

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

Regular Meeting, December 15, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.

Location: H. Dean Evans Community and Education Center

Present: Mr. Dzwonar, Mr. Kite, Mr. Turner and Ms. Harris

Absent: Mrs. Spann Roddy

Others: Dr. Mervilde, Mrs. Sutton, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Mr. Licata, Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. Smith, Dr. Woodson, Alicia Harris, Dana Kaminski, Fatima Rich, Pat Gott, Peter Schifli, Dave Close, Linda Hall, Mike Greenwald, Brad Skillman, Bart York, Louisa LaGrotto, Jenny Calin, Karen Berman, Suzanne Zybert, Traci Rodgers, Kathleen Lattimer, Chris Wood, Ashley Ballery, Futsum Zeinasellassie, Rick Stover, Mrs. Kleschick, Jennifer Sanner

Mr. Dzwonar called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. noting that Mrs. Spann Roddy was absent. Mr. Doss led those in attendance with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval Consent Agenda

Dr. Mervilde recommended that the Board approve the Consent Agenda including the following items:

- Approval of the Minutes of the November 23, 2010 Regular
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$3,198,897.35
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel – Four New Appointments (50), (51), (52), (53); Two Maternity Leaves (14), (15); and One Retirement (5). - Classified Personnel – Sixteen New Appointments (72), (73), (74) (75), (76), (77) (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87); and One Resignation (97). The Human Resources Report also contained a Uniform Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for the wife of an employee.
- Approval or Acceptance of Non-competitive Grants, Gifts and Donations: There were no non-competitive grants or donations presented for the Board's approval.

Mr. Kite moved approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Harris seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Turner read the District Mission Statement aloud.

Recognitions

North Central High School Junior, Futsum Zeinasellassie

Futsum won the individual IHSAA State Championship for Cross Country for the second year in a row. His time of 14:49, which he has duplicated twice this year, ranks him second in the nation. As a freshman, Frustum finished 7th at the Foot Locker National Meet.

Capital Group American Funds

Capital Group American Funds partners with Nora Elementary School and provides a variety of help including Pen Pals, monthly readers, savings bonds, college scholarships a counselor two days a week, classroom volunteers and school and office supplies.

Steve Hawk – Property Manager Lakeside Pointe Apartments

Mr. Hawk plays an integral role in the Washington Township School’s community, especially for Nora Elementary School and our Burmese, Karen and Karenni families. He supports them through his work with EXODUS and Catholic Charities. Steve also works with St. Luke’s Methodist Church helping to facilitate community projects.

Central City Security Communications, City Securities Corporation, CSO Architects, The Skillman Corporation, The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis and Eastern Engineering Supply

The Board recognized and thanked these companies for their generous sponsorship and support to the Washington Township Schools Foundation. It is civic and community leaders like these whose generosity makes it possible for our Foundation to continue to improve the learning environment for the students in Washington Township.

Fatima Rich

Fatima is a teacher at Greenbriar Elementary School who was selected to participate in NBC’s Education Nation Project. Fatima traveled to New York and participated in a Teacher Town Hall Meeting to discuss the challenges facing our nation’s education system.

Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Mervilde wished everyone a joyous, restful and relaxing holiday season and winter break.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Action Items

1. Second Reading and Adoption of 2000 Policy Series Revisions – Dr. Woodson

Dr. Woodson led the Board through revisions made since First Reading. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The full discussion can be accessed on the District’s website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html

Mr. Kite moved approval of Second Reading and Adoption of 2000 Policy Series Revisions with the exception that Policy 2131 will be removed in its entirety with no replacement at this time, a numbering and semi-colon correction resulting from the two Policy 2205 revisions, retention of the word “singly” in Policy 2260, and the insertion of language regarding the Superintendent’s designee as the Compliance Officer in Policy 2260.01. Ms. Harris seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

2. Approval of Middle School MYP course Offerings – Dr. Woodson

The Board has been receiving information and updates on the Middle School MYP course offerings for several months. Dr. Woodson told the Board that the recommended change in course offerings under Proposal A will be to offer choices of French, Spanish and Chinese to all middle school students, helping to prepare them as students in a global society. The Board had comments. Discussion took place. The full report and discussion can be accessed on the District’s website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html

Mr. Kite moved approval of the Middle School MYP Course Offerings Proposal A as presented. Mr. Turner seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

3. Approval of Tax Anticipation Warrant Resolution for 2011 – Mr. Licata

This is a Resolution authorizing the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township to make temporary loans to meet operating expenses in the Capital Projects Fund, the Transportation Fund and the Bus Replacement Fund.

