

**MACON COUNTY R-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION – TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2004**

The Macon County R-I Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, April 27, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Eugene Stueve, James Cerva, Allison Rowland, Scott Blodgett, Danny Orbin, James Rehard, and Toni Riekeberg.

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

President Riekeberg then gave a few opening remarks. She read “A School Board Member’s 10 Commandments” and passed out copies to board members. She also read the board’s goals that had been adopted last year which were:

- (1) Raise state-mandated MAP scores to a sufficient level to achieve Accreditation with Distinction.
- (2) Maintain year-end fund balance of 20 percent of all budgets.
- (3) Maintain and improve facilities to provide an optimal learning environment for students.
- (4) Establish and maintain quality, two-way communication and community engagement with patrons and staff.
- (5) Implement strategies to address declining enrollment in the district.

Riekeberg then announced that the consent agenda needed to have added under New Business Item (D) Committee Appointments, (E) Approve Career Ladder Payment, and (F) Renew Health Insurance; and asked if anyone else had any items to pull or add. Eugene Stueve asked if Item (B) Minutes of previous meeting, Item (G) Permission to apply for continued participation in gifted education program for 2004-2005, and Item (I) Permission to apply for e-rate funding could be pulled for discussion.

A motion was made by Allison Rowland, seconded by Scott Blodgett and passed unanimously to approve the amended consent agenda, which consisted of:

- A. Approval of amended agenda
- C. Attendance report.
- D. Revenue/expenditure comparison.
- E. Treasurer’s report.
- F. Monthly bills.
- H. Annual assessment of Macon High School curriculum, instruction, student progress, etc.
- J. Vocational enhancement grants for 2004-2005 pending approval by DESE.

Eugene Stueve noted that the April 12, 2004 minutes had an incorrect vote count for John Walker. The minutes stated 850 votes for John Walker and they should have read 820 votes. A motion was made by James Cerva, seconded by Eugene Stueve and passed unanimously to approve the corrected minutes vote count to 820 votes for John Walker.

Dr. Long reported that the board must give permission before the district can apply for the continued gifted education grant each year, thus the request for Item (G) Permission to apply for continued participation in gifted education program for 2004-2005 school year. A motion was made by Danny Orbin, seconded by Scott Blodgett and passed unanimously to give permission to the district to apply for continued participation in the gifted education program for 2004-2005.

Dr. Long reported that Item (I) Permission to apply for e-rate funding would allow the district to receive discounted telecommunications services for the district. A motion was made by James Cerva, seconded by Scott Blodgett and passed unanimously to give permission to the district to apply for the e-rate funding for fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2004 and ending on June 30, 2005.

Dr. Long distributed a year-end activity calendar to all board members and invited them to attend any and all of the activities.

Dr. Long gave a legislative update to the board. The governor has released the state money that had been previously withheld. Macon's portion of the funding is approximately \$167,000. Instead of the district having an ending fund balance of \$2.4 million, it will be closer to \$2.6 million. Dr. Long told the board that this would be an opportunity to consider any one-time projects that they might think valuable. Some ideas for the money include finishing the air-conditioning in the high school, redoing the bathrooms in the fourth and fifth grade, retiling the fourth and fifth grade hallway, updating the science rooms, repairing the circle drive, or to put the money in the bank and save. Dr. Long asked board members to submit to him any other ideas as a decision would need to be made at the May board meeting.

Dr. Long also reported that the House has passed a budget that would give schools the amount of money that they received last year approximately (.86 pro-ration factor). He thinks the Senate is likely to arrive at a similar number. This means that the district will not have to levy all 57-cents to balance the budget for next year. Dr. Long estimates it to be closer to 30-cents, but will have to wait and see if the governor signs the bill.

Dr. Long reported that Chief of Police, Steve Olinger, asked him to let the Board know that his department successfully wrote and was awarded a grant that would place a resource officer on Macon's campus, beginning next year, at no cost to the district. Dr. Long stated that because of some changes that occurred within the city's salary schedule that changes the cost of personnel, subsequent to the writing of the grant, final acceptance of the grant is pending. Macon Police Captain Jeff Brown reported that the grant would fund both a full-time and a half-time officer at the school. The grant covers the next three years and the city is required to maintain the officer the fourth year. The full-time officer will be required to be at the school and at school activities during 75 percent of their duty. The only thing Captain Brown asked the school for assistance in was office space for the officer.

Dr. Long also announced that this year's commencement speaker would be Roger Dorson.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Long reported that only two bids had been received for the construction of a house, by the building trade's class, for the 2004-2005 school year. Dr. Long recommended going with the lowest bid, due to the fact that it will be single family owner occupied. Generally, the bid with the highest percent over materials is the bid, which is recommended. However, the highest bid was for a duplex-type construction and is a moneymaking project that would be built for an employee of the district.

A motion was made by Eugene Stueve, seconded by James Cerva and passed unanimously to accept the bid from Keith and Rita Carter of 12.0% over cost of materials to have the vocational building trades class build a house for the 2004-2005 school year based on Dr. Long's recommendation; and to change the criteria for evaluating the project to a single family owner occupied dwelling for in the future. However, it was noted that if no bids were received that met the criteria, then other dwellings would be considered in order to continue the program.

