

Meridian Community Board Minutes
December 15, 2005
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of November 10, 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 November 10, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High School. Members present: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator was also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the October 27, 2005 board meeting, the payrolls of November 18th, November 30th and December 5th, 2005 and the accounts payable for November 2005 per review by Mr. Janes. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator distributed packets to board members attending the Annual School Board Joint Conference in Chicago on November 18-20, 2005. He asked board members to review the packets and contact him with any questions.

American Education Week is November 14-18, 2005. Mr. Prusator reported that the week would start off with bagels/cream cheeses delivered to each building and the bus garage on Monday. Each board member received a pen from Mr. Prusator. Pens will be distributed to staff also. On Thursday, November 17th, the traditional Thanksgiving meal will be provided to every staff member and paid for by the SVEA and School District. Mr. Prusator invited board members to the Thanksgiving meal.

Mr. Prusator explained the procedure regarding the cancellation of school due to inclement weather. He stated a decision is made by 6:00 a.m. and would be based on what is best for the safety of the students. Mr. Prusator will be meeting with road commissioners on Thursday, November 17th to update contact information. Mr. Prusator stated that along with the usual media notification, he would use the mass phone broadcast system to inform parents of school cancellations.

Mr. Prusator updated the board on the busing issue in Harvest Glenn Subdivision. Mr. Prusator reported that a new route should be established by Tuesday, in addition to modifications to other existing routes. The additional route and modified routes will provide available seats on buses that are currently run in the district's more densely populated areas.

There were no building principal reports.

There were no Notices and Communications.

Under Community Input, Sheryl Hawley, President of the Village of Davis Junction, asked what the policy was for the assignment of students on bus routes vs. the capacity of seats on the bus.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed the Proposed 2005 Tax Levy. The proposed levy will be published in a local newspaper. The levy hearing is scheduled for 6:45 p.m. on December 15, 2005 at Highland School.

Mr. Prusator reviewed the process to certify the School Library Grant. The certification is an annual process which documents that the building libraries are providing services at adequate levels in order to qualify for grant money.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Janes, to approve the certification for the School Library Grant. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed Board of Education/Superintendent Communication/Information Process for consensus on how to provide consistent and effective communication between the board and superintendent. Discussion followed.

Under Board Comments, Mr. Jagielski stated that he had received comments about the class sizes for 2nd grade. Mr. Prusator explained how that is handled under the SVEA contract. Mr. Jagielski also raised the issue of weighted grades. Mr. Larson inquired about resume writing at SVHS.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Bonne, to adjourn to executive session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the district. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 8:45 p.m.

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Bonne, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 10:48 p.m.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2005 executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Bonne, to accept the retirement request for Connie Stender, Highland secretary, effective June 1, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Janes, to hire Mike Nielson, SVHS assistant freshman boys' basketball coach (replaces Brendan Johnson) and Tim DeVries, SVHS assistant wrestling coach (replaces S. Stender). Motion carried unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary