

Meridian Community Board Minutes
October 13, 2005
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of September 22, 2005

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by President Ron Steenken on September 22, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. in the Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High School. Members present: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator, Principals Hedemann, Coulahan, Davidson and Mandzen, Asst. Principal/AD Rude, and Mr. Bearrows were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2005 regular school board meeting. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Reeverts, to approve the payroll of October 5, 2005. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator reviewed the process to modify Ogle County impact fees. He stated that he gave a short presentation at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ogle County Board on September 12th on behalf of a group of Ogle County Superintendents making a case for an adjustment in the fee structure that would generate a more reasonable fee for school districts. The districts are planning to have their boards pass a resolution supporting a change in the formula. Mr. Prusator encouraged board members to make calls to Ogle County board members to support the modification in the ordinance.

Mr. Prusator reviewed the dates of the Fall Joint Annual Conference at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago as November 17-19. Plans are made and set to go.

Mrs. Hedemann reported that the heat continues to be a challenge for teachers at students at Highland. Accommodations are being made to give students, frequent breaks, ice water, Popsicles and reduced time in the heat at recess. She also reported that Highland had five new registrations this week. The Highland annual Open House and Book Fair was held last Thursday. Highland families enjoyed an evening of fun and information. It should be noted that EC, PreK, and Kindergarten each held an Open House the first week of school. Imperial Crown sales ended on Tuesday with students having about \$24,000 in sales. Teachers will meet tomorrow with the Harcourt and Brace consultant about the new reading series. Mrs. Williams, Ms. Stahler, and Ms. Metcalf, along with school psychologist Jennifer Derricks, attended the third FLEX

training in Northbrook on Tuesday. Mrs. Simmering and Mrs. Hedemann received FLEX training at the OCEC yesterday. Landscaping continues to change the look at Highland. Mrs. Hedemann has completed teacher evaluations on all new teachers.

Mr. Larson arrived at 5:14 p.m.

Mr. Coulahan reported that students did another fabulous job with the Imperial Crown Fundraiser. He reported a profit of around \$15,000. The Book Fair at Monroe Center was also very successful with an increase of 15% and a profit of \$2,060.

Mr. Davidson reported that Back-to-School Night on Tuesday, September 13th, was a very positive night. The gym was filled to capacity with parents. He received many compliments on the teachers at all grade levels. He also reported on the principal's meeting in Grand Detour at the ROE on SIPS. Mr. Mandzen and Mrs. Hedemann also attended. Mr. Davidson expressed thanks to Ayron Herman and Jayce Bolhous for all of their work this morning on the phone and computer systems after lightning struck the junior high last night.

Mr. Jay Williams started off the high school report. He handed out the SVHS Agriculture Department Annual Report. He also handed out invitations to the FFA National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Six high school students usually attend the convention. This year it has been opened up to administrators and school board members. Mr. Williams requested that administrators and school board members let him know by Monday if they wish to attend. Mr. Mandzen reported that SVHS finished 4th out of 200 in the horse-judging contest. The junior class will be taking the PACT/ASVAB on Wednesday, November 16th. SVHS will be part of the Lee-Ogle Credit Recovery Program. Susan Winter will run the program. On Friday, September 30th, SVHS and MJH will participate in a reading workshop. Mr. Mandzen handed out the agenda for the SVHS Back-to-School Night scheduled for this evening. Mr. Rude reported that North Boone would be taking Johnsbury's place in our conference.

Mr. Bearrows reported that the Regional Office of Education completed the Health, Life, and Safety Inspection on Thursday, September 15th. The MJH locker room project is still not complete; however, parts are in so work should start again next week.

There were no Notices and Communications.

Curt Kleckler from Millikin, Benning, Klecker, and Kobischa presented the FY05 Audit and related information to the Board. He handed out a draft copy to each member and stated that everything was in good order.

Under Community Input, Candy Coffey expressed concerns regarding the Target Program. She stated that she feels the book that was adopted seven years ago should be reviewed. She requested that the policies be reviewed. She also requests a review of the incident that brought about her concerns.

Mr. Prusator presented a Simplified On-line Communication (SOCS) web page demonstration. Mr. Prusator showed the ways that the web page provides district and building information in a more timely, accessible manner. Mr. Prusator demonstrated the feedback feature available with the system allowing parents and community members to post responses to articles on the web page. Mr. Prusator also demonstrated the feature that allows the district to monitor utilization of the web page. This system is part of the implementation of a 2004-2005 board goal to implement more effective communication from the school district to the community. Mr. Prusator also commented that the feedback from parents has been positive.

Mr. Prusator handed out suggested Board Policy changes for 2005-2006. This is an annual process and necessary to keep our policy books accurate and up to date. The policy changes will be on display in the district office until adoption at the October 27th regular school board meeting.

At 6:45 p.m., the board moved on to the FY06 Budget Hearing. Mr. Prusator presented a brief summary of the budget. Mr. Prusator invited any comments or questions regarding the budget.

Under Board comments, Mr. Glendenning stated that the policies in the Target Program need to be looked at quickly. Mr. Jagielski stated that he appreciated Ms. Coffey's comments and the way it was presented to the Board.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Janes, to adopt the FY06 budget as presented. Ayes: Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bonne left the board meeting at 6:54 p.m.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Janes, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the district. Ayes: Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Glendenning, Jagielski and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 6:55 p.m.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time 7:13 p.m.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2005 executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Jagielski, to accept the resignations of the following: Gary Larson, SVHS 2nd shift custodian; Ryan Gilbert, Junior Class Advisor; and Barry Glauzel, SVHS assistant wrestling. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Glendenning, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary