

Meridian Community Board Minutes
October 27, 2005
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of October 13, 2005

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by Vice President Barb Reeverts on October 13, 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, Janes, and Larson. Superintendent Prusator, Principals Hedemann, Coulahan and Davidson, and Mr. Bearrows were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Janes, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the September 22, 2005 board meeting and the October 1st and October 4th special board meetings, payroll of October 20, 2005 and accounts payable for October 2005 per review by Reeverts. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Janes, Larson and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed the Annual Fall Housing Report that shows enrollment on 9/30/05. He also reviewed an enrollment by grade level report. These figures showed a total district enrollment of 1895 students that is an increase of 96 students from 9/30/04 and 5.34%.

Mrs. Hedemann reported that teachers are finishing the ISEL testing. She stated that report cards go out next Friday.

Mr. Coulahan reported the Imperial Crowne Fundraiser was a very well organized and profitable fundraiser. MC earned \$15,000 in profit. Tomorrow is the end of the first quarter; and report cards will be sent home with children next Friday. Conferences are scheduled for November 8th and 9th. The 33rd annual Muster Day was held yesterday at MC. It was a very successful event once again. The MC Fire Department will visit the students at school tomorrow to talk about fire and safety prevention.

Mr. Davidson also reported that report cards would be sent home next Friday. He expressed thanks to the JH staff for another excellent beginning to the school year. The JH band had its fall concert Tuesday night. All three levels put on an excellent performance. As usual, the gym was packed and the JH is looking for ways to improve the seating for the December concert. The girls' volleyball teams finished their seasons. Both teams finished 1st during the regular season. The 7th grade finished 1st in the conference tournament and the 8th grade placed 2nd. Boys' basketball has started. The numbers are up significantly from last year.

Mr. Bearrows reported that the MJH locker room is still not complete. The parts they were waiting for weren't correct. They are waiting again for the correct parts. Mr. Bearrows thanked Chad and Dean, SV village workers, for their help with a water main break at the bus garage last week.

Under Notices and Communications, Mr. Prusator read a thank you card from Phil Bratta and family for the flowers, thoughts, and prayers on the death of his wife, Kay. Mr. Prusator also distributed the Annual Report to Membership from the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Under Community Input, Leslie Ilkow and Jennifer Novak expressed concerns about overcrowding on busses in the Harvest Glenn Subdivision. Mrs. Ilkow also expressed concerns about a driver's way of disciplining noisy students. Sheryl Hawley asked how the parents would be notified of the solution to the problems.

Mr. Jagielski arrived at 7:25 p.m.

Mrs. Hedemann presented the "2005-2006 School Improvement Plan" for Highland created by the Highland faculty and administration. Mrs. Reeverts thanked Mrs. Hedemann for their hard work and a very informative presentation. Mrs. Hedemann answered questions from Board members. Mr. Coulahan introduced the Monroe Center Elementary School Improvement team members, Christa Papke, Kathy Benesh, and Jennifer Tompkins, who presented the "2005-2006 School Improvement Plan" for Monroe Center. Mrs. Reeverts thanked Mr. Coulahan and the team for their hard work and a very informative presentation. Mr. Coulahan and his team answered questions from Board members.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed suggested board policy changes. The suggested board policy changes will remain on display in the district office until the October 27th board meeting.

Mr. Prusator distributed a hand out of the health insurance plans. The committee met several times and their recommendation is Blue Cross/Blue Shield PPO and HMO options for plan year beginning November 1, 2005 and ending October 31, 2006. Mr. Prusator also distributed a hand out of dental insurance plans. The insurance committee's recommendation for dental insurance is Delta Dental for plan year beginning November 1, 2005 and ending October 31, 2006.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Bonne, to accept the insurance committee's recommendation of Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the district's health insurance as presented and to accept the insurance committee's recommendation of Dental Dental as presented not to exceed the bid amount. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Bonne and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed the proposed Meridian CUSD #223 Mission Statement, which reflected the work the school board conducted at a special meeting on October 4, 2005. Mr. Prusator stated that he would recommend the board adopt the proposed mission statement at the next regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, October 27, 2005.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed a resolution to modify the Ogle County Impact Fees to an amount that more closely reflects the cost of increased enrollment and land value. He stated that the school districts in Ogle County are committed to the resolution. He encouraged board members to contact county board members showing their support for the resolution. Mr. Prusator indicated that they would like to present the impact fee recommendation to the Ogle County Board in December.

There was no New Business.

Under Board Comments, Mrs. Reeverts stated that the Naperville Workshop on November 22nd is not a good date for her. Mr. Prusator will look at other possible dates.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Janes, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the district and student disciplinary case. Ayes: Jagielski, Janes, Larson, Bonne, Glendenning and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 9:32 p.m.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Jagielski, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time 11:34 p.m.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Janes, to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2005 and October 4, 2005 executive sessions. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Jagielski, to accept the resignation of Patricia Ewald, Highland dishwasher. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Bonne, to accept the retirement of Jim Parker, Monroe Center head custodian, effective January 27, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Bonne, to hire the following: Michelle Eyster, SVHS junior class advisor (replaces R. Gilbert); Barry Glaudel, SVHS assistant wrestling coach (he resigned as freshman coach last meeting, rehired as sophomore this meeting); Brent Hall, MJH 8th grade boys' basketball coach (replaces Lamoreaux); Jesus Vargas, SVHS activities custodian (replaces Gary Larson); and Julie Doane, mid-day Pre-K route. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary