

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

Regular Board Meeting, May 26, 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, Mr. Doss, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Ms. Lane, Mr. Smith, Dr. Woodson, Crystal Hazlett, Brian Clouse

Presiding: Mr. Dzwonar, President

Mr. Dzwonar called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. 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 May 11, 2011 Regular Meeting.
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$3,724,225.48.
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel – Two Retirements (13), (14); One Resignation (12); Two Administrative Leaves (1), (2); Three New Appointments (5), (6), (7); and One Maternity Leave (1). Classified Personnel – One New Appointment (114); Five Resignations (111), (112), (113), (114), (115); and an Addendum to the Human Resources Report containing: One Resignation (13) and One New appointment (8).
- 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.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Superintendent's Announcements

The Class of 2011 graduated last night at the Pepsi Coliseum. Dr. Mervilde congratulated Mr. Quandt and the entire North Central High School staff on a fine Commencement Ceremony. He also congratulated Mr. Turner whose daughter was one of the graduates. Phil Smith and Brian Clouse worked very diligently with Mr. Quandt and his staff and did a yeoman's job on making sure graduation was a huge success. Of the scholarships that were reported to Mr. Quandt the 2011 graduating seniors are receiving a total of \$9, 685,098 in scholarship dollars. About 29.2% of seniors at North Central High School take AP exams. For those attending college, AP exams have a monetary value if students receive a score of three or higher they are awarded college credits.

Today was the final day of school for students. Tomorrow is the last day for teachers. Dr. Mervilde congratulated the entire Washington Township Schools family on a great year. The installation of the 50th Anniversary Sculpture has finally begun. Mr. Smith has worked very closely with the Foundation to install the sculpture using donated funds. He wished everyone a great and relaxing Memorial Day weekend.

Action Items

1. Adoption of the 2011-2012 Student Handbook – Ms. Lane

The Board had received and reviewed the proposed changes to the 2011-2012 Student Handbook in advance of the meeting. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mrs. Spann Roddy moved approval to adopt the 2011-2012 Student Handbook as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

2. Approval to Submit the McKinney Vento Homeless Grant – Ms. Lane

Ms. Lane introduced Mrs. Crystal Haslett to the Board. When Ms. Lane retires, Mrs. Haslett will assume the role of Coordinator of Student Programs. Mrs. Haslett is also the District's Homeless Liaison and was there to answer any questions the Board might have about the McKinney Vento Grant. The first deadline for this grant was September. Ms. Lane presented the information to the Board earlier in the year; however, the Indiana Department of Education changed the grant submission date to June so the information is being re-presented tonight. The school district has identified over 400 students who qualified as McKinney-Vento eligible during the school year. These are students who were reported to be living in one or more of the following situations at some point during the school year;

- Living with one or more family member or friend due to economic hardship or loss of housing
- Living in a hotel/motel
- Living in a shelter
- Having no shelter
- Living in emergency shelter care (awaiting foster care)

The goal of the grant will be to accurately identify the students who qualify and to provide them with academic support in order to ensure that they are performing at or above grade level. Additionally the grant will assist in providing school supplies, clothing and emergency relief to the children and families experiencing homelessness. This will promote regular and consistent school attendance and further remove any barriers that exist related to the academic success of these students. This is a competitive grant. The District is requesting \$73,000. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Kite moved approval to submit the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Grant to the Indiana Department of Education in the amount of \$73,000 as presented. Ms. Harris seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Information Items/Board Discussion

1. Work Plans Update – Dr. Mervilde

Dr. Mervilde gave an update on the Work Plans for the District. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. Dr. Mervilde's full report and the discussion can be heard on the District's website at www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/minu.html

2. REMS Grant Update – Mr. Clouse

Brian Clouse, Coordinator of Safety and Security for the School District provided the Board with an update on the REMS Grant. Mr. Clouse took over the grant in November 2010 and with the help of the REMS sub-committee made some modifications to the budget and has received approval of the modifications from the federal program manager. Some of the grant accomplishments are:

- Twenty bus drivers were recently trained in suicide awareness – administrators, counselors and teachers will be trained by December 2011
- Work is progressing on replacing the high school's security radio repeater and enhancing communications with addition of new frequency
- Implementation of automatic license plate recognition cameras on the central campus
- A District-wide crisis plan is being developed along with specific school plans
- Additionally work will begin at Eastwood and Westlane to add a front door lock down admittance system and enhancements to cameras on the west side of the high school will also be made.

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 attended the last Parent Council meeting and briefly touched on the issue of the Board Member's receiving an additional six months on their terms based on recent legislation moving all school board elections to the General Election in November. She attended the eighth grade Honors Celebration at Eastwood Middle School and then attended the Baccalaureate Program at North Central High School and attended Commencement Ceremonies with the rest of the Board on Wednesday, May 25, 2011.

Ms. Harris asked about the confirmed date of the upcoming School Board Retreat. The Retreat date is June 22, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. She also wanted to make sure that Board Goals will be placed on an upcoming meeting agenda for review.

Mrs. Spann Roddy noted that Dr. Woodson has attended several events with her. On May 13th she sponsored the actor and author Mr. Hill Harper. Mr. Harper met with the students in her program to speak to them about the importance of education and setting and keeping goals. It was a great experience. The Future Promises Awards Ceremony was held on May 18, 2011 where approximately 60 students who are young mothers and fathers graduated. These students have been accepted at about 16 different colleges. Mrs. Spann Roddy is very proud of the accomplishments of these young parents. Dr. Woodson presented awards to the North Central High School students. Mrs. Spann Roddy noted that she just closed out the 45th year of her family's association with Crooked Creek Elementary School as her youngest son just finished fifth grade. Her mother was a teacher at Crooked Creek, her husband and all of her children were students at the school as well.

Mr. Turner attended the North Central High School Cohort Celebration. It was a great ceremony. He said as a point of personal privilege it was nice to be able as a Board Member to hug his daughter as she crossed the stage to receive her diploma at Wednesday's Commencement Ceremony.

Mr. Kite really enjoyed attending and serving breakfast to the Community and Education Staff on May 13th. He attended Ms. Lane's Retirement at the Community and Education Center on May 17th and said it was absolutely wonderful. He also participated in the Foundation's Phone-A-Thon. Mr. Kite has been working with Mrs. McNew, a teacher at the high school, for several years to secure some interesting speakers for the Theory of Knowledge classes. This year he introduced Andrea Simmons, a Forensic Anthropologist. As in the past, the students did not disappoint with their questions. Mr. Kite also attended the Hall of Fame Induction, Baccalaureate and Graduation.

Mr. Dzwonar reminded the Board that June 22, 2011 will be their first Board Retreat with the new Superintendent and an outside facilitator for the purpose of Board development. He and Dr. Woodson will be working on the agenda for the Retreat.

Since the Board had all of their questions answered in the Executive Session that was held prior to the Regular Meeting, the Executive Session that was scheduled following the Regular Meeting was cancelled.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.