

Monroe County Schools

News Release

For more information, contact Lyn Guy, Superintendent, P. O. Box 330, Union, WV 24983 (Telephone: 304-772-3094/Fax: 304-772-5020)

For immediate release - September 7, 2005

Technical School students interested in learning computer networking will be working with the Aries Networking Technology Program for the 05-06 school year. Under the program, as explained by instructor Marshall Neel, students spend a year learning computer hardware and software troubleshooting, skills that will allow them to be of valuable assistance to their employer or could be the beginning of a career in computer repair and networking. The second year of the program would involve learning the networking basics of installation, maintenance, and server and network administration. Students interested in a third year of the program could learn Linux Essentials for industry endorsed Linux certification.

Students taking the networking program, as well as other vocational programs, must take end of course exams for certification. Following the presentation, the Board approved the change from Cisco Networking to Aries Networking Technology for the curriculum.

WVU Extension Agent, Don Dransfield spoke to the Board about the latest collaboration with his office and the school system. Dransfield outlined the kinds of information that would be sent out through WHFI 106.7 FM, the station owned by the Monroe County Technical School. Information such as upcoming events, seminars, meetings, and agricultural topics would be broadcast. Dubbed Project REACH, the program would involve news from each of the WVU Extension areas presented by James Monroe High School students working within the radio station. These spots would be recorded and played throughout the day.

Under Policy Development, Superintendent Lyn Guy reviewed the proposed policy bringing the county into line with changes in over-time laws affecting service personnel working in the system. Guy pointed out the six different lines in the policy that required local decisions and the other 99% of the policy was dictated by federal guidelines. The Policy, which includes time sheets, information on compensatory time, and which employees are exempt from overtime regulations and which are non-exempt, will go on comment for thirty days.

Under New Business, the Board approved budget supplements, transfers, and paying the bills as presented. Five student transfers were approved, as was a budget for fund-raising to be developed by the WVU Extension Office.

Plans to request an additional \$622,000 from the School Building Authority for construction at the Monroe County Technical Center were approved. The Needs Project presented by Superintendent Guy would provide construction of a metal building to shelter the modular home construction program, as well as to complete the meat processing building.

Three staff travel requests were approved: Judy Azulay, Caroline Klezli and Paulette Kirby to attend the Brushy Fork Annual Institute in Berea Kentucky on Sept. 14-17, with expenses to be paid by Gear Up and AmeriCorps Program funds. Jim Hunter received permission to attend the National Energy Education Seminar in Memphis, TN, October 3-5; and David Williams received permission to attend the National Tech Prep Conference in Orlando, FL, Sept. 27-29, with all expenses to be paid by the Tech Prep Consortium.

The Board approved sponsorship of the Food Service Programs for the 05-06 school year and approved the following personnel items: hiring Danny Wilson as the custodian to work between Peterstown Middle and Peterstown Elementary Schools; the resignation of Susan Cobb

as Test Coordinator at Mountain View; the transfer of Linda Terry to Head Start Aide/Home Visitor at Peterstown; and the hiring of Kathreen Feury, Tim Hancock, Amber Huffman, Minday Toler, Martha Wilson and Jerry Laufer as substitute teachers.

Under Discussion and Information, Lyn Guy reviewed upcoming dates for board training, and discussed salary proposals as well as discussion about the Legislative Session that would address teacher salaries.

The meeting ended 9:10 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Sept. 20, 2005, 7:00 p.m. at the Board Office in Union.