Dr. Long reported that the salary committee had met and has requested five proposals for the 2004-2005 school year. Dr. Long recommends the board approve all five proposals as they would have a minimal impact on the district financially and would be significant in terms of staff morale. The five proposals are:

- (1) No change in the base salary, but allows teachers to move on the salary schedule if they are eligible.
- (2) Increase number of sick days given to nine-month employees from nine to ten per year.
- (3) Implement a bereavement leave benefit (spouse, parents, children, in-laws, siblings, and step-relations) to have an additional five days of leave. This leave would not be charged against either their sick or personal leave days.
- (4) Raise reimbursement rate, upon separation from the district for unused sick/personal days, from \$15 to \$20 for sick days and from \$35 to \$40 for personal days.
- (5) Allow unused personal days to accumulate to five, instead of two, before rolling the days over into the sick leave total. This would allow a person to bank, and use, up to five personal days in a year.

After discussion each proposal was passed separately as shown below.

A motion was made by Allison Rowland, seconded by Danny Orbin and passed unanimously to maintain the current salary schedule, and allow those who are eligible to move on the salary schedule for the 2004-2005 school year.

A motion was made by Allison Rowland, seconded by Danny Orbin and passed unanimously to increase the number of sick days given to nine-month employees from nine to ten per year, beginning with the 2004-2005 school year.

A motion was made by Danny Orbin, seconded by Eugene Stueve and passed unanimously to implement a bereavement leave benefit (spouse, parents, children, in-laws, siblings, and step-relations) to have an additional five days of leave. This leave would not be charged against either their sick or personal leave days, beginning with the 2004-2005 school year.

A motion was made by Eugene Stueve, seconded by James Cerva and passed unanimously to raise reimbursement rate, upon separation from the district for unused sick/personal days, from \$15 to \$20 for sick days and from \$35 to \$40 for personal days; beginning with the 2004-2005 school year.

A motion was made by Allison Rowland, seconded by Eugene Stueve and passed unanimously to allow unused personal days to accumulate to five, instead of two, before rolling the days over into the sick leave total; beginning with the 2004-2005 school year. This would allow a person to bank, and use, up to five personal days in a year. The board asked the administrators to draft some guidelines for when these personal days could be taken.

A motion was made by Allison Rowland, seconded by Eugene Stueve and passed unanimously to regretfully accept the resignation of Jennie Phipps, choir director, effective at the end of this school year.

A motion was made by James Rehard, seconded by Eugene Stueve and passed unanimously to accept the resignation of Wendy Carter from her extra-duty assignment of assistant middle school track coach, for the 2004-2005 school year, as long as a suitable replacement can be found.

President Riekeberg reported the following committee assignments:

Welfare: Allison Rowland and Danny Orbin

Commencement: Scott Blodgett and Eugene Stueve

Administrators' Salary Schedule: James Rehard, Allison Rowland, and Eugene Stueve

Staff Salary Schedules: Danny Orbin, James Rehard, and Toni Riekeberg

Policy Review: James Cerva and Scott Blodgett

Facilities: James Cerva, Allison Rowland, and Eugene Stueve

Dr. Long reported to the board that a bill is moving through the legislature that will uncouple the career ladder from the pro-ration factor. If it passes they could fund the career ladder at whatever they want, and it would take a separate appropriations bill to make up any differences. They are estimating there will be a shortfall of somewhere between six and ten percent. Dr. Long explained depending on when the district's teachers were hired, some are on a 60/40 plan and others are on a 50/50 plan. The state

pays for 60 percent of their total stipend, and for the newer teachers, they only pay 50 percent.

A motion was made by Allison Rowland, seconded by Eugene Stueve and passed unanimously to pass the shortage on to the career ladder payment by taking the decrease from the state by one-half and apply that decrease to everyone that receives career ladder.

Dr. Long reported that the district is entering into the final year of a three-year bid contract on health insurance. This year's premium received from Blue Cross-Blue Shield is increasing 8.3 percent, and recommends continuing with them for the final year. Dr. Long recommends that the school begin the health insurance bid process in November this year, which should give plenty of time before the June 30, 2005 expiration of this year's renewal.

A motion was made by Allison Rowland, seconded by Eugene Stueve, and passed unanimously to continue with the Blue Cross-Blue Shield health insurance coverage for the upcoming renewal term with an increase of 8.3 percent and that the district will pay for 100-percent of the premiums for the district employees.

Dr. Long recognized the following students and staff.

State FBLA Contest Winners

Sponsors: Stacey Blodgett, Ruth Rash, Carol Shipp, Richelle Shoemaker

2 nd Place	Entrepreneurship Team	Lynette Richardson, Duston Weisenborn and Bill Surapaneni
3 rd Place	Word Processing I	Amber Sandner
5 th Place	Emerging Business Issues	Millicent Belt and Alan Schlanker
6 th Place	Introduction to Business	Sable Schab
6 th Place	Business Plan	Tyler Britt and Bill Surapaneni
7 th Place	Public Speaking I	Amber Sandner

MCTM Math Contest Winners

Sponsors: Janet Ryan, Patricia Bradshaw, Cindy Saltgaver, Leslie Miller

Elementary students who placed in top ten: Stacia Beauchamp, Barry Brashears, Nick Hamilton, Eli Riekeberg, Shannon Burke

1st Place Alternate: Katie Hutton

3rd Place (Advances to State Competition): Rheeann Linsley

President Riekeberg stated that Monday's meeting with the Midwest Superintendent's Search Consultants will have to be rescheduled from Monday evening, May 3, 2004, to Tuesday, May 4th because they were unable to make it on Monday. President Riekeberg will have to call everyone with the time.

Set the next regular scheduled board meeting for Thursday, May 27, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Allison Rowland 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.” Danny Orbin seconded the motion. Those voting yea – Allison Rowland, James Cerva, Eugene Stueve, Scott Blodgett, Danny Orbin, James Rehard, and Toni Riekeberg. Those voting nay- none. Motion passed.

Toni Riekeberg, President

Deborah Baker, Secretary