

# **Meridian Community Board Minutes**

## **Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of May 26, 2011**

### **Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by President Bruce Larson at 7:00 p.m. in the Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High. Members present: Flynn, Glendenning, Mellon, Pierce, Smith and Steenken. Superintendent Prusator and District Administrator of Business/HR Porter were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

### **Approve Agenda**

A motion was made by Mellon, seconded by Flynn, to approve the agenda. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Steenken, seconded by Smith, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the May 12, 2011 meeting; accounts payable for May 2011; and payroll of May 27, 2011. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Notices and Communications**

There were no Notices and Communications.

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **College and Career Readiness Report**

Cheryl Metcalf gave a power point presentation on College and Career Readiness highlighting the three components of Life and Career Skills, Common Core Standards, and Career Clusters.

#### **Update on Illinois Education Reform**

Mr. Prusator provided a brief summary of pending reform in Illinois.

#### **Washington Post's Challenge Index**

Mr. Prusator relayed that Stillman Valley High School was ranked as one of the top 2000 schools in the nation as determined by the Washington Post High School Challenge. The Challenge calculates the number of Advanced Placement tests given divided by the number of graduates.

#### **Illinois Principal Association**

Mr. Prusator relayed that Mr. Mandzen was named Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principal Association Northwest Region.

### **Student Advisory Report**

Kayla Acton and Paxton Abbott gave the Student Advisory Report expressing their ideas on weighted grades and Latin Honors.

### **Community Input**

There was no Community Input.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Review/approve recommended School Board policies (placed on display at May 12, 2011 meeting)**

Policy recommendations provided by the Policy Committee relating to the Student Advisory Council, employee identity protection, and changes in school code were put on display at the May 12, 2011 meeting.

#### **Motion:**

A motion was made by Mellon, seconded by Flynn, to approve the recommended School Board policies that were placed on display on May 12, 2011. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Review/consider approving transition to 4.0 grade point system at Stillman Valley High School**

Mr. Prusator recommends the transition to a 4.0 grade point scale at SVHS beginning with incoming freshmen and continuing for each subsequent class and, if adequate conversion can be made, for the existing high school students also.

#### **Motion:**

A motion was made by Mellon, seconded by Pierce, to approve the 4.0 grade point system for incoming freshman. Discussion followed.

#### **Amended Motion:**

An amended motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by Steenken, to approve the 4.0 grade point system, do the conversion for all students at SVHS and if it doesn't affect the class rank, convert all the students. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Review status of weighted grades at Stillman Valley High School**

Mr. Prusator provided a brief update on the status of implementing weighted grades at SVHS.

#### **Review draft of SVHS Coaches Handbook**

Mr. Prusator relayed that coaches and legal council continue to look at the draft of the SVHS Coaches Handbook.

## **New Business**

### **Presentation on recommendations for football complex seating**

Steve Stewart and Jon Mickle gave a power point presentation on concerns regarding seating at the football complex and potential resolutions. The consensus of the Board was to move forward with a system to sell reserved tickets for home games with receipts being used to finance additional bleacher seating for multiple sports. The Meridian Athletic Booster Club will also assist in the bleacher expansion project.

### **Review board training requirements under Senate Bill 7**

Mr. Larson reviewed some of the training requirements for board members under Senate Bill 7.

## **Board Comments**

Dr. Flynn commented that he thinks that caps should be put on the bleachers.

## **Adjourn to Closed Session**

A motion was made by Steenken, seconded by Mellon, to adjourn to closed session to discuss information regarding appointment, employment or dismissal of an employee, collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or representatives or deliberations about salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and litigation. Ayes: Steenken, Flynn, Glendenning, Mellon, Pierce, Smith and Larson. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 9:12 p.m.

## **Reconvene in Open Session**

A motion was made by Steenken, seconded by Pierce, to return to open session. Ayes: Flynn, Glendenning, Mellon, Pierce, Smith, Steenken and Larson. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 10:43 p.m.

## **Board Action from Closed Session**

### **Approve the minutes of the May 12, 2011 closed session**

A motion was made by Pierce, seconded by Mellon, to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2011 closed session. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Personnel Report**

A motion was made by Pierce, seconded by Flynn, to approve the Personnel Report including the **employment** of Angie Palmer, as the High School Freshman Class Advisor for the 2011-2012 school year (SVHS-replaces Sara Hoovler); Sara Hoovler, as the High School Junior Class Advisor for the 2011-2012 school year (SVHS-replaces Robin Lyons); Mike Kusek, as the High School Assistant Football Coach for the 2011-2012 school year (SVHS-replaces Scott Rempfer); and Audra Carlson, as a Math Teacher for the 2011-2012 school year (SVHS-replaces Joe Blume). The Personnel Report also includes the **resignations** of Scott Rempfer, effective at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, as the Assistant High School Football Coach (SVHS); Colleen

Yarbrough, effective May 31, 2011, as the Dispatcher for Transportation (Transportation); and Jennifer Wedig, effective at the end of the 2010-2-11 school year as the Sophomore Volleyball Coach (SVHS); and the **leave** of Thomas Burke, on leave of absence for Military Service, beginning June 4, 2011 and ending on June 18, 2011 (District Technician). Ayes: Mellon, Pierce, Smith, Steenken, Flynn, Glendenning and Larson. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjourn**

A motion was made by Mellon, seconded by Flynn, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: All. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Fruin, Secretary