

# **Meridian Community Board Minutes**

## **Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of March 20, 2008**

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

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

### **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Bonne, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the February 28, 2008 board meeting; payroll of April 4, 2008; and accounts payable for March 2008 per review by Larson. Ayes: Bonne, Jagielski, King, Larson and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **5.1 Recognition of SVHS IMEA All-State instrumental and choral students**

Mr. Prusator opened by congratulating the students on their great accomplishment, which required talent and a lot of work. Mrs. Haas described the process for receiving this award. Nicole Jagielski, Nate Beck and Christina Winter were present to receive a Certificate of Recognition from Vice President Reeverts. Victoria Werckle, Jordan Warner, and Alex Nyman were not in attendance.

The board recessed for a few minutes to congratulate the students.

#### **5.2 Review Community Focus Group Session scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at Stillman Valley High School**

Mr. Prusator updated the board on how many of the community members responded to the invitation to participate in the focus groups. He will put an article in the local papers and on the website in order to fill the empty slots.

### **Notices and Communications**

Mr. Prusator relayed that the ER/CM grant is winding down. As part of the grant, the district was able to purchase a portable Star Com radio for each building and for the district office. Mr. Prusator relayed that each building and the district office has the radio that provides immediate contact to the Ogle County Sheriff's Office. The units are mobile which allows for great flexibility. Mr. Prusator also shared that the Ogle County Sheriff's Office will assume the monthly maintenance fee for the five radios. The cost of each radio is approximately \$1,500. As a demonstration, Mr. Prusator used the radio to contact the Ogle County Sheriff's Office from the MJH Board Room.

Mrs. Reeverts brought in a letter relating to farmland south of Stillman Valley High School, which was recently put up for sale.

### **Community Input**

There was no Community Input.

### **Old Business**

#### **8.1 Review tentative 2008-2009 school calendar**

Mr. Prusator reviewed the process for establishing the school calendar. He relayed that the process

includes the collaboration with Byron, Winnebago and Oregon because of so many shared classes. He will recommend the calendar for approval at the April 10, 2008 meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **9.1 Transportation Department report and recommendations for 2008-2009**

Mr. Prusator introduced Jeff Sherman, Director of Transportation, who gave a power point presentation on the status of the transportation department and the bus fleet. He also shared his recommendations for next year.

### **Board Comments**

Mr. King relayed information from the Ogle County Special Education Cooperative (OCEC) governing board meeting regarding the addition of three school districts to the OCEC. Mr. Jagielski commented the positive attributes of the on the Interest Based Problem Solving Committee meetings.

### **Adjourn to Closed Session**

A motion was made by King, seconded by Larson, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the employment, compensation, performance, and evaluation of specific employees of the District. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 8:40 p.m.

### **Reconvene in Open Session**

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Jagielski, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 10:08 p.m.

### **Approve the minutes of the February 14, 2008 Executive Session: no executive session was held on February 28, 2008**

A motion was made by King, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2008 executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Approve Personnel Report**

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Larson, to approve the personnel report as presented including the **employment** of Julia Faber, registered nurse at MC (replaces Turnipseed); Joyce Turnipseed, registered nurse at Highland (replaces K. Glendenning); Rebecca Dixon, registered nurse at MJH (vacant position); Maria Keller, bilingual aide at MJH (replaces A. Dominguez); Steve Lakanen, second shift custodian at MJH (replaces V. Bozzi); and Janice Bathje as the assistant softball coach (replaces K. Sturtevant). The personnel report also includes the **resignation** of Jennifer Leskovisek, effective end of the 2007-2008 girls' basketball season (SVHS-assistant girls' basketball coach); Christine Kurgan, effective end of the 2007-2008 basketball cheerleading season (SVHS-basketball cheerleading coach); Ryan Gilbert, effective end of the 2007-2008 school year (SVHS-agriculture teacher and assistant academic bowl coach); Arthur Peterson, effective March 7, 2008 (MJH-head custodian); and Kathryn Flygare, effective March 14, 2008 (MJH-cafeteria worker). The personnel report also includes the **leaves** of Courtney Jones on family medical leave, effective April 28, 2008 until the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year (Highland-kindergarten teacher) and Christa Papke on family medical leave, effective May 5, 2008 until the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year (MC-4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher). The personnel report includes the increase of hours for Tammy Pierson from two to seven hours per day to include Early Childhood AM & PM positions (Highland – new position). The personnel report also included the Administrator evaluations. Ayes: Bonne, Jagielski, King, Larson and Reverts. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjourn**

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