

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of October 23, 2008

Call to Order and Roll Call

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community 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, Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Larson and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator, Director of Business/HR Porter and Technology Director Bolhous were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by King, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the October 9, 2008 board meeting; payroll for October 31, 2008; accounts payable for October in the amount of \$519,331.27 per review by Mr. King; and the Health/Dental/and Life Insurance renewal for 2008-2009. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Prusator presented a power point summary of the 2008 ISAT and PSAE results in the areas of reading, math and science. He also shared a Unit District Comparison Group report.

Notices and Communications

There were no notices and communications.

Community Input

Kathy Owen thanked Mr. Steenken and Mr. Glendenning for attending the Illinois Education Association roundtable.

Old Business

8.1 Review 2008 State Report Card Data

The School Board reviewed the 2008 School Report Card. Discussion followed regarding District demographic, instructional and financial information. The 2008 School Report Card is posted on the district web site.

8.2 Review/approve Fiber Optic installation

At the October 9, 2008 board meeting, Director of Technology Bolhous reviewed the district's option to increase bandwidth to meet the instructional and operational needs of the district. The recommendation by the administration is to move forward with the fiber optic installation with Comcast for the 2008-2009 school year at an approximately one-time cost of \$65,000 and monthly charges of \$995.00 for 5 years.

Motion:

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to approve the fiber optic installation with Comcast at a one-time cost of \$65,000 and monthly cost of \$995 for five years. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

8.3 Review/possibly approve modification to teacher leader (facilitator) structure

The School Board reviewed and discussed the recently completed joint project with the Stillman Valley Education Association to modify the organizational structure to promote increased student achievement and communication. The Interest Based Problem Solving Committee's recommendation included job description, selection/evaluation process and compensation.

Motion:

A motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the modification to the teacher leader (facilitator) structure as presented. Ayes: Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

8.4 Review Community Focus Group Session conducted on October 20, 2008

Board members discussed the community feedback from the Focus Group Session held on October 20, 2008. Community feedback will be used in the development of priorities for the District.

New Business

9.1 Preliminary discussion of 2008 Levy for 2008 taxes due June/September 2009.

The Board reviewed preliminary Equalized Assessed Valuation figures and potential tax rates as part of the process to determine the 2008 tax levy. A Tax Levy and Truth in Taxation Timeline for the 2008 Levy were also reviewed. The levy hearing will take place on December 18, 2008 at 6:45 p.m. at Highland School.

Board Comments

Mrs. Reeverts commented that she attended the Julia Hull Library Open House and stated it was very nice. Mr. Jagielski appreciated the striping of the SVHS parking lot.

Closed Session

There was no Closed Session.

Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary

