual assessment reports:
 1. library/media,
 2. health services.
- J. Approve Professional Development Plan for 2003-2004.
- K. Approve appointments to vocational advisory committees, including Adult and Community Education and Business Education.
- L. Renew membership with Missouri School Boards Association for 2004.
- M. Enter into renewal contract with Missouri School Boards Association for Full Maintenance Policy Service.
- N. Set filing dates for the April 6, 2004 board election (December 16, 2003 – January 20, 2004).

Dr. Long reported that the revenues are down \$155,077.59 compared to last year at this time. The local and federal dollars are down and the federal is up. The federal is up due to receiving monies from the middle school grant. The expenditures are up compared to last year \$740,356.46, but this is largely in part to the Edison payment of \$386,181.27, the Middle School Renovation Grant of \$385,148.50 and the track of \$52,963.35. Dr. Long noted that salaries are down compared to last year, due to the fact that last year

several teachers were out on maternity leave and having to hire substitutes, which hasn't been the case this year.

President Riekeberg asked for a motion to approve the revenue/expenditure comparison.

A motion was made by Jim Cerva, seconded by Scott Blodgett and passed unanimously to approve the revenue/expenditure comparison report.

Dr. Long reported that American Education Week was celebrated during the week of November 17-21. Various activities occurred at each grade level. This year's theme was "America's Promise: Great Public Schools for Every Child."

Dr. Long reported that he is in the process of soliciting bids for next year's property and casualty insurance. Currently the lowest bid is \$50,000 down from the previous year. Dr. Long will bring back a recommendation to the December board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dr. Long then recommended the district join the lawsuit being brought by the Committee for Educational Equality. He thought the approximate cost to the district would be \$1,300. Approximately half of the school districts in the state have chosen to join the effort. President Riekeberg then asked for a motion to join the lawsuit. No motion was made, so the issue was never voted upon.

Dr. Long recommended the district approve the implementation of the GED Option Program that was presented at last month's meeting. The program will allow a student that is behind at least 7-credits and is at least 17-years-old to attend classes a half-day at Macon to take elective classes and the other half-day at the literacy center preparing for the GED test.

A motion was made by Scott Blodgett, seconded by Danny Orbin and passed unanimously to approve the GED Option Program as recommended by Dr. Long, effective with the second semester of this school year.

Dr. Long asked for approval of the Facility Use Policies Handbook that Dwight Tietsort and Mickey Briscoe had developed. The policy outlines who should be charged for using the facilities, and also addresses security issues.

A motion was made by Danny Orbin and seconded by Jim Cerva to approve the Facilities Use Policies Handbook as presented. After discussion both parties withdrew their motion. The board asked for Dwight and Mickey to look at adding a section for liability insurance, and to put an hourly fee for an employee to lock/unlock the facilities (which could be waived by the employee). They also wanted to know what the present board policy KG outlines for use of the facility, and recommend revising it.

President Riekeberg then gave a packet to board members on the district's finances. It covered where the district had been in the last six-years, where the finances were currently, and what is proposed for next year. Riekeberg wanted the board to know what had been done in years past when money was tight. Riekeberg stated that next year at a glance approximate revenues would be \$9-million. Budgeted expenditures are at \$10-million. Just to maintain the certificated salary schedule would be an increase of \$200,000, the non-certificated would be another \$70,000 and next year's interest on retirement an increase of \$30,000. So the district is looking at a deficit of \$1.3-million. Riekeberg said the board is working very hard to give kids the best education with the money the district has.

NEW BUSINESS:

Frank Withrow, Macon County Economic Development then addressed the board on economic issues within the county. He would like to see Highway 36 be four-lane and be placed on the ballot in 2004 for funding. He said it was vital to Macon for Highway's 36 and 63 to become four-lane. He would also like for major employers to meet with the district and possibly work out some agreements for courses that would help them and their employee's. The unemployment rate was down in Macon and he hoped to be bringing more jobs to the community.

Stacy Quinn, At-Risk Coordinator then gave a power-point presentation to the board about the at-risk services currently being offered by the district and other ideas to implement. Current programs in place are Tiger Pride and Character Cats. She also held the district's first RESPECT week in October. She reported on extracurricular opportunities that she is looking into with local churches and also will be holding the first CARE Team meeting in December.

President Riekeberg appointed a committee of Scott Blodgett, Jim Cerva, and herself to work with Dwight Tietsort to make a recommendation for a graduation speaker for the Class of 2004.

Dr. Long asked for approval of the three-year bid for audit services from Lockridge, Constant and Conrad. They have audited the districts books annually for more than twenty years.

A motion was made by Eugene Stueve, seconded by Scott Blodgett and passed unanimously to accept Lockridge, Constant and Conrad, LLC bid of \$5,450 for the 2004 audit, and bids of \$5,550 for 2005 and \$5,650 for the 2006 audits.

Dr. Long recognized the following students and staff:

Macon High School varsity cheerleaders placing 2nd in MSHSAA state competition, Class AAA – Large Varsity. Suzy Thompson, coach.
Macon High School students selected to Northeast All-District Band & All-District Jazz Band, and Junior-High All-District Band, all under the direction of Jamie Baker, Director of Bands; and Mary File, Associate Director.

Macon High School students selected to Northeast District Honor Choirs, Jennie Phipps, Choir Director
Cast of “Seven Brides and Seven Brothers” under the direction Kathy Nelson, Musical Director.
Macon High school football player selected to the Honorable Mention Conference, Pete Class head-football coach.
Student Council-Northeast Region President

Set the next regular scheduled board meeting for Tuesday, December 16, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. in the high school library.

Danny Orbin 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.” Scott Blodgett seconded the motion. Those voting yea – Jim Cerva, David Hamilton, Eugene Stueve, Danny Orbin, Scott Blodgett, and Toni Riekeberg. Those voting nay- none. Motion passed.

Toni Riekeberg, President

Deborah Baker, Secretary