

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

Regular Meeting, February 10, 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, Dudley Miller, Subha Balagopal, Matt Kaiser, Dan Stillerman, Stephanie Edwards, Kim Piper, Mike Pomerence, Glenda Ritz, Nick Wilson, Bill Turner, Gretchen Becker, Ashley Parry, Ralph Power, Hope Power, Hannah Power

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 27, 2010 Regular Meeting and the January 27, 2010 Memorandum of Executive Session
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$30,673,257.76
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel –One Retirement (3); One Maternity Leave (13) and One Childrearing Leave (1); – Classified Personnel – One New Appointment (116); One Resignation (39); and One Retirement (5).
- 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. Mr. Kite seconded. Passed unanimously.

Recognitions

Tatum Parker, Spring Mill Elementary student, was recently honored as a Riley Champion for the nonprofit organization **Tatum's Bags of Fun** she started under the auspices of the Colorado based Gabby Krause Foundation. Tatum and her parents have distributed more than 300 backpacks filled with games and activities to children at Riley and Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at St. Vincent. Recently, they've gotten corporate and individual donors to help with the costs.

Eastwood Middle School 8th graders Zavion Hutt, Frank Reed and John Stimac won the Excellence in Media Production honor for their video at the Association for Educational Communications and Technology's (AECT) International Student Media Festival. The title of their award winning video is: **Late Night Detention**. Their sponsors are Dan Stillerman, Nick Wilson,

Stephanie Edwards and Doug Vinton. The Eastwood News Crew has been fortunate to have winning entries in the ISMF six of the last seven years, including this group of students in 2008.

Allisonville Elementary and Crooked Creek Elementary were recognized for being named Four Star Schools. To earn the Four Star School Award -- the State's highest distinction -- a school must be fully accredited by the Indiana State Board of Education, meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as defined by the No Child Left Behind Act and perform in the top 25 percent of all schools in the State in each of the following areas: ISTEP+ Percent Passing both English/Language Arts and Math, ISTEP+ Language Proficiency T-Score, ISTEP+ Math Proficiency T-Score and Attendance Rate.

Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Mervilde, reminded the members of the Board that four school visits are scheduled between now and the next Board Meeting. Those school visits will be to Northview, Crooked Creek, Eastwood and North Central High School. Washington Township Schools will resume the second round of H1N1 vaccinations in two weeks. A number of our students have already received the second dose.

The Indianapolis Department of Public works has done a great job working with our Transportation Department during the snow storms, soliciting information about roads that are particularly troublesome. The District lost a great friend about a week ago. Mr. Roland "Tack" Nail passed away. Mr. Nail was a member of the Washington Township Schools Foundation Board. His wife, who preceded him in death, was a teacher at Nora Elementary for 30+ years. Mr. Nail will be greatly missed in Washington Township.

Comments From the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Action Items

1. Adoption of \$1.1 Million Reduction Plan – Dr. Mervilde

Dr. Mervilde reviewed the information on the \$1.1 Million Reduction plan and talked about what the next budget related challenges will be. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The Power Point and the discussion can be accessed on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/file.html>.

Mr. Dzwonar moved approval of the \$1.1 million in budget reductions as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. Mr. Wright opposed. The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.

2. Resolution to Approve Appropriation Transfers – Mr. Licata

Mr. Licata told the Board that this resolution is a cleanup item that the Board is asked to approve at the end of each calendar year.

Mr. Kite moved approval of the Resolution to Approve Appropriation Transfers as presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. Passed unanimously.

3. Resolution to Approve Year End Encumbrances – Mr. Licata

Mr. Licata explained that an encumbrance is a way of carrying forward an appropriation from one budget year to the next year. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Dzwonar moved approval of the Resolution to approve year end encumbrances as presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. Passed unanimously.

4. Resolution Authorizing Amendment and Restatement of Retirement Plan Via Adoption of VALIC Retirement Services Company Governmental Volume Submitter Plan – Mr. Licata

Mr. Licata reported that this is a compliance issue. About three years ago the IRS changed the guidelines for Retirement Accounts and some companies came forward and offered common remitter and compliance services. VALIC offered their services to Washington Township free of charge. The District signed up with VALIC for these services and as one of four investment options available for teachers at that time. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. Dr. Mervilde asked the Board to approve the Resolution today and instructed Mr. Licata to seek answers from VALIC regarding the questions raised. Once in hand, the Board can determine if it would like to take further action up to and including the termination of the contract. The discussion can be heard on the District's website at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/file.html>.

Mr. Kite moved approval of the Resolution authorizing Amendment and Restatement of Retirement Plan Via Adoption of VALIC Retirement Services Company Governmental Volume Submitter Plan as presented. Mr. Dzwonar seconded. Mr. Wright opposed. The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.

5. Recommendation to Award Lawn Maintenance Contract – Mr. Smith

A Request for Proposal was released and published on January 5, 2010 for lawn maintenance and related services. All properties covered by the RFP, with the exception of selected athletic fields at North Central are mowed 26 times beginning April 1st and ending October 31st. The North Central soccer, baseball, and softball fields are mowed 60 times.

Seven companies submitted proposals. Davey Commercial Grounds Management submitted the lowest cost proposal. Davey has successfully provided lawn maintenance services on district-owned property for the past seven years. Mr. Smith recommended that Davey Commercial Grounds Management be awarded a contract in the amount of \$169,268.00 per year for the next three years. The per year cost is \$22,088 less than the previous contract.

Mr. Kite moved approval to award a contract to Davey Commercial Grounds Management in the amount of \$169,268 as presented. Mr. Wright seconded. Passed unanimously.

Information Items

1. Efficiency Report on Natural Gas Energy Use at North Central High School – Mr. Smith

Mr. Smith gave a report on how North Central High is saving energy since the installation of the building automation replacement project that has allowed more operational efficiency. 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 Ethics Line and Dependent Audit Proposals – Dr. Mervilde

Mr. Wright had asked that these two items be placed on the Meeting Agenda for Board discussion and consideration. Dr. Mervilde presented the Board with his findings after the request had been made by Mr. Wright. 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>

Separately Reported Board Member Activities

No Board Member activities were reported.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Dzwonar moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. Mr. Kite seconded.