

Meridian Community Board Minutes  
April 19, 2007  
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of March 22, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by Vice President Barb Reeverts at 6:02 p.m. in the Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High School. Members present: Bonne, Glendenning, Janes, and Jagielski (via telephone). Superintendent Prusator, Principals Coulahan, Mandzen and Zurko, Asst. Principal Showers, and Athletic Director Stewart were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Janes, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the March 8, 2007 regular board meeting and the payroll of April 5, 2007. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, Janes and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator reminded the board about the special board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 4, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. for the Targeting Achievement through Governance (TAG) session. He also commented on the Annual State Report Cards. He stated that they contain a lot of information about our district. He shared the scores at the Community Meetings; and stated the district is committed to improving scores to reach the goal of being in the top 10% of schools.

Mr. Larson arrived at 6:11 p.m.

Mr. Coulahan reported that the vision tests were completed at Highland. Preschool screenings have begun. Two have been completed with one more to go. Highland also registered the biggest kindergarten class (95 students) for next year.

Mr. Zurko reported that Monroe Center School has had a productive third quarter. MC has been focusing on the initial implementations of Professional Learning Communities. This team process has worked well this year and look forward to advancing with the Professional Learning Communities in the future. The elementary counselors and the programs provided by the grant have shown tremendous success among students. The grant has provided the students with many positive opportunities such as The Second Step Program, Character Education, homework club, sign language club, art club, music club, healthy living club, chess club, etc. The discipline committee has been working very hard this semester. A behavior matrix has been developed that addresses positive expectations in all realms of the school. ISAT testing has been completed. Academically, MC School strives to consistently build on student learning and success.

Mrs. Showers reported that ISAT and IMAGE exams were completed last week. The students seemed well prepared and positive throughout the week of testing. Mrs. Showers is very pleased to announce that a record high of sixteen 8<sup>th</sup> grade students earned honor roll status for five semesters during their junior high career. She also publicly wanted to recognize Linda Kahle-Langston's recent success as a recipient of a \$15,000 Best Buy Grant. Her vision for the health and well-being of students is incredible. Mrs. Showers also reported that MJH is looking to move special education to more of an inclusion style beginning in the 2007-2008 school year.

Mr. Mandzen expressed congratulations to Mr. Owen, Mrs. Haas, Aaron Ray and all the participants in the musical "Mame" for another great production. The Dance Committee has met twice to review appropriate dance behavior and procedures for all school dances. They are currently trying to organize a swing dance group that will offer lessons after school hours. Twenty-eight students are leaving for France today. A PSAE meeting with all juniors will be held Friday morning. Five students will be leaving for Champaign next Friday to compete for their state degree. The registration process is well underway for the 2007-2008 school year. Mr. Mandzen thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to attend the Professional Learning Community Summit in Arizona last month.

Under Notices and Communications, Mr. Prusator stated that he received certificates from the Illinois State Board of Education indicating that each of the district's four buildings were fully recognized for the 2006-2007 School Year. For the first time in many years, the district also received a certificate.

There was no Community Input.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed the copier bids. His recommendation was to accept the three-year contract with Gordon Flesch for Option 2.

The phone connection with Mr. Jagielski was disrupted at 6:33 p.m.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Bonne, to approve the three-year copier contract with Gordon Flesch for Option 2 as presented. Ayes: Glendenning, Janes, Larson, Bonne and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no New Business.

Under Board Comments, Mr. Larson commented on the importance of testing, such as the PSAE, and how it helps students prepare for other tests they may take for possible employment.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Larson, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the district. Ayes: Janes, Larson, Bonne, Glendenning and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 6:50 p.m.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Larson, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 7:54 p.m.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Bonne, to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2007 executive session. Ayes: Larson, Bonne, Glendenning, Janes, and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Glendenning, to accept the resignation of Tim Bukoski, SVHS head girls' basketball coach; Jackelyn Schumacher, Highland EC, and Arlene Cook, MJH art teacher. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Janes, Larson, and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Janes, to hire Heather Alderks, SVHS head girls' basketball coach. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Janes, Larson and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by Janes, to continue employment of tenured certified teachers per list. Ayes: Glendenning, Janes, Larson, Bonne and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Reeverts, to continue employment of tenured part-time certified staff. Ayes: Janes, Larson, Bonne, Glendenning and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Janes, seconded by Larson, to move fourth year teachers to tenured status per list; to approve employment of third year teachers for fourth year probationary status for 2007-2008 per list; to approve employment of second year teachers for third year probationary status for 2007-2008 per list; and to approve employment of first year teachers for second year probationary status for 2007-2008 per list. Ayes: Larson, Bonne, Glendenning, Janes and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Larson, to approve employment of first year teacher for probationary status for 2007-2008. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Janes, Larson and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Reeverts, to approve employment of part-time, non-tenured teachers for 2007-2008 per list. Ayes: Glendenning, Janes, Larson, Bonne and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Glendenning, to adopt resolution for non-reemployment of first year probationary teacher. Ayes: Glendenning, Janes, Larson, Bonne and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Janes, to adopt resolution for dismissal of fourth year probationary teacher for reduction in force reasons. Ayes: Janes, Larson, Bonne, Glendenning and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Janes, to accept the winter head coaches evaluations as presented. Ayes: Larson, Bonne, Glendenning, Janes and Reeverts. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Fruin, Secretary