

Meridian Community Board Minutes
August 23, 2007
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of August 9, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by President Ron Steenken on August 9, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meridian Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High School. Members present: Bonne, King, Larson, and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator and District Administrator of Business/HR, Jennifer Porter, were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Reeverts, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the July 19, 2007 regular school board meeting; payroll of August 20, 2007; and the appointment of Jennifer Porter as authorized agent for the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund. Ayes: Bonne, King, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator reviewed the Teacher's Institute Agenda for Wednesday, August 15th and Thursday, August 16th. Friday, August 17th will be a short student attendance day with Monday, August 20th, being the first full day of school.

Mr. Glendenning and Mr. Jagielski arrived at 7:03 p.m.

Mr. Prusator stated that he and Ms. Porter will be working on the FY08 budget. It will be placed on display August 23, 2007; and would be adopted at the September 27, 2007 meeting.

Under Notices and Communications, Mr. Prusator read a letter from Harold and Alice Hintzsche who expressed thanks for SVHS hosting the senior lunches. Mr. Prusator also stated that he received an email from Deb Larson looking to schedule the next TAG meeting. The board agreed to meet on August 23, 2007 and to move the start time of that meeting to 6:00 p.m.

There was no Community Input.

Mr. Prusator presented the Long Range Planning and Facility Committee Final Recommendation. He handed out and reviewed the plan. Mr. Prusator stated that the committee met for 1 ½ years and expressed thanks for that huge commitment. He stated that every member of the committee who attended the final meeting thought this was the option that best met the needs of the district. Mr. Glendenning noted that committee member John Cox would did not support the committee's recommendation. Discussion followed. Mr. Steenken invited comments from committee members who were in the audience. This item will be placed on the September 12, 2007 for further review and

action.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed the possible superintendent goals for 2007-2008. Discussion followed regarding a time for the School Board to establish its goals. A Board retreat was scheduled for Saturday, September 8, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. for the purpose of establishing School Board goals for 2007-2008.

Mr. Prusator reviewed the recommendation for district milk bid for 2007-2008. Anderson Erickson provided the lowest bid. Discussion followed regarding whether Anderson Erickson provides the best product. There was a suggestion to do some research on the milk products and possibly conduct a survey to identify how well students

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Glendenning, to award the bid for milk products for 2007-2008 to Anderson Erickson as presented. Ayes: Glendenning, King, Larson, Bonne and Steenken. Nays: Jagielski and Reeverts. Motion carried.

Mr. Prusator reviewed the Educational Support Personnel (ESP) policy on pay periods. Discussion followed regarding the legality of withholding pay (26-pay spread) for ESP school attendance day only employees (non-collective bargaining units). Mr. Prusator's recommendation was to allow those employees to keep their 26-pay spread if they sign a waiver memorializing that choice. Mr. Prusator will work with the attorney's office to get the language cleared up.

There was no New Business.

Under Board Comments, Mr. Jagielski stated that the Byron Civic Theater was very appreciative of the use of the SVHS stage. Mr. King stated that he would be attending an OCEC meeting on August 23rd at 6:30 p.m. before the regular board meeting.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Larson, to adjourn to executive session to discuss the appointment and employment of specific employees of the district; collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees; litigation which has been filed and is pending before an administrative tribunal; and the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. Ayes: Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 9:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Jagielski, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 12:20 p.m.

A motion was made by King, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2007 executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by King, seconded by Bonne, to accept the personnel report as presented. The report includes the resignations of: Joyce Turnipseed, MC nurse (shared position); Vicki Hilliard, SVHS lunch cashier; Rose Stieg, MC individual student aide; and Amy Hayden, MJH 8th grade English. The report also includes authorizing the hiring of: Kristen Caldwell, Highland Early Childhood (replaces Schumaker); Julie Foss, Highland Title I teacher (replaces Moon); Sarah Lindwall, Highland Second Grade Teacher (replaces Metcalf); Angie Collins, Highland First Grade Teacher (replaces Foss); Angela Alfano, MC 4th Grade Teacher (new position); Kelly Gale, Meridian JH Computer Teacher (new position, transfer from high school); Joanna Kluever, SVHS Library Director (replaces Kapusta); Teresa Bondavalli, SVHS English/Social Science Teacher (replaces Beem); Cathy Murphy, SVHS Business Education Teacher (replaces Gale); and Sara Verstynen as a bus aide (replaces Powell). Ayes: Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Larson, and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary