

# JOHNSTOWN-MONROE LOCAL SCHOOLS

**January 18, 2022**

**Special Session**

The Johnstown-Monroe Local Board of Education met in Special Session on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 3:45 p.m. in the Middle School Media Center, and live streamed via the District's Facebook and YouTube accounts. Roll call was answered by Mr. Benton, Mrs. Booher, Mrs. Thomas, and Mr. Swauger. Mrs. Davis was absent.

## **SILENT PRAYER**

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION**

**22-016** Moved by Mr. Benton, seconded by Mr. Swauger to approve the following Superintendent's Recommendation, as presented:

- a. To authorize an expenditure of \$40,000 toward the purchase of new band uniforms in partnership with the Band Boosters who will be contributing \$80,800 toward the total cost of \$120,800 for said uniforms.

Discussion after the motion: Extensive discussion regarding the needed band uniforms.

Aye: Mr. Benton, Mr. Swauger, Mrs. Booher, and Mrs. Thomas  
Motion carried.

Upon returning from a tour of the Johnstown Intermediate School construction site with teachers and administrators, the Board took up a discussion regarding grade configuration for said facility beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. The following comments, questions and issues were raised during said discussion:

### **Mr. Swauger**

The intermediate school will operate on a modified elementary schedule to allow for appropriate bus drop off and pick up at both the elementary and intermediate buildings.

Assured teachers that the intermediate school program will include recess and that the health department will be conducting playground inspections over the next two weeks.

When asked by teachers about whether or not there would be holiday parties allowed in the intermediate school, Mr. Swauger told them that he saw no reason why the same protocols practiced at the elementary would not be practiced at the intermediate; but, it would be under the guidance of the principal.

Informed those in attendance that the Board was weighing heavily toward a 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade configuration at the intermediate school and leaving the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes in the middle school.

Stated that special teachers would have their own space.

Stated that the Board would not expect classroom equipment to move and that the building and classrooms would be properly equipped.

Expressed that bussing challenges will need more analysis.

Stated that he would like us to consider the possibility of students in grades 4 and 5 being able to use the middle school gym one or two times per week.

When necessary for students to travel between buildings they would travel with a teacher and that travel of students between buildings would be minimal. This was in answering teacher questions where they expressed concern over teachers traveling and the impact on instructional time and planning time.

Stated that there would be no uniforms for intermediate school students in grades 4 and 5.

Stated that we are going to employ the staff that is needed to make this work and wanted the measurable outcomes for staff that would be employed. New staff employed would be justified by expected tie to student achievement improvement.

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When teachers expressed concern for students with urgent needs, he assured them that a student support specialist would be in the building. Mr. Dickson responded to this comment by stating he was not sure we could justify the cost of a full-time Student Support Specialist for two grades unless there were ties to other duties for said position.

Stated that growth is coming, and we would need to adjust as necessary moving forward.

Teachers expressed that they do not want to go backwards from the progress they are making with student achievement in our current programs. Mrs. Predieri stated that teachers are concerned about the Project Launch/Project Lead the Way teachers traveling between buildings. Mr. Swauger stated that an Innovation Teacher for the intermediate school was under consideration.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**22-017** Moved by Mrs. Booher, seconded by Mr. Benton to adjourn the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

Aye: Mrs. Booher, Mr. Benton, Mrs. Thomas, and Mr. Swauger  
Motion carried.

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Treasurer

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President