

District 201 receives property

By ALLEN PARKER

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MT. VERNON — The Mt. Vernon Township High School District 201 Board of Education unanimously approved the donation of a lot which Dist. 201 Superintendent Dr. Michael Smith said is known as G-Lot West during its meeting Monday night.

The motion by the board will make the district the owner for \$1. Smith said the property has a clean title free of any lien.

The board also heard a positive report from Julie Holmes, assistant principal of Freshman Academy. Holmes presented data in regards to progress and impact the academy has had on students.

In her report, Holmes said two main areas of concern, chronic tardiness and disciplinary incidents, have improved.

“The attendance rate has increased

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and disciplinary incidents have decreased,” Holmes said. “We’re trying to help teachers in the classroom and at the same time communicate our policies to parents.”

Holmes said she believes reviewing the policies in a more consistent manner has helped in those two areas. The current goals where the academy is seeking to succeed include transition strategies, common curriculum, thematic units and career cruising.

“We’re working with feeder schools and getting on the same page to become more aligned with core standards,” said Holmes. “We are also helping students who may be having problems get to a point where they can earn all of the credits they need to have heading into their second year.”

Action was also unanimously taken in naming Poor Boys an additional vendor at

the school’s cafeteria.

“The American Presidency: What is Needed to Move America Forward?” was unanimously chosen as a topic for the Frederick Oehm, Sr. Scholarship.

In consent agenda action items:

Approved minutes of the regular meeting open session Oct. 17.

■ Approved minutes of the regular meeting closed session Oct. 17.

■ Approved minutes of special board meeting open session Nov. 15.

■ Approved a culinary arts class trip.

■ Approved a student council class trip.

■ Approved the Rockin’ Rams Activity Account.

■ Approved IMRF Resolution Ballot.

■ Approved financial reports and bills for October.

■ Approved treasurer’s report for October.

In action items:

Approved first reading: Board policy updates.

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