

Minutes of a Special School Board Meeting for Levy Hearing of December 18, 2008

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by President Ron Steenken on December 18, 2008 at 6:50 p.m. in the Highland Elementary School Multi-purpose Room for the purpose of a Tax Levy Hearing. Members present: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator and Principal Coulahan were also present.

Mr. Prusator briefly reviewed the tax levy figures and stated the total tax rate would be \$4.90 per \$100 of assessed value depending on final assessment from the Ogle County Assessor.

There was no public comment.

Hearing no comments or questions, a motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Jagielski, to adjourn the Tax Levy Hearing. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2008

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 Highland Elementary School Multi-purpose Room. Members present: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator, Principal Coulahan and Director of Buildings and Grounds Mickle were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Glendenning, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the November 13, 2008 regular board meeting; payroll for December 26, 2008; and accounts payable for December 2008 per review by Mr. Larson in the amount of \$383,598.03. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

5.1 Konnections for Kids Elementary Counseling Grant

Stephanie Haugh, grant coordinator, shared information on the various programs provided through the grant. This is the third and final year of the \$660,000 Elementary Counseling Grant.

5.2 Review School Board Conference

Board members reported on the workshops they attended at the annual School Board Conference that was held in Chicago in November. Some of the topics included: Monitoring and Reporting, Dashboards, Geothermal Heating for Schools, and Science, Math, and Technology.

5.3 Discuss/finalize date to continue review of Board Self-Evaluation Results

The Board discussed possible dates for the next meeting with the representative from the School Board Association. Mr. Prusator will check with the representative to confirm a date in January or possibly February.

Notices and Communications

Mr. Prusator shared a letter from the Julia Hull District Library Board of Trustees thanking the Maintenance and Grounds crew for all of the work they have done to improve the quality of the library. Mr. Prusator also shared a letter from the counseling department at SVHS who expressed thanks for the new Counseling Center.

Community Input

There was no Community Input.

Old Business

8.1 Review/approve resolution for 2008 tax levy

Hearing no further comments regarding the tax levy, a motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to waive the reading of and approve the resolution providing for tax levies for the year 2008 in the amount of \$8,170,501. Ayes: Jagielski, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

8.2 Continue Review of Board Policy – Section 2

The Board continued to review Section 2 of the Board Policy.

8.3 Review/establish process to finalize District Dashboard

The Board formed a committee consisting of Mr. Glendenning, Mr. Larson, Mr. Steenken, Mr. Prusator and Mrs. Porter who will meet to provide a final recommendation for a district dashboard.

8.4 Review/approve the “Resolution Adopting Restatement and Amendment of Meridian CUSD #223 403(b) Plan”

The Board reviewed the recommendation for the District’s 403b plan, which is required by law. Mr. Prusator relayed that although the deadline has been extended one year to December 31, 2009, districts are required to abide by provisions of the law beginning January 1, 2009.

Motion:

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Bonne, to approve the “Resolution Adopting Restatement and Amendment of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 403(b) Retirement Plan” in substantially the form presented to the Board, subject to review by legal counsel. Ayes: Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

8.5 Review/approve SVHS new courses/revisions to existing courses for 2009-2010

Mr. Prusator requested that board members review the new courses and revisions and contact the administrators at SVHS or himself with any questions or comments before the next meeting on January 8, 2009.

New Business

9.1 Review changes to Intergovernmental Agreement with Julia Hull Library

Mr. Steenken reviewed the process involved and highlighted the changes to the Intergovernmental Agreement. The Board is to review the changes and it is anticipated that the Board will approve the changes at the January 8, 2009 meeting.

9.2 Review/approve bid for purchase of buildings and grounds vehicle

Mr. Prusator reviewed the bid process and rationale for the need for the new vehicle.

Motion:

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Jagielski, to award the bid for one new 2009 Ford Super Duty F350 4x4 Truck to Bryden Ford, Inc. for \$28,990.00. Ayes: Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Comments

There were no Board comments.

Adjourn to Closed Session

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Glendenning, to adjourn to closed session to discuss employment and semi-annual review of closed session minutes. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 9:20 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Bonne, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 10:20 p.m.

Board Action from Executive Session

Approve the minutes of the November 13, 2008 Executive Session

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2008 executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion on the minutes of the Executive Sessions between July 2008 through November 2008

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to approve suggested actions on executive session minutes dated July 17, 2008 through November 13, 2008 as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

Approve Personnel Report

A motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by Bonne, to approve the personnel report including the **employment** of Fezjije Asani, MJH 2nd shift custodian (replaces J. Vargas); Christine Horton, Highland individual aide (new position); Claudia Olsen, Highland individual aide (new position); Tammy Pierson, Highland individual student aide (new position); Renee Szymanski, Highland individual student aide (new position); Juan Vargas, maintenance and grounds worker, district (new position); Nicole Wiehle, MC kindergarten aide (replaces C. Davidson); Claire Winter, Highland kindergarten aide (new position); Angie Collins, Highland 1st grade teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Lisa Hilliard, Highland 2nd grade teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Kathy Mandzen, MC 3rd grade teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Teresa Eden, MC 4th grade teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Amy Metzger, MC 5th grade teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Joyce Wills, MC intervention teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Leslie Zoet, MJH 6th grade teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Tina Isaacs, MJH 7th grade teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Linda Kahle-Langston, MJH 8th grade teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Janet Hall, MJH intervention teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Mary Forbes, SVHS special education/counseling teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Sarah Hoovler, SVHS family and consumer science/PE/drivers education teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Ed Liegl, SVHS English teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Nina Lorbinenko, SVHS foreign language teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Michael Nielson, SVHS social science teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Michelle Rogers, SVHS science department teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Steve Stender, SVHS visual and performing arts teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Eric Swenson, SVHS mathematics department teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); John Vos, SVHS business/technology department teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new position); Jay Williams, SVHS agriculture/industrial arts teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (new

position). The personnel report also includes the **resignations** of James Burke, effective November 21, 2008 (district-technician); Angela Harrolle, effective December 2, 2008 (MC aide); and Viola LaForme, effective November 25, 2008 (district-bus driver). The personnel report also includes the **military leave** of Thomas Burke, effective September 29, 2008 until approximately November 2009 (district-technician).

Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary