

**MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting, May 19, 2009**

**MINUTES**

The Board of School Trustees of the Monroe County Community School Corporation met in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, in the Large Group Room at Bloomington High School South, 1965 S. Walnut Street, Bloomington.

Board members present:

Jeannine Butler	President
Valerie Merriam	Vice President
Vicki Streiff	Secretary
John Hamilton	Assistant Secretary
Jim Muehling	Member
Lois Sabo-Skelton	Member
Sue Wanzer	Member

Also present:

Timothy F. Hyland	Superintendent of Schools
Tim Thrasher	Comptroller
Peggy Chambers	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Personnel
Mike Scherer	Director of Extended Services
Kathleen Hugo	Director of Special Education
Mary Lovejoy	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Karen Portle	Director of Information Services
Deb Prenkert	Coordinator of Title I
Michael Shipman	Director of School Operations and Assessment
Ed Brown	Director of Hoosier Hills Career Center
Tina Peterson	Executive Director, Foundation of MCCS
Beverly Elkins	Secretary, Social Services Department

In addition to the above, 6 citizens signed the visitor list (which is included as a part of the official record of this meeting), H-T reporter Brady Gillihan, and two representatives of Bloomington Community Access TV were present.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

President of the Board, Jeannine Butler, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. **FACES OF EDUCATION**

Dr. Butler explained that at every Board meeting an employee or volunteer is recognized for outstanding accomplishments. She introduced Debra "Deb" Woodward who serves the Monroe County Community School Corporation as the Senior Applications Technician in the Information Services Department. She was nominated by her colleague, Donna Clemens, the secretary for Information Services and a former "Faces of Education" honoree.

Joining MCCSC in 1990, Deb began her career as the secretary for Binford Elementary School before transferring to the Information Services Department in 1998. Her current duties require her to be an instrumental part of the implementation and training of staff for all aspects of Skyward (the MCCSC database system). She is always willing to serve as a resource for information in that regard. Above that, her answers are delivered with a special blend of honesty, accuracy, kindness and humor.

Deb is truly a “go-to-person in the corporation,” Donna said. She is in communication with Skyward staff, teachers and support staff employees, as well as school administrators on a daily basis. Deb also is responsible for submitting, and updating several Department of Education reports. The accuracy of this information requires constant collaboration. In addition, Deb keeps abreast of Skyward updates and is a member of the Skyward Steering Committee, comprised of 17 different school districts.

Deb’s giving personality does not stop at 5 p.m., when her school day is done. If she hears of an employee going through trying times, she will be among the first to help and organize others to participate. She is also involved in Tri-Kappa, an Indiana philanthropic sorority. Deb and her sorority sisters have been strong advocates for education. As a result, MCCSC has been the recipient of several Tri-Kappa donations.

Moreover, Donna added that she stands amazed at how Deb manages to get everything done. “Deb’s dedication to work and understanding personality has been a shining example for me and other employees to follow,” she said.

Deb Woodward, your 19 years of service are greatly appreciated. Thank you for blazing a trail of kindness and generosity for all of MCCSC to follow. Congratulations!

3. **FAIRVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Violin Presentation**

Directed by Brenda Brenner, a half dozen first-graders from Fairview Elementary gave an outstanding presentation showcasing their violin accomplishments of this past year. These students were a part of the newest arts project at the school that just completed its inaugural year. It is the goal of Ms. Brenner and the school’s administration to open up this opportunity to second and third graders in the future.

4. **PUBLIC DIALOGUE**

Dr. Butler opened the floor for dialogue from the public. Several citizens from the Templeton community were present and spoke to the Board and others present. They were present to express their displeasure about the internal transfer of Michael Shipman, Director of School Operations and Assessment to Principal of Templeton for the 2009-2010 school year.

Brian Winterman spoke several times to express that he felt that there had been a complete lack of transparency in the hiring process of Michael Shipman as the new principal of Templeton. He said that based upon his review of the hiring of persons for other positions that there has been no violation of policy, but is upset that the Board excluded parents and teachers in the hiring process. He expressed that he felt that Templeton needed a full selection process, and the only way for this to happen is to go back and reopen the process. He feels that trust needs to be restored and that this is the only way for that to happen.

Dr. Butler stated that incoming Superintendent Coopman, and the School Board felt that an administrative transfer was in the best interest of everyone.

Anna Lynch, a Templeton parent, said she felt the same as Brian Winterman, that she and others who were a part of a search committee made up of parents, and Templeton faculty and staff, were not given the opportunity for any input in the decision-making process.

Others who spoke to the Board and audience were Tim Moore and Jim Lynch who both supported the opinions of Brian Winterman and Anna Lynch.

Brian Winterman asked the Board why there was not any input from parents at Templeton.

Ms. Merriam responded to Mr. Winterman that there are personnel issues that cannot be discussed.

Ms. Wanzer explained that she understands that people's feelings are hurt. However, this was an issue of timing and the decision involved much more than just Templeton as far as the hiring process and the total reorganization was concerned.

Barbara Schwegman, a teacher at Templeton, stated that she felt that she has no faith or trust in the School Board, and that moving forward and onward will take a lot of work on the part of the Board.

Dr. Hyland then said that Dr. Coopman intends to work to make the Templeton situation work.

Tim Gallagher, teacher, asked if there was a retreat that included Dr. Coopman.

Dr. Butler indicated that a retreat had been held earlier in the year that included Dr. Coopman, Dr. Hyland, and the Board of School Trustees. The retreat was to set goals for Dr. Coopman's first year and was facilitated by Dr. Ron Barnes. It was an executive session and so therefore no members of the public were invited nor were eligible to attend.

Ms. Wagner, PTO President, said that there is a diversity at Templeton unlike any other in the school system. She asked the Board to realize that the Templeton parents are compassionate people, and asked the Board to accept the passion and caring of the parents.

Dr. Butler said that the hope of the Board is that the parents will support Mr. Shipman as principal.

John Hamilton, board member, said that personnel decisions are made for many reasons. He feels that the process should be looked at and made better. He also said that the Board wants to work with the Templeton community and will be open to suggestions.

5. **Foundation of MCCS**

Ms. Tina Peterson was present and highlighted several accomplishments of the Foundation.

- 30 scholarships have been given to students
- New award this year founded by the Bloomington Rotary:
  - Rotary bought books for the middle schools and an award will be given to two middle school students for their reading efforts.
- Dancing with the Celebrities will be held in the upcoming weekend.
- Donations are being accepted for the "Thank-A-Teacher" program sponsored by the Foundation. Anyone can thank a teacher or any other school system employee by completing a form along with a \$15 donation for each person you want to recognize.

6. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

Dr. Hyland reported that the Legislature is still in a holding pattern. No new items to report on.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Dr. Butler asked for corrections to the minutes of May 5, 2009. Mr. Hamilton pointed out that there were 18 teams that participated in the chess tournament rather than the reported eight.
- b. Dr. Butler called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda: (a) donations, ECA expenditures, field trip requests, disposal of surplus; (b) Financial Report; and (c) Allowance of Claims. Ms. Merriam so moved. Dr. Sabo-Skelton seconded the motion. Dr. Hyland reviewed donations received. Following a time for discussion, Board members voted on the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Aye: Hamilton, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer. Dr. Butler abstained. Motion carried.

8. **CONTRACTS**

Mr. Thrasher presented contracts for approval as proposed: (a) Best Buy – Business Advantage Account, MCCSC; (b) Bloomington Digital Gateway – Telecom Contract, Broadview Adult Learning Center; (c) Interstate Portrait Studio – School Pictures 2009-10, Childs Elementary; (d) Interstate Portrait Studio – School Pictures 2009-10, Lakeview Elementary; (e) Paragon Promotions – Fall Fundraiser 2009, Grandview Elementary; (f) Statewide Credit Association, Inc. – Collection Agency for past due Book bills, MCCSC; (g) Star Autism Contract – Training on June 29-30, 2009, MCCSC.

