

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

Regular Meeting, May 12, 2010 - 7:00 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, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Ms. Lane, Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. Smith, Dr. Woodson, Matt Whitt, Jonique Burton, Bill Turner, Kim Piper, Kristen Poindexter, Myron El, Joe King, Kerry Bremer, Briana Ruschhaupt, Tom Oestreich, Linda Lawrence, Jim Cheatham, Subha Balagopal, Kenneth Rush, Aaron Kasper, Kristin McFarland, Shaunie Augustine, Caroline Hawes, Andrew Jones, Jake Mathis, Cameron Mullin, Kellie Lamothe, CeCe Andrews, Becca Hardie, Jimmy Tyler, Lindsay Rader, Catlyn Mills, Cheryl Frazier, Bryce Rainey

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. Smith.

Approval Consent Agenda

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

- Approval of the Minutes of the April 28, 2010 Regular Meeting and the May 6, 2010 Memorandum of Executive Session
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$2,704,713.60
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel – Two Resignations (14), (15); and One New Appointment (76); Classified Personnel – Three Resignations (46), (47), (48); and One Retirement (9).
- 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

The Board recognized North Central High School Speech Team State Championship winners Armon Kaviani and Jesper Vandenberg. They performed their winning piece at the Board Meeting.

Kristen Poindexter, Kindergarten teacher at Spring Mill Elementary and Myron El, Music teacher at Crooked Creek were also honored by the Board. Kristen received the Armstrong Teacher Educator Award in April from Indiana University. This Award will allow Kristen to teach and mentor students at Indiana University. Myron received the Achiever Award from the Center for Leadership Development in March.

Jonique Burton, Student Programs Advisor at North Central High School presented Dr. Mervilde with a Certificate from Ball State University. Jonique is working on her Superintendent's License and has been shadowing Dr. Mervilde and members of his Cabinet as part of this work. Mrs. Burton thanked Dr. Mervilde for his time and making his Cabinet members available to her.

### Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Mervilde congratulated Mr. William Turner newly elected School Board Member and Mr. Kite who was re-elected to the Board. He also congratulated and thanked the members of the Referendum Campaign for Educational Excellence, Mr. Joe Erne, Linda Cantor and George Crawford three veteran and involved Washington Township parents and patrons, who served as the directors of RCEE, a 501c4 political action committee, Dena Rae Hancock and many others for conducting a successful referendum renewal campaign.

We had a great Service and Retirement Reception for MSDWT employees on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The Hall of Fame Reception and Baccalaureate Ceremonies will be held at North Central High School on May 25<sup>th</sup>. The Commencement Ceremony for the class of 2010 will be held at the Pepsi Coliseum at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Due to graduation, the next Board Meeting in May will be held on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. The Board will prepare breakfast for the Community and Education Staff on Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. The Future Promises annual event will be held on Wednesday May 19<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Tony Bennett will be the featured speaker at the May 19<sup>th</sup> Parent Council Meeting at the Community and Education Center.

Dr. Mervilde attended an Indiana Urban Schools Association meeting earlier today and passed out editorials and opinion pieces he received at that meeting about the pending election this November and the constitutional amendment regarding tax caps in Indiana. Marion County is beginning to see and feel the effects of the tax caps. The Indiana Board of Education has initiated the process of determining PL221 school grade criteria. Dr. Mervilde also received information about the new, third-grade reading retention law that was passed by the General Assembly this past March.

### Comments From the Public

Mr. Taran spoke to the Board about the Non-Resident Policy.

### Action Items

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

The Board had received information and reviewed the updates of Policy Series 0000 and 1000 at the last Board Meeting. Several changes were suggested at that time. Dr. Woodson went over each change. The Board had questions. Discussion took place. A few grammatical changes were suggested and will be made and sent to the Board.

**Mrs. Spann Roddy made a motion to approve Second Reading and Adoption of Updates of Policy Series 0000 and 1000 as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed 4-0.**

2. Adoption of Student Handbook – Ms. Lane

Ms. Lane went over the changes for the Student Handbook. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

**Mr. Kite moved approval of the Student Handbook as presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. The motion passed 4-0.**

3. Approval of 2009-2010 Administrative and Classified Salary and Benefits Packages – Dr. Mervilde

Dr. Mervilde recommended that Administrative salary and benefits for the 2009-2010 school year be frozen at the rates approved by the Board in June 2009. There will be no pay increases for Administrative staff for the 2009-2010 school year. He also recommended that classified salaries and benefits be frozen at the rates approved by the Board in June 2009. There will be no pay increases for classified staff for the 2011 year. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

**Mr. Dzwonar moved approval of the Administrative and Classified Salary and Benefits Packages as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. The motion passed 4-0.**

Information Items

1. Start Strong Indianapolis Building Healthy Teen Relationships – Mr. Oestreich & Others

This initiative is sponsored by a four year grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Indianapolis is one of 11 communities nationwide chosen to receive funding. The mission is to prevent teen dating violence and abuse by teaching teens about healthy relationships. The main initiatives are education, community engagement, policy change, communications and social marketing. Start Strong sites are at North Central High School and Westlane Middle School. The program will be instituted at Eastwood Middle School in the fall. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

2. Open Board Discussion – Board Members

Ms. Harris stated that Mr. Dzwonar attended the State Board of Education Hearing but was not able to provide testimony because there was such a large crowd. He was, however, able to submit the statement. The Board received another email from the Indiana Urban Schools Association encouraging them to challenge the State Board as to what they are going to do with the testimony they received regarding the PL221 grading system. Discussion took place. Discussion can be heard at <http://www.msdt.k12.in.us/board/mini.html>

Mr. Kite asked that the Board receive a report on discipline as in previous years. This will be incorporated into the Board's special sessions in June. Dr. Mervilde gave the Board a copy of future Board Development meeting dates and topics.

#### Board Liaison Reports

Mrs. Spann Roddy attended the Retirement Reception where she presented her sister, April Oldham, an award for teaching for 30 years in Washington Township. She attended the Crooked Creek Dad's Club first family dance which was lot of fun.

Mr. Dzwonar also enjoyed honoring Washington Township School employees for their service at the Service and Retirement Reception. He enjoyed working the polls on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Kite also enjoyed working the polls and participated in the Retirement Reception which he enjoyed very much.

Ms. Harris participated in the community effort on the Referendum. She attended the State Foundation meeting which was very interesting. Ms. Harris attended Nora Personal Best it was a very charming and heartwarming event. She stated her appreciation for the community and for the Board Members elect who chose to run for the Board.

#### Adjournment

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