

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting, August 24, 2010

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, August 24, 2010, in the Board Room at the Administration Center, 315 E. North Drive, Bloomington.

Board members present:

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

Also present:

J.T. Coopman	Superintendent
Tim Thrasher	Comptroller
Peggy Chambers	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Jan Bergeson	Director, Secondary Education
John Carter	Director, Planning
Shelley Vitols	Principal, Arlington Elementary School
Mike Scherer	Director, Extended Services
Randy Tackett	Officer, AFSCME
Norma Owens	Officer, AFSCME
Linda Richardson	President, MCEA
Andy Graham	Reporter, <i>The Herald-Times</i>

In addition to the above, 6 citizens signed the visitor list (which is included as a part of the official record of this meeting) 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 7:00 p.m.

2. **PUBLIC DIALOGUE**

Randy Tackett, AFSCME, reported that he has been attending the meetings of the Referendum Steering Committee and two labor groups. He sees a base that is starting to form in the community.

3. **FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION: FOUNDATION OF MCCS - TINA PETERSON**

Tina Peterson thanked all those who assisted and donated to the success of the ECA fund-raising and especially those groups who donated their facilities for the special events.

The FMCCS expects to award \$100,000 in grants to the school corporation between now and November.

Ms. Peterson announced that the "Great Grown Up Spelling Bee" has all of its teams now. John Whikehart will be the master of ceremonies. Ms. Bergeson and Mr. Rains will be judging costumes. This is a fund-raiser for New Tech and underwritten by John and Sue West to purchase technology.

4. **FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION: SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Coopman reported that the referendum steering committee has been meeting and that the Chairs and sub-committees have been identified. Co-chairs are being identified for each of the sub-committees. The referendum consumes a part of each day for him. Without quality schools, communities tend to deteriorate.

We had our first meeting with PTO representatives and he continues to attend open houses and speak to various groups.

Dr. Coopman commented that any federal stimulus dollars will not help us in the long term, will not be available until next fall and we do not know how the state of Indiana will decide that it will be used.

School got off to an exciting start. Our unofficial kindergarten enrollment is a little higher than the past and our overall enrollment has held.

We continue to work on our “PLC journey”. It takes a long time for it to become part of the culture in a school district.

We were able to accommodate three requests for early kindergarten enrollment and offered the remaining families the opportunity to enroll at Fairview. As yet, we have not heard back from all of them.

FOR ACTION

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Muehling moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Dr. Sabo-Skelton seconded the motion.

Dr. Coopman recommended approval of the Consent Agenda: (a) Donations, ECA Expenditures and a Field Trip Request and (b) Allowance of Claims.

Ms. Shelley Vitols, Arlington Heights Elementary School principal, introduced the family of Tim McCammon and Mr. Mike Donham of Accent Excavating, who created a sculpture in memory of Mr. McCammon and invited the School Board to the unveiling scheduled for September 8th. The sculpture will be set by Jimmy Stanger of Stanger Excavating. Mr. Donham took the ideas that came from the art class at Arlington and created the sculpture out of limestone.

Following comments from the Board, the vote was taken on the recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda. Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer Motion carried.

6. CONTRACTS

Ms. Merriam moved to accept the contracts as listed on the agenda. Ms. Streiff seconded the motion.

Mr. Thrasher recommended approval of the following contracts: (a) Change Orders for the Fairview and Service and Transportation building projects and (b) SchoolSecure Professional Services Agreement – Personnel and expertise to meet the guidelines and implement the requirements of the 2010 Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) grant submitted to and approved by the US Dept of Education’s Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools. Services will begin on or about September 1, 2010 and conclude on or about April 30, 2012.

John Carter and Mike Scherer addressed questions from the Board regarding the SchoolSecure

Professional Services Agreement.

Following additional discussion, the vote was taken to accept the contracts as listed on the agenda. Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer Motion carried.

7. **PERSONNEL REPORT**

Dr. Sabo-Skelton moved to accept the Personnel Report. Mr. Muehling seconded the motion.

Ms. Chambers recommended approval of the personnel report which includes three recalled and 13 new teachers. The new teachers include five who taught for us last year on emergency permits, who have now completed their certifications. We now have 15 teachers remaining on the recall list.

On September 1st, the Class Size Review Committee will meet to determine which classes will qualify for teacher aides.

Following comments from the Board, the vote was taken on the motion to accept the Personnel Report. Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer Motion carried.

8. **AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE 2011 BUDGETS, CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND PLAN AND SCHOOL BUS REPLACEMENT PLAN**

Dr. Butler clarified that in order to meet the newspaper deadline to advertise the budgets. Mr. Thrasher indicated a work session could be scheduled for August 31st to give the Board an opportunity to ask questions prior to the September 14th meeting.

Ms. Wanzer moved to accept the recommendation that the administration be authorized to advertise the 2011 Budgets, Capital Projects Plan and School Bus Replacement Plan. Ms. Merriam seconded the motion.

Mr. Thrasher recommended that the administration be authorized to advertise the 2011 Budgets, Capital Projects Plan and School Bus Replacement Plan which included the following attachments: (a) Form 3, Page 1, Notice to Taxpayers of Budget Hearing and Tax Levies; (b) Form 3, Page 2, Notice to Taxpayers of Capital Projects Plan Hearing and Plan Outline; (c) Form 3, Page 3, Notice to Taxpayers of Bus Replacement Plan Hearing and Plan Outline; (d) Form 2, Estimate of Miscellaneous Revenue; (e) Form 4B, General Fund, Budget Estimate, Financial Statement, Proposed Tax Rate; (f) Form 4B, Referendum Fund-Exempt Operating, Budget Estimate, Financial Statement, Proposed Tax Rate; (g) Form 4B, Debt Service Fund, Budget Estimate, Financial Statement, Proposed Tax Rate; (h) Form 4B, Retirement/Severance Bond Debt Service Fund, Budget Estimate, Financial Statement, Proposed Tax Rate; (i) Form 4B, Capital Projects Fund, Budget Estimate, Financial Statement, Proposed Tax Rate; (j) Form 4B, Transportation Operating Fund, Budget Estimate, Financial Statement, Proposed Tax Rate; (k) Form 4B, Bus Replacement fund, Budget Estimate, Financial Statement, Proposed Tax Rate; (l) 2011 General Fund Budget; (m) 2011 Referendum Fund-Exempt Operating; (n) 2011 Debt Service Fund Budget; (o) 2011 Retirement/Severance Bond Fund Budget; (p) 2011 Capital Projects Fund Budget; (q) 2011 Transportation Operating Fund Budget; (r) 2011 Bus Replacement Fund Budget; (s) 2011 – 2013 Capital Projects Plan Detail and (t) 2011 – 2022 School Bus Replacement Plan Detail.

Mr. Thrasher recommended that the hearing on the 2011 budgets be held on October 12, 2010 at the Administration Center and that the Board meet on October 26, 2010 to adopt the budgets. Both dates are regularly scheduled meetings of the School Board. Also, Mr. Thrasher recommended scheduling the hearing and adoption of the 2011-2013 Capital Projects Plan and the 2011 – 2022 School Bus

Replacement Plan for September 14, 2010. Tax levies and budgets have intentionally been inflated, because we can reduce but not increase after advertised.

Following Mr. Thrasher's explanation of each fund and the type of advertising required and comments from the Board, the vote was taken on the motion to approve the request that the administration be authorized to advertise the 2011 Budgets, Capital Projects Plan and School Bus Replacement Plan and their attachments. Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer Motion carried.

Ms. Wanzer asked if the Work Session could be scheduled and Dr. Butler suggested 6:00 pm on Tuesday, August 31, 2010, and that Board members get their questions to Mr. Thrasher before the Work Session.

9. **AWARD CONTRACT FOR BLOOMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL NORTH WEST FACADE RENOVATION**

Ms. Merriam moved to accept the recommendation that Weddle Brothers be awarded the contract as listed. Dr. Sabo-Skelton seconded the motion.

Mr. Scherer recommended that Weddle Brothers be awarded a contract for \$325,000 for the renovation work which includes renovation of the West Wall of the Cafeteria and Mechanical room of Bloomington High School North which will be funded through the bond refund dollars.

Following the comments from the Board, the vote was taken on the motion to award the contract to Weddle Brothers. Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer Motion carried.

10. **BOOK RENTAL AND INSTRUCTIONAL FEES, 2010-2011 SECONDARY**

Ms. Wanzer moved to accept the recommendation for the 2010-2011 Secondary Book Rental and Instructional fees. Dr. Sabo-Skelton seconded the motion.

Ms. Bergeson recommended that secondary book rental and instructional fees for the 2010-2011 school year be established as listed and that a K-12 Technology Fee of \$2.50 be added to each student's bill at all grade levels.

Following comments from the Board, the vote was taken on the motion to approve the 2010-2011 Secondary Book Rental and Instructional fees. Aye: Butler, Klein, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer Nay: Merriam Motion carried.

11. **APPROVE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ATHLETIC HANDBOOKS**

Mr. Muehling moved to accept the recommendation to approve the following student athletic handbooks for the 2010-2011 school year for Bloomington High School North and Bloomington High School South. Ms Wanzer seconded the motion.

Dr. Coopman recommended that the Board to approve the following student athletic handbooks for the 2010-2011 school year for Bloomington High School North and Bloomington High School South to fulfill the legal requirements necessary should any disciplinary action result from rules violations. The code of conduct was put in place last spring and will be included in the athletic handbooks.

Following the comments from the Board, the vote was taken on the motion to approve the student athletic

handbooks for the 2010-2011 school year for Bloomington High School North and Bloomington High School South. Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer Motion carried.

FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

12. INFORMATION, PROPOSALS OR COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Randy Tackett, AFSCME, spoke about the costs to send a child to a juvenile delinquent facility. He also invited the public to attend the meetings to learn about the referendum.

Dr. Butler invited Mr. Kelly Smith to introduce himself as he is running for the Board in District #1 in January. He is a BHS North graduate, a parent and former teacher. He looks forward to the opportunity to serve us.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND PROPOSALS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Wanzer acknowledged Ms. Merriam's contributions to the Board and expressed her respect of her decision.

Ms. Merriam reflected on Dr. Bennett's press release regarding savings by joining the State insurance plan. In checking our plans, it was found that our preferred plan would cost the Corporation approximately \$1,000 more per year per employee and it would cost the employee approximately \$4,000 more per year plus a higher deductible. She reported that Infinity reported on the progress of the clinic. She requested that the Aurora sign come down and put up the sign for the MCCSC Health and Wellness Clinic.

Ms. Streiff noted that she will miss Valerie and she is hopeful that we will be able to add kindergarten teachers to the schools that were mentioned earlier.

Mr. Muehling 'plugged' the Spelling Bee coming up on Friday. He responded to some comments about the Transportation facility and pointed out that the original facility was built in 1965 and that the new one is a much safer and more environmentally friendly. He reiterated that the federal stimulus dollars are a on-time 'shot in the arm'.

Mr. Klein commented that he still referees high school wrestling and emphasized the importance of hydration. It was a pleasure to see Dr. and Mrs. Coopman at the South football game.

Dr. Butler reassured the public that there has been no discussion about closing a high school or combining North and South. She encouraged the public to attend the board meetings when they have concerns or want clarification of something they have heard.

Dr. Butler spoke about the passing of Mickey Reeves, retired North teacher. He was an imposing figure in the classroom, but probably one of the most kind-hearted individuals in the classroom.

Ms. Merriam thanked everyone and for the benefit of those who had not heard, announced her withdrawal of her name for the School Board election and noted that she had met with Kelly Smith prior to making that decision. She plans to devote her energy to the referendum.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Dr. Butler declared the meeting to be adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Jeannine Butler, President

Valerie Merriam, Vice President

Victoria I. Streiff, Secretary

Keith Klein, Assistant Secretary

Jim Muehling, Member

Lois Sabo-Skelton, Member

Susan P. Wanzer, Member