Kathleen Hugo, Director of Special Education, was present and spoke on behalf of the STAR Autism Program. She said that participants will learn the techniques of discrete trial training, pivotal response training and teaching functional routines. The STAR Autism Program has been used to provide intensive instruction in critical skills for children with autism in both self-contained programs and inclusive education programs. The program provides a structure that allows teachers to implement instruction throughout the child's day through typical school routines and provides techniques to teach the child in short 1:1 instructional sessions.

Dr. Sabo-Skelton moved approval of the contracts as recommended. Ms. Wanzer seconded the motion. Aye: Butler, Hamilton, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, and Wanzer. Motion carried.

9. **PERSONNEL REPORT**

Peggy Chambers recommended that the teaching contracts of 22 nonpermanent teachers not be renewed to make room for returning teachers, and based on the impact that the economy has had as far as employees staying in their current positions. She said there has been less movement.

Ms. Chambers recommended approval of the Personnel Report as submitted. Ms. Wanzer so moved. Dr. Butler seconded the motion.

Board members voted on the motion to approve the Personnel Report as submitted. Aye: Butler, Hamilton, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. Motion carried.

10. **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

Dr. Hyland explained to the Board some minor changes on the organizational chart.

Under the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction/Director of Secondary Education will now be Youth Outreach and ATS. Under the Director of Student Services will be Social Workers, Safe &

Drug Free Schools, and Director of Health Services supervising the Health Aides. Under the Director of Food Services, the title of Special Events will now be Field Coordinator.

Mr. Muehling made a motion to accept the Organizational Chart as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Sabo-Skelton. Aye: Butler, Hamilton, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. The motion carried unanimously.

Various board members voiced approval of the organizational chart and stated they felt that it is an excellent plan.

**11. INDIANA BOND BANK'S 2009 MID-YEAR WARRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Tim Thrasher recommended continuing this program. He explained that the Monroe County Community School Corporation has participated in the Indiana Bond Bank Advance Funding Programs in the past. This has proven to be a source of low interest loans that enable the school corporation to fund current operations pending the receipt of tax revenues.

Dr. Sabo-Skelton made a motion to accept the resolution. Seconded by Ms. Wanzer. Aye: Butler, Hamilton, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. Motion carried.

**12. BID AWARD FOR NEW TECH PHASE II**

Mike Scherer requested that the Board approve the bid of \$159,900 from Strauser Construction Company for Phase II construction at New Tech. He explained that this bid is necessary because the original low bidder, Whaley Construction, Inc. did not submit a complete bid. This bid would allow MCCSC to stay within its budget.

Ms. Streiff made a motion to approve the bid. Dr. Sabo-Skelton seconded the motion. Aye: Butler, Hamilton, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. Motion carried.

**13. TITLE I ESEA (Elementary Secondary Education Act) APPLICATION**

Deb Prenkert, Coordinator of Title I, recommended that the Board approve the planning and submission of an application for Title I funds to administer a special program of instruction for at-risk students in qualifying Title I schools.

Ms. Prenkert explained that based on identified needs, the MCCSC application will emphasize an intensive early intervention literacy program for struggling primary students. Where staffing allows, the program will extend into the intermediate grades. A strong parent involvement program and a focused professional development component, both of which are required by law, will be included in the proposal. A focus on improvement of student achievement will impact the entire MCCSC community through professional development. The application will comply with the mandatory set asides in the area of District Improvement, School Improvement, and Parental Involvement.

Dr. Sabo-Skelton moved to approve the application. Seconded by Ms. Merriam. Aye: Butler, Hamilton, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. Motion carried.

