

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

Regular Meeting, April 28, 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. Smith, Dr. Woodson, Matt Whitt, Bill Turner, Gretchen Becker, Mr. and Mrs. Wiehe, Michael Alsop, Lauren Stephens, Mr. Stephens, Robin Minturn

Presiding: Ms. Harris, President

Ms. Harris called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 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 April 14, 2010 Regular Meeting and the April 14, 2010 and the April 22, 2010 Memoranda of Executive Session
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$1,904,364.87
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel – One Resignation (13); and Four Retirements (10), (11), (12) (13); Classified Personnel – Two New Appointments (129), (130); One Resignation (44); Two Retirements (7), (8); and One Termination (10).
- 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. Dzwonar moved approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. Passed unanimously.

Recognitions

The Board recognized Lauren Stephens, North Central High School's Salutatorian. Lauren was also recognized for being named an Indiana Academic All Star. Lauren will attend MIT in the fall.

The Board also recognized the Counterpoints and Descants Show Choirs. The Counterpoints are the ISSMA State Show Choir Champions and the Descants are the ISSMA Women's State Show Choir Champions. Both groups won the Best Band Awards with the Descants also winning Best Vocals and Counterpoints winning Best Visuals.

Superintendent's Announcements

The second part of ISTEP+ Testing began on Monday, April 26th. The results will be back at the end of May. Staff will work on that data during the summer. The State is considering a new

way of grading schools under PL221. According to this new grading system roughly 47% of Indiana Schools will get the grade of D or F.

Next Thursday, May 6th the Retirement Recognition Reception will be held at North Central High School in the Atrium and Performance Classroom. The Hall of Fame Reception and Baccalaureate Ceremony will be held on Tuesday May 25th. The Hall of Fame Reception will begin at 5:30 in the Upper Atrium and the Baccalaureate Program will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Commencement Ceremonies for the Class of 2010 will be held at the Pepsi Coliseum at 7:00 p.m. on May 26, 2010. The second May School Board Meeting of the month will be held on Thursday May 27th due to Commencement Activities.

Wednesday May 19th is the annual celebration of the Future Promises Program that is run by Mrs. Spann Roddy. That is also the date of the last Parent Council Meeting for the school year. Dr. Tony Bennett, State Superintendent of Public Instruction will be the invited guest that evening.

May 4, 2010 is Election Day. Dr. Mervilde reminded the Board and public to get out and vote. Several Washington Township Schools are being used as polling places. The School District has a tax neutral General Fund Referendum on the Ballot as well as two School Board Member seats up for election.

Comments From the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Action Items

1. First Reading and Updates of Policy Series 0000 and 1000 – Dr. Woodson

The Board had received information on the policies in advance of the meeting. Dr. Woodson, Mr. Kite and Mrs. Spann Roddy reviewed the policies series and made changes prior to presenting the information to all Board Members. Dr. Woodson went over each change. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. Changes were suggested and will be made and sent to the Board for Approval and Adoption at the next meeting.

Mr. Dzwonar made a motion to approve First Reading and Updates of Policy Series 0000 and 1000 as presented. Mrs. Kite seconded. Passed unanimously.

2. Approval To Submit the i3 Grant Application – Dr. Woodson

The Investing in Innovation (i3) Grant requests \$5,000,000 over a five year period to create a K-12 International Baccalaureate Program in the District. Currently there are only five districts in the United States working toward K-12 IB Programs. Washington Township will be the first IB District in Indiana.

The objectives of the grant are:

- To respond to the need to prepare students for the global economy of the 21st Century by providing international content

- Equip students with skills to learn and acquire knowledge and to apply those skills across a broad range of subject areas
- Develop responsible world citizens in relation to language and culture
- Close the achievement gap and decrease high school dropout rates by improving the quality of education of ALL students.

