

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

Regular Meeting, August 26, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Mr. Wright

Others: Dr. Mervilde, Mrs. Sutton, Dr. Ewing, Dr. Farrell, Mr. Licata, Mrs. Reynolds, Judy Fraps, Marques Crain, Gregg Treffinger, John Hunter,

Presiding: Ms. Harris, President

Approval Consent Agenda

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

- Approval of the Minutes of the August 12, 2009 Regular Meeting, and the August 21, 2009 Memorandum of Executive Session
- Approval of Claims in the amount of \$2,533,366.37
- Approval of the Human Resources Report containing: Certified Personnel - One Maternity Leaves (4); Two Temporary to Regular Contracts (2), (3); and Six New Appointments (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64) and Classified Personnel – Five New Appointments (14), (15), (16), (17), (18); and Sixteen Resignations (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16).
- Approval or Acceptance of Non-competitive Grants, Gifts and Donations: There were no non-competitive grants or donations presented for the Board's approval.

Mrs. Spann Roddy moved approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. Passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Mervilde provided the Board with a copy of the Annual Report regarding the performance of the Class of 2009 on the ACT test. The ACT test is one of the two widely accepted college entrance tests. North Central students did very well on the tests.

Broad-based community interviews for the Assistant Superintendent position will be held on September 3, 2009 at the Community and Education Center. Three Board Members will participate in those interviews.

September 28th & 29th are the dates for the Annual Indiana School Boards Association/Indianapolis Association of Public School Superintendents Fall Conference. This conference is a great opportunity for Board Development.

Notes from the Board Development Session that was held on August 21, 2009 were sent to the Board. Board Members should send notes to Mr. Dzwonar.

School visitation dates for John Strange and Eastwood have been switched to September 24, 2009.

Dr. Mervilde informed the Board that he received notification from the Indiana School Board's Association that during the Fall Regional Meetings Mr. Kite and Mr. Dzwonar will receive an individual CAP pin for earning the required number of points for the respective level. Mr. Kite is at Level 2 and Mr. Dzwonar is at Level 1. This information will also be printed in the Winter issue of The Journal.

Comments From the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Action Items

1. Approval of Agreement with IUPUI for After School Achievers – Mrs. Fraps

This is the third year that the After School Achievers program has worked in partnership with IUPUI to provide Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) students. This year the partnership includes three STEM or Ameri Corp people at each of the four elementary schools, five days a week. Middle and High School staff will work four days a week for two to four hours. The total cost is \$107,000 and will be funded through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant.

STEM and Ameri-Corp staff will provide enrichment activities, assist with homework, coordinate activities with the site team, attend planning meetings and initial program orientation. Over 500 students are participating in the program this year. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Kite moved approval of the Agreement with IUPUI for After School Achievers in the amount of \$107,000 as presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. The vote passed 4-0.

2. Approval of CRS Sub Finder Contract – Mr. Licata

Mr. Doss reported that for a number of years the District secured substitute teachers through a contractual agreement with one person. It was a difficult process because the person was only available to the District for two hours each day. As a result, if a teacher needed to leave the building after the two hour window had passed, there was no way to secure a substitute for that teacher. The District investigated an automated service called Sub Finder. The system is operational anytime of the day that it is needed. Administration has decided they will need the system from 6:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. The system will also interact with the District's payroll system. The annual cost of the contract is a little less than half of what the district used to pay for the contracted service. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Dzwonar moved approval of the CRS Sub Finder Contract as presented. Mr. Kite seconded. The vote passed 4-0.

3. Approval of financing Mechanism for Portable Classrooms – Mr. Licata

The Board received the Resolution and Declaration of Official Intent along with the payment schedule prior to the meeting. The principal amount expected to be financed is \$1,398,108.96. The repayment would be over a five year period. The Board had questions. Discussion took place.

Mr. Kite moved approval of the Financing Mechanism for the Portable Classrooms Project in the amount of \$1,398,108.96 as presented. Mrs. Spann Roddy seconded. The vote passed 4-0.

Information Items

1. Update on District IB Initiative – Mrs. Reynolds

In May 180 teachers were trained in Level One of the Inquiry based method of teaching. One hundred more teachers will be trained in October. Bertie Kilgore, an expert in differentiated instruction, will participate in the training in October. Inquiry based teaching techniques are already being used in many classrooms. Full implementation and accreditation of the IB initiative will take five years. Approximately \$1million in stimulus dollars will be used to speed up the implementation process.

Administration is in the process of hiring a full time International Baccalaureate Coordinator. Level Two training will take place in the summer of 2010. The District continues to look for community based funding to support full implementation of the International Baccalaureate Program. The Board had questions and comments. Discussion took place.

2. General Fund Referendum Timeline – Dr. Mervilde

Dr. Mervilde presented a Timeline for the upcoming General Fund Referendum. Special Sessions will be held in order for the Board to discuss and receive information about the Referendum. The first Special Session will be held on September 2, 2009 at the Community Education Center. Special Sessions will also be held at Eastwood Middle School on September 30, 2009 and Westlane Middle School on October 7, 2009. Further discussion about the Referendum will be held at each Regular School Board Meeting beginning with the September 9, 2009 Board Meeting. The Board had questions and comments. Discussion took place.

Board Comments/Liaison Reports

Mr. Kite thanked Dr. Mervilde for the Board Retreat that was hosted on August 21, 2009. He complimented the Foundation on their beginning of the year social event that the Board and Dr. Mervilde were invited to.

Mr. Dzwonar echoed Mr. Kite's comments on the Board Retreat. He said it was a very productive time. He is excited about the continued focus on Board Development and how the Board can most effectively do their job to keep Washington Township Schools a place that is sought after. He has been to a lot of Back-to-School events, seeing excited students and teachers and said it re-energizes one to this kind of work.

Mrs. Spann Roddy and Ms. Harris echoed the comments of Mr. Kite and Mr. Dzwonar.

Adjournment

There being no further business, **Ms. Harris adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.**