

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

Public Hearing, August 25, 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, Mr. Doss, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Ms. Lane, Mr. Licata, Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. Smith, Dr. Woodson, Allyson Smith, Holly Walsh

Mr. Dzwonar called the Public Hearing on the 2011 Budget, 2011-2012-2013 Capital Projects Fund Plan and the 2011-2022 School Bus Replacement Plan to order at 7:05 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Doss.

Mr. Licata told those in attendance that the budgetary process begins with building requests which the Superintendent's Cabinet reviews. A Special Session is held by the Board of Education in order to review the requests. The Board of Education will be asked to adopt the Budget at its Regular Meeting on September 7, 2010. The Department of Local Government Finance will approve the Budget early in 2011. The District will receive the final Budget Order in 2011. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The Public Hearing and Board Discussion can be heard on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html>

**Mr. Kite moved to close the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Turner seconded. The motion passed 4-0.**

Mr. Dzwonar called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Approval Consent Agenda

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

- Approval of the Minutes of the August 11, 2010 Regular Meeting and the August 11, 2010 Memorandum of Special Session.
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$2,375,245.24
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel – Four New Appointments (34), (35), (36), (37); One Maternity Leave (6); and One Resignation (1); - Classified Personnel – Ten New Appointments (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20); One Reduction in Force (11); and Six Resignations (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75).
- Approval or Acceptance of Non-competitive Grants, Gifts and Donations: There were four non-competitive grants presented for the Boards approval:
  - (1) The Title III Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students in the amount of \$182,000
  - (2) The Non-English Speaking Program Grant (NESP) in the amount of \$162,590
  - (3) The FY 2011 IDEA Part B (611) Grant – Basic Grant for Special Education in the amount of \$2,571,295.00 and

- (4) The FY 2011 IDEA Part B (619) Grant – Early Childhood Grant for Special Education in the amount of \$75,843.00

There were no donations presented for the Board's approval.

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

The Mission Statement was read aloud by Mr. Turner.

### Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Mervilde told the Board that the Administration continues to monitor the first days of school. Our enrollment is up significantly by approximately 450 students. The official count day is September 17<sup>th</sup>. The Administration is analyzing the reasons why we are having such a large influx of new students. We are up almost 800 students over a two year period. Dr. Mervilde said the Administration also continues to work through the transportation and logistical challenges during the opening days of school.

We are still waiting for the \$207 million allocated to Indiana from the recent Federal Act designed to save educational jobs. At this point there is very little information, except that these are one time funds that have to be spent in a relatively compressed timeline. The District is looking to address shortfall issues in terms of ENL and professional development including International Baccalaureate. A plan will be presented to the Board as soon as more details are learned.

Dr. Mervilde reminded the Board that the next Regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 as opposed to the regularly scheduled Wednesday meetings.

Dr. Mervilde and others have been invited to attend an International Baccalaureate Conference that involves the intricacies and nuances of implementing a district-wide International Baccalaureate Program. Unfortunately the conference conflicts with the October 13, 2010 School Board Meeting. Dr. Mervilde recommended that the Board reschedule the October 13<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting.

Mr. Dzwonar, Ms. Harris, Dr. Woodson and Dr. Mervilde will be attending the Seminar led by State Superintendent, Dr. Tony Bennett, at the Indiana Department of Education on Tuesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Central Indiana Educational Service Center Advisory Council consists of School Board Members from Districts that belong to the CIESC. The group meets quarterly. Dr. Mervilde asked Board Members to consider if they would like to be a part of that group. Members will let Mr. Dzwonar know if they want to participate. He will appoint someone to that group.

### Comments From the Public

There were no comments from the public.

## Information Items

### 1. International Baccalaureate Update – Ms. Smith

Ms. Smith reported that they are in the process of building relationships with those associated with the International Baccalaureate organization. Paul Campbell and Ann Wink visited Washington Township to discuss district-wide implementation of the IB Program. Teachers and Administrators went to the IB Americas Conference in July where they were able to network and learn more about implementing International Baccalaureate in multiple buildings. Washington Township will host the Indiana Department of Education International Baccalaureate training in Level 1 and Level 2. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The full report and the Board's discussion can be heard on the District's website at [www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html](http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html)

### 2. Middle School Task Force Report – Dr. Woodson

Dr. Woodson told the Board that the Middle School Task Force Objectives are to:

- Design a Proposal to Balance Middle School Enrollment for 2011-2012
- Strategically Plan for Application, Deployment and Implementation of MYP for 2011-2012
- Critically Review Middle School Schedule and Offer Proposals for 2011-2012
- Analyze Middle School Program and Curricular Opportunities including RtII for 2011-2012

There are 38 members on the Task Force which includes parents, Central Office administrators, middle and high school staff and two Board Members, Mrs. Spann Roddy and Mr. Kite. Dr. Woodson reported that the Task Force reviewed and designed options for balancing enrollment based on equitable staffing, no additional costs to transportation or the General Fund, equitable programs and curricular opportunities and maximizing optimal learning environments within the buildings capacity. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The full report and the Board's discussion can be heard on the District's website at [www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html](http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html)

### 3. Report on Washington Township Refugee Families – Dr. Ewing

We currently have 200 students in Washington Township that qualify as refugees. These students attend Nora and Spring Mill Elementary Schools, Northview Middle School and North Central High School. There are 70 refugee students at Nora, 27 at Spring Mill, 38 at Northview and 65 refugee students attend North Central. While we do have refugee students from Iraq, Congo, Ivory Coast and Russia the vast majority come from Refugee camps in Thailand in order to escape ethnic cleansing and persecution. The Refugees have legal settlement status when they arrive in the United States and are assigned to agencies like EXODUS and Catholic Charities here in Indiana. The State Department assigns \$900 per refugee of which some is used for rent and food. Refugees are faced with a lot of challenges when they arrive in the United States. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. Dr. Ewing's full report and Board discussion can be heard on the District's website at [www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html](http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html)

### 4. Report on Temporary Use of Harcourt Elementary School – Mr. Smith

The Indianapolis Fire Department has made a proposal to Washington Township Schools for the temporary use of a portion of Harcourt Elementary School. The Fire Department would like to use Harcourt while they renovate and enlarge their current Fire Station located on Ditch Road. The proposed timeline would be from October 2010 through the end of April 2011. Some modifications would be made in Harcourt to provide for cooking, showers and office space. The modifications will be reversed back to the original use once the renovations have been completed. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The Board will be asked to approve the use of Harcourt Elementary at a September Board Meeting. The full report and Board discussion can be heard on the District's website at [www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html](http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html)

Mr. Dzwonar called for a brief recess at 9:40 pm while tables were moved in to place for the discussion on the major issues. He reminded the public that this was a public discussion and they were welcome to stay. The meeting reconvened at 9:50 pm.

5. Follow-up to Discussion on Major Issues – Board Members, Dr. Mervilde and Cabinet Members

On August 11, 2010 The Board, the Superintendent and Members of the Superintendent's Cabinet had a Special Session to discuss major issues, concerns and opportunities regarding the District. This was a follow-up to that discussion. The full discussion can be heard on the District's website at [www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html](http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini/html)

#### Adjournment

**There being no further business, Mr. Kite moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Mr. Turner seconded. The motion passed 4-0.**