The District has partnered with the Center for Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) and the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) on this grant. Funding for the grant will be used to cover salary and benefits of the IB Coordinator, school fees, curriculum development, professional development, resources and materials and extended day program costs. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Dzwonar moved approval to submit the Investing in Innovation (i3) Grant to the U.S. Department of Education as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. Passed unanimously.

Information Items

1. First Quarter Financial Report – Mr. Licata

Mr. Licata gave a monthly recap of all the taxable funds and the Referendum Fund. The District received final settlement for 2009 property taxes at the end of March. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

2. Update on Board Goals – Dr. Woodson and Board Members

At the April 14, 2010 School Board Meeting, Mr. Dzwonar asked that Board Goals Update be placed on tonight's Agenda. Dr. Woodson led the Board in discussion and updating their goals. The Board had questions and comments. Discussion took place. Several changes and additions were suggested and will be made. The Discussion can be heard on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/minu.html>.

Open Board Discussion

Mr. Kite asked if the next Parent Council Meeting could be advertised as a School Board Special Session so all Board Members can attend. Dr. Mervilde will check with the ISBA Counsel to see if the meeting has to be advertised.

Dr. Mervilde has been working with Ms. Harris on a schedule for Board development that he passed out to all Board Members. On June 4, 2010 a Special Session will be held with the Board and Cabinet. The newly elected Board Member will also be invited to attend the meeting. On June 11th there will be an Executive Session with the Board and Mr. Adamson from the Indiana School Boards Association. A Special Session will be held in July to plan the Re-Organization Meeting on July 14th and an Executive Session will also be scheduled in July to help plan for the Superintendent's Evaluation. Ms. Harris asked all Board Members to mark these dates on their calendars. She also noted that a new instrument will be used regarding the Superintendent's evaluation.

Ms. Harris said notice has been received from the Indiana Department of Education encouraging Board Members and Superintendents to attend a public hearing on the State Board of Education's Proposed Rule 09-995 on Friday, April 30, 2010 that relates to the proposal to change the categories under PL221. Board Members have also received information from associations they belong to. Mr. Dzwonar volunteered to speak on the Board's behalf at that meeting. Board Members had questions. Discussion took place. Discussion can be heard on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/minu.html>.

Board Liaison Reports

Mrs. Spann Roddy attended the Wellness Committee Meeting and received updates. She and Mr. Kite have received copies of Minority and Women Owned Businesses policies from other school districts. They will look at those policies to see if they can come up with something for our school district if they feel there is a need for any changes.

Mr. Dzwonar attended a meeting for the REMS Grant. This federal grant is helping to establish and train crisis teams in each building to be prepared for man-made or natural crises. A consultant will be brought in train all staff on various school security issues at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. All staff are also being offered CPR training and instruction on the use of the automatic defibrillator devices that are housed in each building.

Mr. Dzwonar also attended the Parent Council Meeting. That group is prepared to actively engage the community during the Primary Election on May 4th. They are also involved in selecting their officers for next year and are looking forward to State Superintendent Bennett's visit on May 19th. Mr. Dzwonar also enjoyed a productive tour of Greenbriar and learning how data affects all that they do in meeting student's needs.

Mr. Kite attended the Fox Hill, Allisonville and Spring Mill Open Houses. Spring Mill's Open House was also celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Mr. Dzwonar and Ms. Harris were also in attendance at the Spring Mill Open House. Mr. Kite also attended the Foundation's Board Meeting where Mr. Smith received the Foundation's President Award. The Foundation Board is a great group of people doing exceptional work on behalf of the District.

Ms. Harris acknowledged the wonderful Spring Mill open house/50th Anniversary event. She was able to interact with a former gym teacher and her sixth grade principal from Grandview Elementary. She also attended the Blue Ribbon Breakfast that was held at the CEC on Wednesday April 21st. Mr. Dzwonar also attended that event. Ms. Harris attended the Parent Council meeting as well and will attend the State Foundation Meeting on April 29th at Kiwanis International.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Dzwonar moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Mr. Kite seconded.