

## **Meridian Community Board Minutes**

### **Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of April 23, 2009**

#### **Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by President Ron Steenken at 7:00 p.m. in the Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High. Members present: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski (via phone), Larson and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator and Director of Business/HR Porter were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

#### **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Reeverts, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the April 9, 2009 regular board meeting and the payroll of May 1, 2009. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Glendenning requested that item 4.3, fees for 2009-2010 School Year, be removed from the consent agenda.

#### **4.3 Approve fees for 2009-2010 School Year**

Discussion centered on gathering data which reflects what the fees cover and whether the fees cover the cost to the district. There was also discussion on proof of insurance for a parking sticker.

#### **Motion:**

A motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by Larson, to approve the fees for the 2009-2010 School year with an analysis of the fees to be done by July. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Presentation of plaques to Debra Bonne and Tim Jagielski for dedicated service to the Meridian CUSD #223 Board of Education**

On behalf of the Board of Education, the community, and the students, Mr. Steenken presented a plaque, lifetime activities pass, and an exemplary service pin to Debra Bonne in appreciation for her 12 years of service and to Mr. Tim Jagielski for his 8 years of service on the Board of Education.

#### **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Bonne, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: Jagielski, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Fruin, Secretary

## **Meridian Community Board Minutes**

### **Minutes of an Organization Meeting of April 23, 2009**

#### **Swearing in and oath of newly-elected board members**

Mrs. Reeverts led the swearing in and oath of office to Mr. Glendenning, Mr. Mellon, Mr. Pierce and Mr. Steenken who will serve on the Board of Education for a four-year term ending in 2013.

#### **Appoint president pro tem**

Mrs. Bonne was appointed president pro tem for the election of officers.

#### **Call to Order**

The organization meeting for the new Board of Education was called to order by president pro tem Bonne on April 23, 2009 in the Meridian Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High School. Members present: Glendenning, Larson, Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts and Steenken.

#### **Elect President of the Board**

Nominations were declared open for President of the Board. Mrs. Reeverts nominated Mr. Steenken. Hearing no other nominations, Mrs. Bonne declared Mr. Steenken elected by acclamation.

Mr. Steenken stated that he was honored to serve and took his seat as President of the Board.

#### **Elect Vice-President of the Board**

Nominations were declared open for Vice-President of the Board.

Mr. Larson nominated Mrs. Reeverts. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Steenken declared Mrs. Reeverts elected by acclamation.

#### **Secretary of the Board**

A motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by Reeverts, to confirm Donna Fruin as board secretary. Ayes: Glendenning, Larson, Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Confirm appointment of Treasurer**

A motion was made by Steenken, seconded by Glendenning, to confirm the appointment of Jennifer Porter as treasurer for the district. Ayes: Larson, Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Appoint Board representatives to:**

- 9.1 Illinois Association of School Boards  
Mr. Mellon volunteered to be on this committee.

- 9.2 Ogle County Educational Cooperative - Special Ed.  
Mr. Pierce volunteered to be on this committee.
- 9.3 Hearing officer for free/reduced lunch program: TBA
- 9.4 SVEA/Board Insurance Committee: TBA
- 9.5 District Sick Leave Bank Committee: TBA
- 9.6 Intergovernmental Joint Library Committee  
Mr. Steenken suggested keeping the current committee members which includes Mrs. Reeverts, Mr. Larson, and himself.
- 9.7 Interest Based Problem Solving Committee  
The committee will consist of Mr. Steenken, Mr. Glendenning, and Mr. Larson. Anyone who has had the Interest Based Problem Solving training can attend.
- 9.8 School Board Policy Committee  
The committee will consist of Mr. Glendenning and Mr. Steenken.
- 9.9 Budget Review Committee  
Mr. Larson suggested a Finance Committee instead of a Budget Review Committee. This committee would do a monthly review of the bills instead of using the current rotation system. Mr. Steenken, Mr. Larson and Mr. Glendenning volunteered to be on this committee.

Mr. Prusator will have an explanation of what the committees do for the next meeting. The rest of the committees will be filled after there are all seven board members.

#### **Confirm dates/times/place of Board meetings**

Mr. Prusator reviewed the dates/times/place of board meetings for the remainder of the fiscal year.

#### **Motion:**

A motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by Reeverts, to confirm the dates/times/place of board meetings for the remainder of the fiscal year. Ayes: Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts, Glendenning, Larson and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Prusator relayed that he would like a meeting with representatives from local townships and municipalities in order to develop a strategy to plan for growth in the district including the proposed Byron pre-annexation of land in our district. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the board room. Mr. Prusator also reviewed that a Request for Proposal (RFP) for District Service contract would be going out due to the end of a current five-year contract with Honeywell.

## **Notices and Communications**

There were no Notices and Communications.

## **Community Input**

Joan Stehulak, Allen Ockerlander, and Curt Freeberg shared concerns regarding the Byron pre-annexation of land in Meridian School District. Mike Musso spoke regarding an incident where his son wasn't allowed to attend a dance at SVHS because of arriving later than one hour after the beginning of the dance, which is a criterion for admission. Kurt Kruger expressed his support, as a parent and pastor in the community, for the high quality of education and work the district is doing.

## **Old Business**

### **14.1 Review April 13, 2009 Community Focus Group Session**

Mr. Prusator handed out a summary of the feedback provided by the community members who attended the Focus Group Session. Board members reviewed the comments made by their groups. The School Board will use the feedback in the development of the 2009-2010 District Improvement Plan.

## **New Business**

### **15.1 Review New Board Member Orientation**

Mr. Prusator reviewed policy regarding new board member orientation and development. Mr. Steenken highly recommended that new board members attend the New Board Member Session at the annual School Board Conference which is held in November. New board members are also encouraged to contact any other board member or Mr. Prusator if they have questions.

### **15.2 Review vacant Board seat**

Mr. Prusator reviewed the process and timeline for filling the board seat vacated by Mr. King. The vacancy has been published in the Tempo and The Ogle County Life, as well as, posted on the website. The deadline for applications is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **15.3 Review preliminary 2009-2010 priority list for FY 10 budget**

Mr. Prusator reviewed the preliminary 2009-2010 priority list for the 2009-2010 school year. The priorities are expected to be in line with the District's Long Range Vision. The priorities will also assist in meeting the objectives of the District Improvement Plan. The priority list will be reviewed over the next few meetings.

## **Board Comments**

Current board members welcomed Mr. Mellon and Mr. Pierce to the board.

### **Adjourn to Closed Session**

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Glendenning, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment and employment of specific employees of the district and litigation. Ayes: Pierce, Reeverts, Glendenning, Larson, Mellon and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 9:55 p.m.

### **Reconvene in Open Session**

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Pierce, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 11:05 p.m.

### **Board Action from Executive Session**

#### **Approve the minutes of the April 9, 2009 closed session**

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Mellon, to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2009 executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Honorably dismiss education support staff due to unknown special education staffing for next year; unknown grant allocation; or aide for individual student**

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Glendenning, to honorably dismiss the following employees due to uncertain enrollment and IEPs: Danielle Ducey, Highland individual student aide; Danna Fleming, Elementary Counseling Grant, clerical; Claudia Olsen, Highland individual student aide; Tammy Pierson, Highland individual student aide; Carla Regez, Highland individual student aide; Carla Duschen, Monroe Center individual student aide; Laura McNames, Monroe Center individual student aide; Tara Modrzejewski, Monroe Center individual student aide; Amy McDonald, Monroe Center individual student aide; Deb Lawson, Monroe Center individual student aide; Deb Sweeney, Monroe Center individual student aide; Lori Wetzel, Monroe Center individual student aide; and Rose Stieg, Monroe Center individual student aide. Ayes: Larson, Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Larson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Fruin, Secretary