

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

Regular Board Meeting, May 11, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.

Location: H. Dean Evans Community and Education Center

Present: Mr. Dzwonar, Mr. Kite, Mr. Turner, Mrs. Spann Roddy and Ms. Harris

Absent: None

Others: Dr. Mervilde, Mrs. Sutton, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Mr. Smith, Dr. Woodson, CE Quandt, Kathy Rieke, Carl Gibson, Subha Balagopal, Andrea Hunley, Keana Parquet, Kim Piper, Jennifer Dean, Anthony Dean, Chris Wood

Presiding: Mr. Dzwonar, President

Mr. Dzwonar called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Smith led those in attendance with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Kite read the Mission Statement aloud.

Approval Consent Agenda

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

- Approval of the Minutes of the April 27, 2011 Regular Meeting, the May 2, 2011 Memorandum of Executive Session, and the Minutes and records of the May 4, 2011 Special Meeting.
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$2,161,622.06.
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel – One New Appointment (4); and Two Retirements (11), (12). Classified Personnel – One New Appointment (113); and One Resignation (110).
- Approval or Acceptance of Non-competitive Grants, Gifts and Donations: There were no non-competitive grants, gifts or donations presented for the Board's approval.

Mr. Turner moved approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Recognitions

Dr. Mervilde introduced Andrea Hunley. Mrs. Hunley has been appointed the new Assistant Principal at Allisonville Elementary School filling the vacancy left by Sean Taylor's appointment as Fox Hill Associate Principal.

Tatum Parker – 2011 Rising Star Award

Tatum is a 5th grader at Spring Mill Elementary School who has battled cancer twice in her young life. While undergoing treatment for cancer Tatum received a bag from the Gabby Krause Foundation filled with activities and games which kept her engaged during long hours of hospitalization. Tatum wanted to give back to other children battling similar challenges so she started "Tatum's Bags of Fun." Tatum and her family have distributed 500 "Bags of Fun." Because of her

efforts, Tatum received the 2011 *Rising Star Award* from Lt. Governor Rebecca Skillman on March 22, 2011.

Keana Parquet – 2010- Milken Award Winner

Keana Parquet, teacher at Crooked Creek Elementary School, is a *2010 Milken Award Winner*. Hailed as the Oscars of Teaching, the Milken Awards were launched in 1987 to celebrate, elevate and activate exemplary K-12 educators. Every participating State's Department of Education appoints an independent Blue Ribbon Committee to recommend candidates according to strict criteria. The final selections are made by the Milken Family Foundation. Recipients of the Milken Award receive as part of the award a check for \$25,000.00. Washington Township has had five Milken Award winners in the district.

Ellen Haury – Armstrong Teacher Educator Award for 2011-2012

Ellen Haury, teacher at Crooked Creek Elementary School, has been selected as one of the recipients of the *Armstrong Teacher Educator Award for 2011-2012*. This prestigious award was inaugurated in 1997 to honor exemplary teachers throughout Indiana interested in working with undergraduate teacher education students, faculty and staff at Indiana University. Ellen is among a very select group of teachers who received this award.

Comments from the Public

Mrs. Jennifer Dean spoke to the Board about the recent increase in health insurance for classified employees. Mrs. Dean's comments can be heard on the District's website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html

Superintendent's Announcements

Sylvia Lane's Retirement Reception will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 from 3:30 – 5:30 at the Community and Education Center. The North Central Jazz Café will be held on Friday, May 13, 2011. The Counterpoints will have a program on Saturday, May 14, 2011 at North Central High School.

The Alumni Hall of Fame Induction and Reception will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 24th in the upstairs Atrium at North Central High School. Baccalaureate Ceremonies will immediately follow the Alumni Hall of Fame Induction and Reception and will be held in the Auditorium at North Central High School.

Commencement for the North Central High School Class of 2011 will be held at the Pepsi Coliseum on May 25th at 7:00 p.m. Because of Commencement exercises the Board of Education will hold its second meeting in May on Thursday, May 26, 2011.

Dr. Mervilde gave the Board information he received earlier in the day at an Indiana Urban Schools Association Meeting regarding recent educational items that were passed during the General Assembly. He discussed some of the information at length. His comments can be heard on the District's website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html

Action Items

1. Approval of Textbook Adoption Recommendations for Science and Health – Dr. Ewing

Dr. Ewing presented the information on the Health Textbook Adoption. This is the year for science and health book adoption. The District is adopting textbooks at the elementary and high school level in health. The middle schools will continue to use the current adoption. Elementary and high school Health Textbook Adoption Committees were formed in February to review textbooks on the State adoption list. The committee consisted of teachers, administrators and parents. The Board received a list of the recommended Health textbooks. The textbooks are on display in the lobby of the Community and Education Center. Dr. Ewing asked that the Board approve the Health Textbooks recommended for adoption. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Kite moved approval of Textbook Adoption Recommendations for Science and Health as presented. Ms. Harris seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Dr. Ewing informed the Board that Mrs. Kathy Rieke was present to talk about the Science Textbook Adoption Recommendations.

