

Meridian Community Board Minutes

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of March 19, 2009

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 Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High. Members present: Bonne, Jagielski, King, and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator, Director of Business/HR Porter, Principal Mandzen, and Director of Transportation Sherman were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

President Steenken spoke for a few minutes to recognize the loss of one of the district's former teachers, Larry Wesley. He expressed condolences on behalf of the Board.

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

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Bonne, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the February 26, 2009 board meeting and March 5, 2009 special board meeting; payroll of March 20, 2009 and April 3, 2009; accounts payable for March 2009 in the amount of \$338,012.67 per review by Reeverts; 2009-2010 district calendar; course of study for MJH social studies department; Meridian Junior High School textbook adoption for Social Studies and SVHS textbook adoption for Biology. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Prusator reviewed that most of the names are in for the focus group. He reminded board members to get their names in so invitation letters could go out.

Mr. Larson arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Notices and Communications

There were no Notices and Communications.

Community Input

There was no Community Input.

Old Business

8.1 Review/approve SVHS Geometry Textbook recommendation

Eric Swenson gave a power point presentation on the selection recommendation for the SVHS Geometry textbook. He explained the criteria that determined the selection. The geometry textbooks had been on display since the February 26, 2009 meeting.

Motion:

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the SVHS Geometry Textbook recommendation as presented. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

8.2 Establish date for School Board Organizational Meeting

Mr. Prusator reviewed that per policy, the board is required to establish a date at the March meeting for the organizational meeting that will be held following the April 7, 2009 school board election. Ogle and Winnebago counties are unable to complete the canvassing of the election results by April 9th. Therefore, the organizational meeting will be held on April 23, 2009 to seat new board members and elect officers.

Motion

A motion was made by Steenken, seconded by King, to set the School Board organizational meeting for April 23, 2009. Ayes: Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

8.3 Approve Meridian CUSD#223 Dashboard

Mr. Prusator gave a power point presentation on the sample drafts of the Meridian Dashboard which will provide the Board with a tool to monitor the district's progress.

8.4 Review Updated Demographic and Student Growth Projections to 2020

Mr. Prusator reviewed an Updated Demographic and Student Growth Projections to 2020 Report prepared by Joel Cowen. The School Board continues to track student enrollment and facility needs for the District. Mr. Prusator and the administrative team will begin developing facility options for the Board to consider.

8.5 Review Student Bus Ride Time

Transportation Director Sherman reviewed a report which provided additional information on the amount of time students are riding the buses, including shuttles. The routes and bus ride times will continue to be reviewed by the transportation department. The Board asked Director Sherman to make a recommendation for policy that might lead to decreasing student ride time.

8.6 Review Policy Customization Process

Mr. Prusator reviewed that the draft policy has been completed. The Board will now establish a process and timeline for scheduling editing sessions with the consultant from the Illinois Association of School Boards. A committee has been established to work through the editing process. The committee consists of Kevin Glendenning, Tim King, and Mr. Prusator.

New Business

9.1 Review Meridian CUSD #223 Maintenance Contract Renewal Process

Director of Buildings and Grounds reviewed the maintenance agreement with Honeywell. He also reviewed some recommended changes to the contract. Ms. Porter stated she would bring a recommendation for the contract to the board in May.

9.2 Review suggested changes to Policy 5:150 (Personnel Records)

Mr. Prusator reviewed that there was a concern about giving every employees' personal information to Gatekeeper, the District's third party administrator for the 403b plan, when employees had not chosen to participate. Randy Fruin spoke regarding this issue and made suggestions for changes to Policy 5:150 (Personnel Records) which included written notification to every employee before their personal information would be given out to any third party.

Board Comments

There were no Board Comments.

Adjourn to Closed Session

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Bonne, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the employment, compensation, performance, and evaluation of specific employees of the District; and individual student discipline cases. Ayes: King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 9:28 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 10:12 p.m.

Board Action from Executive Session

Approve the minutes of the February 26, 2009 and March 5, 2009 executive sessions

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Bonne, to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2009 and March 5, 2009 executive sessions. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Report

A motion was made by King, seconded by Reeverts, to approve the Personnel Report including the employment of Cynthia Brown, noon hour aide (MC-replaces T. Pierson); Karen Hall, permanent district substitute (District-replaces K. Sturtevant); Dawn Kruger, kindergarten teacher leader for the 2008-2009 school year (MC-new position); Val Slack, noon hour aide (MC-replaces C. Winter). The Personnel Report included the medical leaves of Janet Hake, effective March 16, 2009 until approximately March 28, 2009 (Highland-cook); Sue Miller, effective February 25, 2009 until approximately March 25, 2009 (Transportation-bus driver); and Tamara Wood, effective March 5, 2009 until approximately April 20, 2009 (SVHS-math teacher). The Personnel Report also included the retirements of Cindy Lewis, effective end of 2012-1013 school year (MC-reading teacher); Linda Kahle-Langston, effective end of 2012-2013

school year (MJH-physical education); Nina Lorbinenko, effective end of 2012-2013 school year (SVHS-French teacher); and Carla Miller, effective end of 2012-2013 school year (MJH-Guidance Counselor). Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Steenken, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary