

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

Regular Meeting, January 12, 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, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Mr. Licata, Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. Smith, Dr. Woodson, Allyson Smith, Gretchen Becker, Melinda Gilman, Andrew Jones, Loretta Conner, Haley McDonough, David Robertson

Mr. Dzwonar called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 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 December 15, 2010 Regular and the December 20, 2010 Memorandum of Executive Session
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel – Two New Appointments (54), (55); One Maternity Leave (16). - Classified Personnel – Four New Appointments (88), (89), (90), (91); and One Resignation (98); and an Addendum to the Human Resources Report containing one Retirement (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. Turner seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.**

Recognitions

**North Central High School Senior, Haley McDonough**

While on duty as a lifeguard at the Holiday Inn on Michigan Road on October 2, 2010 Haley noticed a small child at the bottom of the pool. She went into the water and retrieved the lifeless body and immediately began CPR. After 10 minutes the child responded, was conscious and alive. Haley was recognized by the Board for her heroic efforts.

**David Robertson – Teacher North Central High School Math Department**

David is a teacher at North Central High School who teaches ENL algebra and Honors Pre-Calculus. David was recently awarded National Board Certification and is one of only two secondary math teachers to receive this honor in the State of Indiana.

## **Valerie Reed, Coordinator Nursing Program at J. Everett Light Career Center**

The Board also welcomed Valerie Reed who is the new Coordinator of the Nursing Program at the J. Everett Light Career Center. Valerie has been employed with the District since early December.

### Comments from the Public

Andrew Jones, Junior Class President at North Central High School told the Board that he was in attendance to formally invite the Board to the Junior Spectacular which will be held January 20 – January 22, 2011. The Spectacular which has four acts this year will begin each night at 7:00 p.m.

### Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Mervilde told those in attendance that he has informed the Board that he will retire effective June 30, 2011 and read a statement aloud. He said it has been his privilege to serve the children of this District and the community for the last five years. Dr. Mervilde is looking forward to spending more time with his family and said he will not abandon his advocacy for public schools.

The General Assembly has really important work to do this year, where the next four month span will be critically important for public schools in this State.

Mr. Dzwonar and Ms. Harris will join Dr. Mervilde, Dr. Woodson and State Representatives Ed Delaney and Greg Porter at the IUSA Legislative Luncheon that will be held on January 26, 2011.

Mr. Watson, who was featured in the Governor's State of the State Address on January 11, 2011, was a North Central High School chemistry teacher, who taught Mitch Daniels when he was a student at North Central High School.

Mr. Dzwonar said the Board is very grateful for the leadership Dr. Mervilde has provided over the last five years.

### Action Items

1. First Reading of Various Policy Updates and Revisions – Dr. Woodson

Dr. Woodson led the Board through the updates and revisions received from NEOLA based on changes in Indiana Code. The Board received the updates and revisions prior to the meeting. The goal is for Board Members to get their revisions and comments to Mrs. Spann Roddy and Mr. Turner by January 21<sup>st</sup>. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. The full discussion can be accessed on the District's website at [www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html](http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html)

**Mr. Turner moved approval of First Reading of Various Policy Updates and Revisions as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.**

2. Approval of the Mission Statement Revision – Ms. Smith

Ms. Smith presented the Board with the final version of the new Mission Statement based on input from several broad based stakeholder groups. The New Mission Statement is as follows:

*The mission of Washington Township Schools is to develop life-long learners and globally minded citizens by fostering the academic, creative, and social skills needed to achieve excellence in a multi-cultural environment.*

The Board had comments. Discussion took place. The full report and discussion can be accessed on the District's website at [www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html](http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html)

**Mr. Kite moved approval of the New Mission Statement as presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.**

#### Information Items/Board Discussion

##### 1. Presentation on Transportation Energy Program – Dr. Mervilde

Dr. Mervilde introduced Mr. Goldstein and Mr. Kline of EduClear Propulsion Technologies, who gave the Board a presentation on electrical school buses. EduClear has developed an all electric propulsion system that will adapt to the school buses currently being used by Washington Township. Electric buses will reduce the reliance on oil and the ever increasing cost of diesel fuel. EduClear is seeking a partnership with Washington Township to integrate electric school buses into the current fleet of diesel fueled buses. Washington Township would risk no money up front, and would pay for the pilot bus after it is delivered and only if it can successfully run bus routes. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. Dr. Mervilde told the Board that they would bring a business model to the Board at the next School Board Meeting. The full report and discussion can be accessed on the District's website at [www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html](http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html)

##### 2. Board Discussion and Liaison Reports – Board Members

Ms. Harris listened in on the State Superintendent Tony Bennett's conference call with Superintendents on January 11<sup>th</sup> about the State's plans on proposing changes to the collective bargaining law. Some of the information gleaned from that call was the State's plan to increase teacher work days and changing the categories of teacher licensing.

Today was the first meeting of the CIESC Advisory Board which Ms. Harris has been appointed to. It was an interesting meeting. The CIESC does more than she realized. One very interesting thing they have set up as part of their purchasing arrangement is a website where districts can access State pricing. The CIESC has also absorbed some of the programs that the State can no longer provide or fund.

Mrs. Spann Roddy wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Turner has requested to attend Parent Council this month and would also like to attend Parent Council in February when Dr. Bennett will be present. Mr. Kite will also attend the February meeting.

Mr. Kite had nothing to report since the REMS Safety Meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Mr. Dzwonar told those in attendance that with the Superintendent's announcement to retire, the Board will be very busy in the coming months. The Board will get right to the task of finding a new Superintendent. They have already begun work on the process and will keep the community updated through Regular Board and/or Special Meetings that will occur throughout the process. The Board's plan is to have the new Superintendent in place prior to Dr. Mervilde's departure.

Adjournment

**There being no further business, Mr. Kite moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Mr. Turner seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.**