

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Special Session, June 29, 2010
MINUTES

The Board of School Trustees of the Monroe County Community School Corporation met in special session, for which proper notice had been given, at 6:00 pm. on Tuesday, June 29, 2010, Administration Center which is located at 315 E. North Drive, Bloomington, Indiana.

Board members present: Jeannine Butler, Keith Klein, Valerie Merriam, Jim Muehling, Lois Sabo-Skelton, Vicki Streiff and Sue Wanzer Absent: None

Also present: J. T. Coopman, Superintendent; Tim Thrasher, Controller; Linda Richardson, MCEA President; Norma Owens, AFSCME Official; Randy Tackett, AFSME Official and Andy Graham, Reporter for *The Herald-Times*.

In addition to the above, 4 citizens signed the visitor list (which is included as a part of the official record of this meeting); two representatives of Bloomington Community Access TV were present.

1. **Call to Order**

Dr. Butler called the Special Session to order at 6:00 pm.

FOR ACTION

2. **Resolution for Referendum for November 2, 2010 ballot**

Dr. Coopman summarized the financial situation and the need for the referendum. He pointed out that our revenue has been affected by our loss of students over the past few years, we anticipate utility increases and less money from the state. Dr. Coopman noted we will be asking for a six year period on the resolution because a seven year period would put us in a special election cycle that we would have to pay for and if we need to go back and ask for another referendum, it would be better to do it during the regular election cycle.

Dr. Coopman also noted that in December, 2009, at a time when we were already underfunded, we received a 4.55% cut in funding.

We are asking for a maximum increase of \$0.1432 per one hundred dollars for a period of six years, which can be adjusted downward if the budget requirements do not call for this amount of revenue or the assessed values increase.

Dr. Butler called for a motion to adopt MCCSC's Resolution for a Referendum for a six-year period at \$0.1432 per one hundred dollars assessed. Ms. Streiff so moved. Ms. Wanzer seconded the motion.

Mr. Klein asked what would happen should the referendum not pass on the ballot in November. Dr. Coopman reiterated that 91% of our general fund is comprised of personnel. If a local referendum is not supported by the community, we can expect to see a decrease in educational personnel needed to carry out appropriate educational programming and we would revert to what he referred to as "very very basic education" – cuts in foreign language, art, music, PE; loss of extra-curriculars; changes to school schedules; etc.

Ms. Sabo-Skelton thanked Randy Tackett for his comment "we are not going to balance the budget on the backs of the kids".

Ms. Wanzer thanked members of the public for their efforts on getting the referendum on the ballot. She also

thanked Dr. Coopman and Mr. Thrasher for their work on setting the amounts and term.

Ms. Merriam thanked Victoria Ison who ended her article in the H-T with ‘Vote for Us – Vote for Me’.

Mr. Klein thanked the community and the AFSCME representatives for all of their hard work and encouraged everyone to come to the Board meetings and ask their questions of the Board.

Ms. Streiff commented that the research data helped her to believe that the referendum will pass and appreciated that the data showed support from all our community.

Dr. Butler declared that she will gladly pay the extra money because she believes we have to support this for our kids.

Following comments from the Board and the public, the Board members voted:

Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff, Wanzer. Absent: Motion carried.

3. **Adjournment**

The Special Session adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Jeannine Butler, President

Valerie Merriam, Vice President

Vicki Streiff, Secretary

Keith Klein, Assistant Secretary

Jim Muehling, Member

Lois Sabo-Skelton, Member

Sue Wanzer, Member