Mr. Kite made a motion to amend his earlier motion so that it would approve only the Health Textbook Adoption Recommendations that Dr. Ewing had presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. There was discussion and Mr. Kite's motion to amend the previous motion was passed unanimously 5-0.

Ms. Harris then made a motion to amend the Agenda to add Action Item #2 Approval of Textbook Adoption Recommendations for Science and to change the current Action Item #2 to Action Item #3. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

2. Approval of Textbook Adoptions for Science – Mrs. Rieke

Mrs. Rieke told the Board that a District Science Textbook Adoption Committee was formed in early November 2010 to begin a State directed process designed to correlate the 2010 Indiana Science standards with new science textbooks on the State's adoption list. The committee consisted of teachers, administrators, science department chairs and parents. The Board had received a list of the recommended textbooks that will be on display in the lobby at the Community and Education Center until May 11, 2011. Mrs. Rieke asked for approval of the recommended Science textbooks. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Kite made a motion to approve Textbook Adoption Recommendations for Science as presented. Ms. Harris seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

3. Adoption of 2011-2012 Student Handbook – Ms. Lane

Since the Board had not a chance to review the changes in the Student Handbook this item will be tabled until the May 26, 2011 School Board Meeting. There was some discussion about the possibility of translating the Student Handbook or portions of it in Karen and Kareni.

Information Items/Board Discussion

1. North Central PLC Time – Dr. Woodson

Last year Dr. Woodson reported to the Board that the North Central High School teachers have no regularly-scheduled professional development time together. The plan for Late Start Tuesdays was put in place to give those teachers time to work in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). On Late Start Tuesdays, school started an hour later at 8:30 a.m. Because of our busing system and not being able to incur more cost in the Transportation Fund, the buses dropped off students at their regular time which required administrators to be involved with 90 minutes of student supervision instead of joining in the professional development work. Plans were continually improved throughout the year, but having administrators involved in the PLCs is a goal yet to be reached. As a result, options are being reviewed as to how the schedule could be changed in a future school year to allow that to occur. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. Dr. Woodson's full report and the discussion can be heard on the District's website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/minu.html

2. Middle School Block Schedule – Dr. Woodson

Following up on previously reported work, the Middle School Task Force reviewed the Block Schedule and shared that there are certainly many benefits of teaching and learning in the Block Schedule. The teacher group shared input on improving the Block Schedule with a slight modification. The ideas on improving the Block Schedule have been shared with the Superintendent's Cabinet, and the Teachers Association. The modification to the Block Schedule was piloted for two weeks at each middle school. The modification was minor consisting of the following adjustment. The traditional school schedule will be held on Mondays allowing teachers to see each of their students one day a week. The other four days will allow for the current 90 minute Block Schedule. The Administration plans to move to a modified Block Schedule beginning with the 2011-2012 school year. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The full discussion and report can be accessed on the District's website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/minu.html

4. Board Discussion and Liaison Reports – Board Members

Ms. Harris reported that Parent Council is meeting for the last time this school year on Wednesday, May 18, 2011. Mr. Wood, President of Parent Council, has asked Ms. Harris to give an update on recently passed education laws at that meeting. Ms. Harris and Mr. Kite attended an Indiana School Boards Association Regional Spring Meeting on Tuesday, May 10th where they received a legislative update. One of things that was discussed at the meeting was the new law moving School Board elections from May to November, meaning each Board Member's current term has just been extended by six months.

Mr. Turner, along with other Board Members, attended the Project Einstein Exhibit that was held at North Central High School featuring Burmese students which he thought was very impressive. He and other Board Members also attended the District's annual Employee Recognition Reception that was held at North Central High School. Mr. Turner wanted to know about the CAPS Program which provides opportunities for the Board to grow and have Professional Development through the Indiana School Boards Association. The Board will receive an update on its status in the CAPS Program.

Mr. Kite said the Regional Meeting he attended with Ms. Harris was very informative and interesting. He also attended the Project Einstein Exhibit and said it was a wonderful display. He

cannot wait to get the book. He also attended the Nora Personal Best Awards Ceremony with Dr. Mervilde.

Mr. Dzwonar said he and two other Board Members with availability will be present to serve breakfast to the Community and Education Center staff on Friday morning to show the Board's appreciation to Central Office staff members.

Ms. Harris heard very good reports about the Positive Behavior Support event that was held at Eastwood Middle School.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Mr. Turner seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.