

Meridian Community Board Minutes
October 25, 2007
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of October 10, 2007

Call to Order and Roll Call

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 School. Members present: Bonne, Jagielski, King, Larson, and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator and Director of Business/HR Porter were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Bonne, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the September 27, 2007 board meeting; payroll of October 19, 2007; and accounts payable for October 2007 per review by Mrs. Bonne. Ayes: Bonne, Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

- Mr. Prusator reviewed the Annual Fall Enrollment and Housing Report that shows enrollment on 9/30/07. He also reviewed an Enrollment by Grade Level Report. These figures showed a total district enrollment of 1951 which is a decrease of 4 students and a -.1% decrease from 9/30/06. Mr. Prusator will provide updates on the student numbers periodically throughout the school year.
- Mr. Prusator presented a Skyward Family Access Demonstration. Jayce Bolhous was present to answer technology questions. Mr. Prusator stated that beginning with the second quarter, parents and students would have direct access to student information through the district's web page. The technology department, principals and teachers have made a significant commitment to make this communications feature available.

Mr. Glendenning arrived at 7:08 p.m. at the beginning of the demonstration.

- Mr. Prusator presented a PowerPoint overview of the 2006 ISAT and PSAE results in the areas of reading, math, and science. Mr. Prusator said the building principals would go into further detail during the school improvement presentations which are scheduled for the November 8, 2007 School Board meeting.

Building Principal's Report

There were no building principal reports, however, an Activities Report was provided at board members' seats.

Notices and Communication

Under Notices and Communications, Mr. Prusator shared the preview from the Illinois Association of School Boards regarding the Fall Conference.

Community Input

There was no Community Input.

Old Business

▪ 8.1 Approve Phase II Purchase of Security Cameras for Stillman Valley High School

Mr. Prusator reviewed the first phase of the camera security system at SVHS that was installed last school year and the benefits from implementing the system. He then reviewed the components of the second phase of the project. Discussion followed. Mr. Prusator recommended the purchase of the second phase of the camera security system from Freeport Communications for \$22, 440.68.

Motion: A motion was made by King, seconded by Jagielski, to approve Phase II purchase of security cameras for Stillman Valley High School as presented. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

▪ 8.2 Approval of Request for Services Criteria for Facility Project

Mr. Steenken led discussion on the Request for Services criteria for the Facility Project. He reviewed the Request for Statement of Interest and Qualifications document, which included seeking a facilitator who would work with the School Board throughout the facility process to provide a recommendation that can be accepted as the best solution. Discussion followed which included the need to bring essential facility information to the process in order for the School Board to accomplish the goal.

Motion: A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to approve Request for Services criteria for the Facility Project. Ayes: Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

▪ 9.1 Preliminary review of health/dental/life insurance bid for 2007-2008; final recommendation will be made at October 25, 2007 board meeting

Mrs. Porter reviewed the health insurance bid for 2007-2008. She stated that a lot of carriers declined to bid because of uncompetitive rates/insufficient network/reduced benefits. Mrs. Porter recommends staying with Blue Cross Blue Shield at a 5.26% renewal rate. The final recommendation will be made at the October 25, 2007 board meeting.

Board Comments

Under Board Comments, Mr. Larson commented on the Work Force Investment Board's process to establish better qualified workers to the labor force.

Adjourn to Executive Session

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Glendenning, to adjourn to executive session to consider information regarding appointment, employment, performance or dismissal of an employee, or other stated exceptions to the Open Meeting Act. Ayes: King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 8:50 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session

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

Approve the minutes of the August 23, 2007 and September 12, 2007 Executive Sessions

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Glendenning, to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2007 executive session and the September 12, 2007 executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

Approve Personnel Report

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the personnel report including the **employment** of: Michelle McDevitt, Highland individual aide; Danielle Ducey, Highland individual aide (replacing M. Jones); Claire Winter, Highland noon supervisor (replacing G. Person); Nancy Schabacker, Highland individual aide; Tammy Pierson, Highland noon supervisor (replacing L. Nyman); Gina Person, Highland dishwasher (replacing N. Schabacker); Melanie Vidlak, Highland 2nd grade teacher (replacing R. Ledger); Trudy Hoey, MJH special education classroom aide; Ana Luisa Dominguez, MJH bilingual aide (grant funded); Cindy Fisher, SVHS lunch cashier (replacing V. Hilliard); Lisa Reber as Director of Food Service; Jaime McCarty, MJH assistant 6th grade volleyball coach (replacing K. Benesh); Janet Hall, MJH assistant 7th grade volleyball coach; Brent Hall, MJH assistant 8th grade volleyball coach; Dirk Palmer as the SVHS Fall Play Director; and Cathy Murphy, SVHS sophomore girls basketball coach (replacing S. O'Hare). The personnel report includes the **resignations** of: Jesus Vargas, MJH 2nd shift custodian; Juan Vargas, MJH 2nd shift custodian; Mary Ann Goley, MC head cook; Rhonda Ledger, Highland 2nd grade teacher; Dan Swanson, SVHS Spanish teacher; and Linda Kahle-Langston, MJH 7th grade girls basketball coach. The personnel report also includes the **retirements** of: Jean Welker, Highland 1st grade teacher, effective at the end of 2010-2011 school year and Diane Griffith, Highland 2nd grade teacher, effective at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary