

Meridian Community Board Minutes

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of May 14, 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 Monroe Center Gym. Members present: Glendenning, Larson, Mellon, Pierce, and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator was also present.

Swearing in and Oath of Office for Mr. Tim Jagielski

Mr. Steenken led the Swearing In and Oath of Office to Tim Jagielski who was appointed to fill the seat vacated by Tim King which expires in 2011.

Mr. Jagielski took his seat as a member of the board at 7:03 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Steenken, seconded by Mellon, to remove item 5.4 approve accounts payable for May 2009 from the consent agenda. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson, Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

The bills will be reviewed for the next board meeting on May 28, 2009.

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the consent agenda, with the exception of item 5.4, including the minutes of the April 23, 2009 board meeting; minutes of the May 7, 2009 special board meeting; payroll of May 15, 2009 and Catastrophic Insurance renewal for 2009-2010. Ayes: Jagielski, Larson, Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

6.1 Review of May 13, 2009 meeting with township and municipal representatives

Mr. Prusator reviewed the meeting he and several Board Members (Mr. Steenken, Mrs. Reeverts, Mr. Glendenning and Mr. Mellon) had with township and municipal representatives on May 13, 2009 to discuss the Byron pre-annexation issue and to plan and prepare for future residential development within the district. He reviewed the next steps to be taken by the district which is to contact the new Byron mayor. Additionally, a meeting will be scheduled with representatives from the District's municipalities to begin the process to evaluate developer fees with the goal of having fees be uniform.

6.2 Online Student Registration for 2009-2010

Mr. Prusator reviewed that the District is utilizing online registration for the first time for the 2009-2010 school year. He stated the goal was to increase convenience for parents/guardians and efficiency for the District. He provided a brief demonstration of the online registration.

Notices and Communications

Mr. Prusator relayed that he received correspondence from the State Board notifying that the district has received financial recognition status for FY08. Mr. Prusator also read a note from Deb Bonne thanking the Board for the plaque and pin she received in appreciation for her years of service on the Board.

Community Input

There was no Community Input.

Old Business

9.1 Presentation of Pre-K through 12 Guidance Program

The counseling team consisting of Susan Winter, Donna Mogge, Stephanie Haugh, Noelle Herzel, Marygrace Sinclair and Linda Marini (Carla Miller could not attend) gave a power point presentation on the Pre-K through 12 Guidance Program. The presentation focused on the components of a plan highlighting topics such as Rationale for Counselors; Student Goals and Outcomes; Parent Programming, Outreach and Outcomes; and Assessment/Students and Counselor. Board members followed up with questions and comments.

9.2 Review SVHS Eligibility (2nd year of three year phase-in)

Mr. Prusator reviewed an Eligibility Policy Summary Sheet which provided an overview of the status of the policy which will be entering the final year of implementation in the 2009-2010 school year. Mr. Prusator reviewed the data that a committee had been reviewing throughout the year. Mr. Prusator also reviewed a summary issues/concerns that were discussed throughout the year by the committee, which was composed of Board Members, Administrators and SVHS Coaches and Advisors.

9.3 Review Transportation Vehicle recommendation for 2009-2010

Director of Transportation Sherman reviewed that the purchase of any new 77 passenger buses was tabled due to the uncertainty of the funding of the state transportation reimbursement and the continued development of routing for the 2009-2010 school year with the implementation of VersaTrans. Mr. Sherman is recommending the purchase of one new 14 passenger activity bus from Midwest Transit Equipment for \$41,394.00 which would reduce costs in transporting students for extracurricular activities.

Motion:

A motion was made by Pierce, seconded by Reeverts, to award the bid for one new 14 passenger activity bus to Midwest Transit Equipment in the amount of \$41,394.00. Ayes: Larson, Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts, Glendenning, Jagielski and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

9.4 Review/Finalize Board Committee/Agency Responsibilities and Assignments

The Board reviewed the responsibilities and meeting dates/times of several committees which were left open from the April 23, 2009 meeting. The Board was waiting to complete the assignments until the vacant seat on the Board was filled. The assignments to the various committees are as follows: Delegate to IASB – Mellon; OCEC – Pierce; Meridian Free/Reduced Lunch Program – Pierce; SVEA/Board Insurance Committee – Jagielski; District Sick Leave Bank Committee – Reeverts; Joint Library Committee – Steenken, Reeverts, and Larson; Interest Based Problem Solving Committee – Steenken, Larson, Glendenning (others if IBBPS trained); Board Policy Committee – Steenken, Glendenning, and Larson; and Finance Committee- TBA.

New Business

10.1 Review SVHS Parent-Student Handbook Recommendations for 2009-2010

Mr. Voltz reviewed the recommended changes to the SVHS Parent-Student Handbook. A committee consisting of Mr. Voltz, teachers, parents and students met to review the suggested changes. Mr. Voltz and the Board discussed the language on the cell phone handbook language relative to Board Policy language. Approval will be considered at the May 28, 2009 meeting.

10.2 Review/place on display budget amendment for FY09

This item was tabled and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Board Comments

Mr. Pierce requested that the Board consider discussing the transportation department at a future meeting. Prior to that, Mr. Pierce and Mr. Mellon will meet with Mr. Prusator, Ms. Porter, and Mr. Sherman to review previous transportation department information shared with the Board during the past year. Mr. Steenken suggested putting the topic on the agenda of a future board meeting. Also Mr. Jagielski thanked the Board for the privilege of serving for the next two years in the seat vacated by Mr. Tim King.

Adjourn to closed session

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Larson, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the district; and collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or representatives; and student disciplinary cases. Ayes: Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts, Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 11:20 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session

A motion was made by Pierce, seconded by Glendenning, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 12:20 p.m.

Board Action from Executive Session

Approve the minutes from the April 23, 2009 and May 7, 2009 closed sessions

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Mellon, to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2009 and May 7, 2009 closed sessions. Ayes: Reeverts, Glendenning, Larson, Mellon, Pierce and Steenken. Abstain: Jagielski. Motion carried.

Personnel Report

A motion was made by Mellon, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the personnel report including the **employment** of Eric Swensen as an assistant high school track coach for the 2008-2009 school year (SVHS-new position); **medical leave** of Sally Gehrke, effective May 13, 2009 until approximately June 24, 2009 (district-payroll clerk); **resignations** of Tara Elder, effective May 1, 2009 (Highland-cashier) and Christine Horton, effective April 8, 2009 (Highland-individual aide); and **dismissal** of Diana Bandy, effective April 29, 2009. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, Larson, Mellon, Pierce, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary