MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting, July 8, 2008

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

FOR INFORMATION

1. **The Monroe County Community School Corporation has received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education for nearly $1.1 million.** The grant, which will be given over three years, will support evidence-based programs and strategies to reduce alcohol use among Monroe County high school students. Richland-Bean Blossom Community School Corporation, including Edgewood High School, will also participate in all aspects of the project.

   This major grant will allow all public schools in Monroe County to implement a comprehensive prevention strategy that will engage the students and offer them the tools they need to make informed decisions about the effects of alcohol use. Also, by engaging community partners and parents in the program, we are creating a foundation of support for our young people – now and in the future.

   The project is a multi-tiered prevention approach that mobilizes the community and implements universal prevention strategies targeting all high school students, along with strategies targeting athletes and at-risk students. The four major components of the program include Reconnecting Youth (RY); LifeSkills for High School; Athletes Training; and Learning to Avoid Steroids (ATLAS); and Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol (CMCA).

   Thanks to Jennifer Staab, Healthy Schools Coordinator, for writing the grant proposal. Others who assisted with the proposal include Matt Wysocki, Director of Workforce Development with the Chamber of Commerce Franklin Initiative; Leslie Skooglund, Youth Outreach Coordinator; and Mike Shipman, Director of Assessment and School Operations.

2. **University Elementary School is featured on an award winning WTIU program.** WTIU’s Katie Sullivan has notified the school system that The Friday Zone has been nominated for a Regional Emmy Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Lower Great Lakes Chapter. Ms. Sullivan submitted their “Getting Spacey” episode featuring the segment they filmed at the Challenger Learning Center with teachers Kim Williams and Becky Gensler and their students from University Elementary School.

   The Emmy Awards ceremony will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2008, in Cleveland. We join Ms. Sullivan in hoping that the show will win, but regardless of the results she said that she is ‘happy and proud that they had a chance to highlight the authentic learning experience of University Elementary students as directed by their talented teachers.’ She expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work with MCCSC on this feature.