**14. TEXTBOOK ADOPTION RECOMMENDATION AND TEXTBOOK WAIVERS**

Dr. Mary Lovejoy recommended that the Board approve a waiver for the adoption of elementary social studies textbooks for the school year 2009-1010. This recommendation is based on the fact that the Elementary Social Studies Textbook Adoption Committee is requesting a waiver for elementary social studies textbooks. Social Studies ancillary support materials, instructional software, internet resources, and other systematically organized materials will be selected by the Social Studies Textbook Adoption Committee during the 2009-2010 school year. The current elementary social studies textbook will continue to be used.

Ms. Streiff made a motion to approve the waiver. Motion was seconded by Ms. Wanzer. Aye: Butler, Hamilton, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. Motion carried.

15. **POLICY 7510: USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES -- DRAFT**

Mr. Mike Shipman appeared before the Board to talk about the use of school facilities. He presented drafts of proposed changes regarding the policy, guidelines, and fee schedule. He emphasized that MCCSC does want outside organizations to use our facilities, i.e., auditoriums, gymnasiums, baseball fields, etc.

Discussion followed. The Board was in agreement to approve a waiver of current guidelines for a specific organization. In order to do this, an additional item had to be added to the current agenda. Dr. Sabo-Skelton made a motion to create an agenda item. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wanzer. Aye: Butler, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. Nay: Hamilton The motion carried.

Mr. Muehling made a motion to allow the Cutter's football team to use the football field facilities, thus making an exception to the current Facilities Guidelines. Motion was seconded by Dr. Sabo-Skelton. Aye: Butler, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. Nay: Hamilton The motion carried.

At that point, Dr. Butler asked Mr. Shipman to come to the June 2<sup>nd</sup> board meeting for additional discussion.

16. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

17. **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND PROPOSALS FROM BOARD MEMBERS.**

Mr. Muehling made the following comments:

- Voiced appreciation to the parents from Templeton who came to the meeting.
- Does not want the Board to be accused of wrong doings in the selection of the Principal at Templeton.
- If people are interested in the governing of the school corporation, they should run as a candidate for the school board.
- Expressed condolences to Janet Tupper and her family in the loss of her mother.

Mr. Hamilton made the following comments:

- Expressed the support of the Templeton community.
- Wants to follow up with the Binford/Rogers traffic situation.
- Fairview: next steps for that school.
- Feels that long term disability should be discussed.
- Specific next steps for Templeton.

- Recess for children improves learning – a goal to pursue.

Ms. Streiff made the following comment:

- Regarding Templeton, she encourages people to join committees. She feels sad about the way people were informed, but happy about the final decision.
- Encourages the parents to continue to be passionate.

Dr. Sabo-Skelton made the following comments:

- Feels that we have an incredible school system, and the corporation works daily to make it better.
- She and Dr. Butler and representatives from Fairview Elementary took a trip to Iowa to look at another school corporation and its operations.

Ms. Wanzer made the following comments:

- Feels that Templeton parents are critical to making the school work.
- Communication with the public is very valuable for this Board. Transparency is very critical.

Ms. Merriam made the following comments:

- Thanked Jim Muehling for speaking out with passion and for supporting the Board.
- Said that she attended meetings during the past week regarding Binford/Rogers; the Policy Committee; and Broadview and programs there.
- Recognized Mark Heinco, who died recently, and his great work with special needs children at BHS North.

Dr. Butler made the following comments:

- Thanked Jim Muehling for his comments.
- Debriefing would require a work session; she will look into it.
- Violin concert at IU MAC from Fairview was absolutely wonderful!
- Appreciates the public dialogue and encourages everyone to participate.
- Thursday @ 4:00 PM the auditor will have a meeting.
- The Teacher Retirement Tea is scheduled for Thurs., May 21<sup>st</sup> at BHS North. Encouraged everyone to attend.

## 18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Dr. Butler declared the meeting to be adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

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Jeannine Butler, President

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Valerie Merriam, Vice President

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Vicki Streiff, Secretary

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John Hamilton, Assistant Secretary

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Jim Muehling, Member

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Lois Sabo-Skelton, Member

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Susan P. Wanzer, Member