

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

Special Meeting, June 11, 2010 - 1:00 p.m.

Location: H. Dean Evans Community and Education Center

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

Absent: Mr. Wright

Others: Dr. Mervilde, Mrs. Sutton, Mr. Doss, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Mrs. Reynolds, Mike Kneebone, Allyson Smith, Gretchen Becker, Kristen Kennedy, Jayne Thorne, Sylvia Forbes, Bill Lawson, Charlie Geier, Kathy Levine, Susan Sprinkle, Carol Hofer, Judy Fraps

Ms. Harris called the Special Meeting to order at 1:00 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 May 27, 2010 Regular Meeting and the Memoranda of the May 27, 2010 Executive Session and the June 4, 2010 Special Session
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$2,124,612.41
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel – Two Resignations (17), (18); Four Maternity Leaves (1), (2), (3), (4); and Three New Appointments (1), (2), (3); - Classified Personnel – Three New Appointments (1) (2), (3); Five Reductions in Force (2), (3), (4), (5), (6); Eleven Resignations (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64); Two Retirements (11), (12), and One Termination (13).
- 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. The motion passed 4-0.

Recognitions

Last school year, St. Luke's United Methodist Church adopted Fox Hill Elementary School. The Board recognized Sylvia Forbes, Jayne Thorne, Bill Lawson and other St. Luke's volunteers for their contributions to Fox Hill. Volunteers from St. Luke's have been instrumental in providing tutors, cleaning up the outside grounds and underwriting the Learning for Life Character Development Program being implemented at Fox Hill.

Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Mervilde introduced Brian Clouse, the District's new Safety and Security Coordinator. Dr. Mervilde along with Ms. Harris and Mr. Kite attended the Adult Education Graduation Ceremonies. He complimented the Adult Education Staff for doing a wonderful job.

Dr. Mervilde gave the Board copies of the school visits that will take place this fall. ENL and Title I Summer School have begun. Dr. Mervilde participated in the graduation ceremonies at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. He is a member of the Board. Dr. Mervilde and Mr. Dzwonar participated in the Mayor's bike ride last Saturday which began at Allisonville Elementary and in which approximately 700 riders participated.

Comments From the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Action Items

1. Second Reading and Adoption of Spring Policy Updates – Dr. Mervilde

Dr. Woodson had made technical and grammatical changes the Board had suggested to the Spring Policies since first reading. Dr. Mervilde asked the Board to approve the second reading and adoption of those policies. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Kite moved approval of second reading and adoption of Spring Policy Updates as presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

2. First Reading of New Policies 5111 and 6150 – Dr. Mervilde

Policies 5111 and 6150 are complete re-writes of existing policies. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Kite moved approval of first reading of policies 5111 and 6150 as presented. Mr. Dzwonar seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

3. Approval to Submit Investing in Innovation (i3) Grant Match Request – Ms. Smith

The i3 Grant that was submitted on May 11th requires a 20% match or \$1,000,000 over a five year period. The District's i3 Grant application is designed to enhance the After School Achievers extended learning day opportunities and to enhance the International Baccalaureate philosophy of international-mindedness. Twelve foundations are committing \$506 million to sponsor matching grants. Funding from the grant will be used to cover the costs associated with personal wireless reading devices loaded with international literature for each student participating in the After School Achievers Program, four cultural nights led by students and two international service learning trips in years three and five of the grant. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Dzwonar moved approval submit the Investing in Innovation (i3) Grant Match Request presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

4. Approval of Achieve 3000 as a Core Literacy Program for ENL – Dr. Ewing

One of the objectives listed in the July 2009 English as a New Language (ENL) Program Evaluation report was to adopt a content-based curriculum for ENL students. After reviewing available resources and programs the committee identified Achieve 3000, a web based program. The Board was given a demonstration on how Achieve 3000 will work for students. Dr. Ewing asked for approval to purchase the program. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Dzwonar moved to approve the purchase of Achieve 3000 as a Core Literacy Program for ENL as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

Information Items

1. Completion of Hardware Life Cycle – Mr. Kneebone

This year marks the third and final year in this round of desktop computer replacement. In 2007 the District returned to a regimented life-cycle strategy. This summer the final 1500 computers at Northview, Eastwood, JELCC and North Central will be replaced. The next part of the plan focuses on infrastructure and classroom technology. Desktop computers will be evaluated for replacement again beginning in 2015. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

2. Security Update – Dr. Mervilde

Earlier in the meeting Dr. Mervilde introduced Brian Clouse the new Safety and Security Coordinator. Mr. Clouse was employed with the Indianapolis Police Department for 25 years prior to his working with other law enforcement organizations and is very knowledgeable in the area of security. Mr. Clouse will report to Mr. Phil Smith, Director of Operations. Mr. Smith, Mr. Licata and Mr. Clouse will be working on a redesign of the District's security operations. They have already looked at other school district security models in Marion County. The Board will be given a full report in August.

3. Open Board Discussion – Board Members

Ms. Harris discussed a New York Times book review that addresses the evolution of the brain.

Mr. Kite said he and Ms. Harris attended the International Baccalaureate Diploma celebration for graduates. The event was very well done.

Board Liaison Reports

Mr. Dzwonar thanked Mr. Kaiser for allowing him and other stakeholders to have input in the interview process of replacing the Assistant Principal at Eastwood Middle School. He also stated that the Board Development Session held on June 4th was very productive.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Dzwonar moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 p.m. Mr. Kite seconded.