

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

Regular Meeting, January 27, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.

Location: H. Dean Evans Community and Education Center

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

Absent: None

Others: Dr. Mervilde, Mrs. Sutton, Mr. Doss, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Mr. Licata, Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. Smith, Dr. Woodson, Bill Turner, Evans Branigan, Tina Lempereur, Theresa Duwe, Nancy Gwin, Michael Elliott, Savannah Wooten, Steve Stalnaker, Mark Van Allen, Diane Lucas, Judy Fraps, Lara Pastore, Val Boots, Larry Robbins, Jonique Burton, Laurie Murphy

Presiding: Ms. Harris, President

Ms. Harris called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the recitation of the pledge of allegiance led by Mr. Doss.

Approval Consent Agenda

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

- Approval of the Minutes of the January 13, 2010 Regular Meeting
- Approval of Claims: There were no claims presented for the Board's approval
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel –One Resignation (8); and One Leave of Absence (1); – Classified Personnel – Eight New Appointments (108), (109), (110), (111), (112), (113), (114), (115); Four Resignations (35), (36), (37), (38); and Three Terminations (4), (5), (6).
- 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. Mr. Dzwonar seconded. Passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Mervilde, Ms. Harris, Mr. Dzwonar and Dr. Woodson attended the IUSA Luncheon earlier today. Next week the Marion County Health Department will begin the second round of vaccinations for children nine years and younger in our elementary schools. Dr. Mervilde has been asked to write an article for Women's Health Magazine on the H1N1 process at our schools. Dr. Farrell and Dr. Rogers continue to do a great job in coordinating the vaccination process with the Marion County Health Department.

Dr. Mervilde attended the 53rd performance of Junior Spectacular at the High School last Friday and said it was a great program put on by students. School Board visits for second semester will begin on February 2, 2010 and will focus on quality assurance. A copy of the State Board of Accounts Personnel Report was given to the Board because of a request made from one Board Member.

Comments From the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Action Items

1. Approval to Submit 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant – Mrs. Fraps

The purpose of the grant is to provide struggling, at-risk students with an After School Program located at their school. This proposal will have three components: (1) a newly revised elementary program with an emphasis on parents/families and attention to the growing number of ELL students for the four schools funded by the Cohort III grant, (2) an expansion that will include the other three elementary schools, identified as Title I schools this year, and (3) the addition of Eastwood Middle School, thereby providing this After School Achievers program in all 11 Washington Township Schools. Programs at the other two middle schools and North Central High School will operate through a previous (Cohort IV) 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant.

Proposed activities will support the program goals. Those activities include homework assistance/support, programs for ELL students that will emphasize language acquisition, recreational activities, technology programs, mentoring and character education programs and global literacy. At the elementary level a strong emphasis will be on parenting and family activities.

This is a four year grant in the amount of \$450,000 per year. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Dzwonar moved approval to submit the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant to the Indiana Department of Education in the amount of \$450,000 per year for four years as presented. Mr. Wright seconded. Passed unanimously.

2. Adoption of Board Goals – Ms. Harris

The Board has spent a considerable amount of time developing their Goals. Ms. Harris asked Board Members if they had any questions, comments or suggestions related to the goals before adopting them. Several members did recommend changes that will be incorporated in the final document and placed on the District's website.

Mr. Kite moved approval to adopt the Board Goals with the suggested changes. Mr. Dzwonar seconded. Mr. Wright opposed. The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.

3. Approval of Contract with FIFA and the City of Indianapolis – Dr. Mervilde

Dr. Mervilde told the Board that FIFA is the international body that sanctions soccer's World Cup. The City of Indianapolis is one of 18 cities still in competition to host some of the World Cup Soccer events in 2018/2022, if a USA bid is awarded. In order to go forward, the City has to secure six potential training sites to hold preliminary rounds. The sites include Butler

University, IUPUI, Indiana University, Kuntz Stadium and Carmel High School. After being approached by the City of Indianapolis, Dr. Mervilde asked the Board to approve North Central High School as the sixth site.

