

**MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**CHOCONUT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACULTY ROOM**  
**MEETING DATE SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 7:00 P.M.**

**Community Advisory Committee Meeting**

**24 SEPTEMBER 2009**

Community Advisory Committee Members Present: Richard Jordan, Connie Burgh and Dolores Quinn

Board Members Present: Chris Caterson

Administration Present: Mike Ognosky, Chris Tripp (Energy Manager)

Visitors Present: Bill Host, Eric Powers

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

- **Current State Budget Status:** Mike Ognosky reviewed the events in Harrisburg regarding the dispute over the budget between the legislative branch and the governor. Last Friday a tentative agreement was reached, but as of today the final budget document has not yet been approved. The District received notification from the Department of Education today that the September subsidy payment would not be paid until a budget document is approved in the legislature.
- **Oil and Natural Gas Leases in the District:** Mr. Ognosky reviewed the status of the current oil and natural gas leases in the district. As was stated at the May meeting, Choconut Valley Elementary school has a “no surface operations” lease in place. During this week the District has also been contacted by companies in regard to a potential lease at the High School property. Those discussions will continue, but as of this time nothing has been finalized.

- **Concerns from May meeting:** Mr. Ognosky explained that the administration did take Mr. Jordan's May concern regarding the Advanced Placement curriculum to the Student Liaison Committee and the students were aligned with the points made by Mr. Jordan and would favor the "tightening" of enrollment in the Advanced Placement courses, the more stringent alignment with the national curriculum for Advanced Placement courses in all of the offerings, and the requirement of all students in all Advanced Placement courses to take the Advanced Placement examination as part of the course work. Mr. Ognosky will retain this item as a discussion during budget preparation – the payment of the examination fee by the district.
- **Update of School Procedure Changes for this school year:** The discussion focused on the four major change areas: the reduced lunch time in the Junior-Senior High School, the shortened time period class periods to three minutes, the changes in the dress code in the Junior-Senior High School, and the reduction of the transportation fleet in Region 3. In all cases, there were initial concerns raised but those concerns have dissipated as the students have acclimated themselves to the changes.
- **Report from the Guidance Department:** Mr. Ognosky will schedule a presentation by the Guidance Department of the Junior-Senior High School for the October meeting.

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

- **Presentation by Chris Tripp:** Chris reviewed the school district's current agreement with Energy Education, Inc. and the district's efforts to control the utilization of energy in the district in order to cut costs. Chris reported that in the first 10 months of operation the reduction in energy utilization across the district is at 24.7 % as compared to October –August of the previous year, a savings of almost \$150,000. He then outlined the various measures that have been put in place and detailed the recommendations set forth by the Energy Ad Hoc Committee that serves that district. Chris, as the Chairperson of the Committee, meets with a group of concerned community volunteers and examines methods and means in which the district could conserve and reduce energy utilization as well. Chris then led the group through a demonstration of the online control of each of the three school building heating and cooling systems as a way of maximizing the efficient utilization of those resources. Chris demonstrated how he can control individual classroom units in that regard.
- IV. Open Forum: There were no items of discussion during the open forum.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> in the  
Community Learning Center of the Junior-Senior High  
School at 7:00 p.m.**

Submitted by

*Mike Ognosky*