Ms. Harris moved approval of the Tax Anticipation Warrant Resolution for 2011 as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

4. Approval of Health and Wellness Center Contract – Mr. Licata

Mr. Licata explained that this is an agreement with Workplace Health Services who will operate the Health and Wellness Clinic located at Northview Middle School. The clinic re-opened December 1, 2010. Workplace Health Services is a new provider who will provide more services for employees who are insured through the District and it also hoped that the new structure of the clinic will create savings to the District’s health plan. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The full report and discussion can be accessed on the District’s website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html

Mr. Kite moved approval of the Health and Wellness Center contract as presented. Mr. Turner seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

Information Items/Board Discussion

1. Mission Statement Revisions – Dr. Woodson

Dr. Woodson presented the summary of the comprehensive feedback received from broad based stakeholder groups regarding the District Mission Statement. The Board received the feedback from these groups, the IB Mission Statement that the District has to align with, the District’s current Mission Statement and copies of other IB District school’s Mission Statements.

Discussion and approval of the new District Mission Statement is scheduled for the January 12, 2011 School Board Meeting. The Board had questions and comments. The full report can be accessed on the District's website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html

2. Review of Progress on Facilities Adequacy for 2011-2012 – Mr. Smith and Mrs. Reynolds

Mr. Smith, Mrs. Reynolds, Dr. Farrell and Mr. Licata are working on the adequacy of space in our school buildings for the 2011-2012 school years. The School District has seen increased enrollment in all grades and in particular at the elementary level in the last two years. The question becomes if the increase continues will we have adequate facilities to educate children at the elementary level? The team spent extensive time with each elementary principal to determine how much each classroom is used in each school. On the West side of the District they identified 12 classrooms that aren't traditionally used as classrooms and could be converted for traditional classroom use. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The full report and discussion can be accessed on the District's website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html

3. Board Discussion and Liaison Reports – Board Members

Mr. Kite attended the last REMS Safety Meeting presided over by Mrs. Fraps who retired at the end of December. He recommended the committee to Mr. Turner for a future liaison assignment. Mr. Kite attended Mrs. Fraps' Retirement Reception that was held at the Community and Education Center on December 8th. The Schools Foundation has been doing everything they can to raise money. As the Board liaison to the Foundation he participated in their recent phone-a-thon. He enjoyed the Spring Mill Cultural Bazaar which Mr. Dzwonar and Ms. Harris also attended and finally he attended the District's Annual Open House that was held on December 14, 2010 at the Community and Education Center.

Mr. Turner attended the Madrigal Feast along with Mr. and Mrs. Kite and Dr. and Mrs. Mervilde. He also attended the District Open House. Mr. Turner and Mrs. Spann Roddy are working on the 3000 Policy Series and the Superintendent's Evaluation format in order to proceed with the mid-year evaluation. An Executive Session will be held on December 20, 2010 to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation.

Mr. Kite asked Board Members who have not submitted their comments regarding the Superintendent's Evaluation to please do so as soon as possible so he can put together a synthesis.

Ms. Harris attended the IB Head Council Meeting. Last Friday she attended the ISBA Law Seminar. Mr. Rubright and Mr. Manna both presented at the seminar. At the meeting she learned that 85% of schools do not have a social networking policy. The materials received included a form recommend by Mr. Manna that school's use on incident reports to keep a record of all events regarding the incident. She finally saw the movie waiting for Superman.

Mr. Dzwonar stated that he is a parent of a freshman at North Central High School and attended the College Cost Workshop which is a free and amazing resource. He enjoyed the Spring Mill second grade Cultural Bazaar and said you could tell the students did a lot of research and the IB instructional program came to fruition in their reports. He wished all staff, the community and the Board a great holiday and said he is looking forward to working with everyone in a productive 2011.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed 4-0.