At the May meeting of the Monroe-Gregg School Board, the spotlight was on the recently revived Future Farmers of America program. The Monrovia FFA Chapter was one of the first established in Indiana in 1929. The program was discontinued in the late 80’s but revived 4 years ago. It features over 90 students in Middle and High School gaining experience in all aspects of agriculture. Shelby Gore directs the program and says the students are gaining experience with aquaponics, construction, small engines and welding. They earned 600 dollar from a recent plant sale. They are raising egg producing chickens to benefit the Food Pantry and they attend National and State FFA Conventions.

In regular business, Elementary Principal Melissa York offered an update to the state mandated iLearn test which replaced ISTEP. Principal York says the new procedures made for long days of testing but was proud of her students, faculty and staff who stayed focused throughout.

1.4 million dollars in claims were approved. Textbook and curriculum changes were adopted at the Elementary and High School. Safety Director Kyle Swafford was given the okay to apply for a 50-thousand dollar matching school safety grant. The Communication Department was given the approval to sell surplus equipment; a Common School Loan was approved for the Middle and High School and changes were made to the Auditorium rental agreement.

In the personnel report, the resignations of Middle School English Teacher Brian Burke and Middle School Science Teacher Sierra Armour were approved, along with the resignation of High School Science Teacher David Snyder. New hires and route changes were approved within the Transportation Department. Several assistant coaching positons were finalized and the recommendations for summer employment were approved.

Students of the month were also introduced, sponsored by the Alumni Association:

Lincoln Blakenship and Aubrey Pierson from the Elementary
Same Allen at the Middle School
Seth Wertz and Grace Beamon at the High School

Lexi Reed was also introduced as the Daughters of the American Revolution Statewide Scholarship winner. She is the first honoree in the history of the Monrovia Chapter.