

Meridian Community Board Minutes
October 10, 2007
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of the FY08 Budget Hearing of September 27, 2007

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the Meridian Community Unit District #223 was called to order by President Ron Steenken at 7:00 p.m. on September 27, 2007 in the Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High School for the purpose of the FY08 Budget Hearing. Members present: Jagielski, King, Larson and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator and Director of Business/HR Porter were also present.

Mrs. Bonne arrived after roll call at 7:01 p.m.

Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed the FY08 Budget Summary.

Mr. Steenken invited questions and comments regarding the budget.

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Reeverts to adjourn the FY08 Budget Hearing. Ayes: Bonne, Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of September 27, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by President Ron Steenken at 7:05 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 were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Bonne, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the September 8, 2007 special board meeting and the September 12, 2007 regular board meeting; payroll of October 5, 2007; and calendar waiver application (waiver hearing was conducted on 9/12/2007). Ayes: Jagielski, King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prusator introduced and welcomed Jon Mickel, new Director of Buildings and Grounds.

Bev Rutledge, project coordinator for the Emergency Response/Crisis Management Grant, presented an update on the grant and the crisis plans being developed by each building. Ms. Rutledge shared four stages of the grant: prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. Ms. Rutledge invited questions. Discussion followed. Ms. Rutledge shared that her job on the grant will be completed this spring.

There were no building principal reports.

There were no Notices and Communications.

Under Community Input, Annalisa Bertsch of the FFA invited board members to attend the National Convention in Indianapolis. John Vos shared that he was involved in an Illinois Education Association round table discussion regarding Interest Based Bargaining and that the recent success of the negotiations between the SVEA and Meridian School Board. He thanked Mr. Larson for attending the round table.

Mr. Glendenning arrived at 7:40 p.m.

A motion was made by King, seconded by Jagielski, to adopt the FY08 Budget as presented. Ayes: King, Larson, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Steenken reviewed the status of the Long Range Planning and Facility project. Mr. Steenken suggested that because of a lack of unity among School Board members regarding the direction of the facility project, it might be appropriate to put the project on hold and establish a new time line with a consideration for a process that would include additional information and resources. Mr. Steenken also stated that the district's minimal enrollment increase from last year provides additional time to study the facility process. Extensive discussion followed which included support for extending the timeline and establishing an appropriate process for moving ahead. Mr. Jagielski suggested that the district should make every effort to improve areas identified by the Facilities Committee as needing improvement through current available resources. Discussion also included utilizing the services of an outside agency to assist in moving through the next phase of the facility needs process.

Mr. Prusator stated that the latest PRESS board policy changes for 2007-2008 were ready for review. Mr. Glendenning and Mr. Jagielski are currently on the policy committee to review the changes. Mr. Jagielski asked to be released from the policy committee due to his work load and other board commitments. Mr. King is willing to take his place. Mr. Glendenning and Mr. King will decide on a date for the committee meeting.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary