

**MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER**  
**MEETING DATE APRIL 22, 2010 7:00 P.M.**

## **Community Advisory Committee Meeting**

**22 APRIL 2010**

Community Advisory Committee Members Present: Richard Jordan, Diana Bean and Rich Niederberger

Board Members Present: Mary Homan, Gloria Smith and Pam Staats

Administration Present: Mike Ognosky and Joe Gilhool (Athletic Director)

Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM.

### **Items Discussed:**

I. Mike Ognosky took the roll and noted the attendance as listed above.

II. Old Business: The following item was presented under Old Business

- **Concerns from the March Meeting:** The following items were reviewed from the February Meeting:
  - ✓ Mr. Ognosky explained that the school calendar for the 2010-2011 school year had been approved by the Board at the April Business meeting. The first day of school for students will be on Wednesday, August 25, 2010. The last day of school is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, 2011. All snow days are scheduled to be made up after June 1, 2011. Graduation has been established for Saturday, June 11, 2011 in the High School Stadium. A copy of the 2010-2011 calendar is located on the district webpage for review and will be sent home by all building principals prior to the end of the school year.
  - ✓ Mr. Ognosky also updated the group on the status of the administration building project. Since our last meeting, the board approved the selection of an architect for the purpose of assisting the district through the entire process of planning and constructing the building. They have already

conducted preliminary meetings and the process of preparing a footprint has already begun.

III. New Business: The following items were discussed under New Business:

- **Mr. Gilhool, Athletic Director, presented an overview of the current athletic program sponsored by the District:**
  - ✓ The District currently offers 10 Varsity sports for boys and 12 Varsity sports for girls. The girls' list of sports includes the 3 Cheerleading squads: Football, Wrestling and Boys' Basketball.
  - ✓ The District also offers 7 Junior High sports for boys and 6 Junior High sports for girls.
  - ✓ The only Varsity sport not offered in the District that is sponsored by the Lackawanna League is Boys' Volleyball. There have been numerous attempts to begin that program, but the student interest has never been enough to have a team.
  - ✓ Mr. Gilhool utilized the technology in the Community Learning Center to demonstrate to the group the information that is available to them on the District webpage in regard to athletics. He showed the process that can be utilized to access schedule and sport specific information on the "athletics" and "athletic schedule" buttons on the web page left hand column. He also demonstrated for the group how they could enroll in a communication system that would inform them via email of any schedule change in any sport as it is entered into the system.
  - ✓ Mr. Gilhool also brought up and demonstrated the PIAA District II website at [www.piaad2.org](http://www.piaad2.org) and showed the links available on that site that provide updated information on the entire league schedules, standings and results as well as all of the information for District II tournaments.
  - ✓ Mr. Gilhool also demonstrated the "directions" links on the webpage and how they can be utilized in finding routes to schools and playing sites. He also asked that when those links are utilized and mistakes are found that he be contacted immediately for changes.
  - ✓ Mr. Gilhool concluded his presentation by reviewing the Athletic Manual and the Parent Code of Conduct that is distributed to all parents.

At the completion of the presentation the Committee members present asked a number of questions and thanked Mr. Gilhool for his thorough presentation. Included in the discussion at that time were the following items:

- ✓ In response to a question from Mrs. Bean regarding the Varsity Club, Mr. Gilhool responded that Varsity Club membership is gained by earning a varsity letter. Varsity Club sponsors an end of the year picnic honoring the athletes and also orders the Varsity jackets. A student earns a varsity jacket when they receive a varsity letter or participate in a varsity sport for two years. Varsity Club pays for the jacket and standard lettering – any

additional lettering is paid for by the students. The members of Varsity Club are responsible for the staffing of the concession stands at all home Varsity Football and Basketball games and that money is utilized to help defray the cost of the jackets.

- ✓ In response to a question from Mrs. Homan regarding the coverage of our athletic teams by the Binghamton paper, Mr. Gilhool said it has been emphasized to our coaches that they are required to contact the paper with all results, and they do so.
- ✓ In response to a question from Mr. Jordan regarding the communication of the "Parent Code of Contact" to parents, Mr. Gilhool responded that at the time a student takes his physical for the school sports' year, parents are required to complete paperwork that includes the signing of the "Code" – only one parents signature is required.
- ✓ In response to a question from Mrs. Smith regarding the ability for current 6<sup>th</sup> grades to sign up for next fall's Junior High sports' programs, Mr. Gilhool responded that Mr. Cherundolo (6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Lathrop Street) and Mr. Soden (6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Choconut Valley) assist with the sign up sheets for all sports. Mr. Gilhool visits the elementary schools and explains the various programs to the students and leaves sign up sheets with those teachers. They then return them to Mr. Gilhool with the names of interested students.

#### IV. Open Forum: Items of discussion during the open forum included the following:

- Mr. Niederberger asked a question in regard to the school taxes for the upcoming year. As the Tax Collector in Franklin Township he has received questions regarding the status of a tax increase. Mr. Ognosky responded that at this time there are no plans for a tax increase for 2010-2011. The Board will be acting on a preliminary budget at the May Board meeting.
- Mr. Jordan asked a question regarding the status of the Guidance report on the PSAT/NMSQT results for this year. He asked that when the scores are received and a report is developed by guidance that the report include the following information: (a) an overall school report outlining the results of all of the scores be developed; (b) the math scores be broken out in an additional separate report; (c) that the results of the scores of those students who have taken the PSSA Junior class be compared to those Juniors who were exempt from the course.
- Mr. Ognosky explained that the PSSA class for Juniors will not be offered next year. In its place will be an elective course on SAT preparation that will be offered to next year's 11<sup>th</sup> grade as well as any senior that desires the course.
- Mr. Ognosky explained that a letter will be sent home tomorrow informing the students, parents, and staff that school will be cancelled on Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> due to required maintenance of pipes in the High School Boiler Room. The day will be made up on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, which will now become the last student day of classes. Graduation will remain as scheduled on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

- Mr. Ognosky also explained that the District has budgeted for an automated call system for parents and staff to be put in place for the 2010-2011 school year. The administration is just beginning its exploration of various systems as the first step in the selection process.
- Mrs. Smith asked Mr. Gilhool if the track hurdles could be moved from the track at the end of practice each day. A number of community members who utilize the track as for exercise in the evening explained that the hurdles present an obstacle as they move about the track. Mr. Gilhool will address this with the track coaches.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

**Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> in the Community Learning Center of the Junior-Senior High School at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Golden will be on hand to discuss the Special Education program in the District, including the Gifted Program.**

Submitted by

*Mike Ognosky*