If improvements to the site are required, they will be provided at no cost to the District and will be included in the World Cup's budget. The District attorney has approved the documents submitted by FIFA. Dr. Mervilde asked the Board to affirm the agreement with the condition that Mr. Cotterill, the Mayor's Chief of Staff, executes an agreement that indicates there is no financial responsibility that lies with the School Board. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Dzwonar moved approval to enter into an agreement with FIFA and the City of Indianapolis to host World Cup Soccer events in 2018-2022. Mr. Kite seconded. Passed unanimously.

Information Items

1. Graduation Mentor Report – Mr. Branigan and Mr. Elliott

Mr. Branigan gave a brief introduction of the program and introduced Mr. Elliott to the Board. Mr. Elliott graduated from North Central High School in 1992 and is now the Graduation Mentor at NCHS. Funding for the Graduation Mentor is through a four-year grant from the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce's Common Goal initiative. The purpose of the Graduation Mentor is to increase NCHS's graduation rate from the current 86% to at least 90%. The first group of incoming freshman was identified based on low ISTEP scores and GPA's and who are not already receiving special support.

Some of the monitoring and strategies of support will include parent and staff involvement, parent, teacher and student conferences, graduation contract, independent study hall, study and test taking strategies, after school tutoring and classroom visits by Mr. Elliott. Future plans include peer mentoring, partnering with middle school counselors, and a common class. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The discussion and the PowerPoint can be accessed on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/file.html>.

2. Discussion of Modified School Day – Dr. Woodson and Mr. Branigan

Dr. Woodson told the Board that currently North Central High School is the only school in the District that does not have time built into the day for professional development. Under this proposed modified schedule, NCHS would begin one hour later - at 8:30 a.m. - on 30 Tuesdays (Homeroom Day) during the school year. The delay-start-Tuesdays would only occur on full weeks of school. To avoid costly impact to the District's three tiered bus schedule or student families' morning work schedules, high school students who ride the bus would be picked up and dropped off at the regular time (7:20) and supervision would be provided at NCHS until 8:20 on those Tuesdays. Students who drive or are dropped off would have the option to come to school later (8:20) on those Tuesdays.

Mr. Branigan shared some of the ways that this proposed schedule would allow for professional development for all teachers at the high school. If the Board approves this schedule, it will be put in place for the 2010-2011 school year. This modified schedule would allow high school teachers to have one hour per week in professional learning communities. The Board also received a timeline for communicating the information to all staff, parents and students. The

Board had questions. Discussion took place. The discussion can be accessed on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/file.html>

3. Discussion of Security Contract Status – Mr. Licata

Mr. Licata gave a brief update on the status of the Securalex Contract. He provided the Board with a copy of the contract along with a letter from legal counsel indicating that the District does have a valid contract that has been in place for seven years. Steve Bradley, the District's Safety and Security Coordinator is in the process of putting together a new Request for Proposals that will be sent out in the near future. The results of the RFP and a recommendation will be brought to the Board for approval. Mr. Licata reported that Securalex has provided good service to the District. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

4. Discussion of Citizens Checklist and Budget Reductions – Dr. Mervilde

Dr. Mervilde received a Citizens Checklist from the State Board of Education. He addressed each point presented on the Checklist to inform the Board and the public what Washington Township has already done. He also talked about and shared a Power Point on budget reductions. The discussion and Power Points on the Citizens Checklist and the Budget Reductions can be accessed on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html>

Separately Reported Board Member Activities

No Board Member activities were reported.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Wright moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Mr. Kite seconded.

Before Ms. Harris adjourned the meeting, Mrs. Spann Roddy asked why the Board had received the State Board of Accounts Personnel Report. Discussion took place. The discussion can be heard on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html>

With a motion and a second already made Ms. Harris adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m. Passed unanimously.