

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting, September 14, 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, September 14, 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
Lois Sabo-Skelton	Member

Board members absent:

Jim Muehling	Member
Sue Wanzer	Member

Also present:

J.T. Coopman	Superintendent
Tim Thrasher	Comptroller
Peggy Chambers	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Tina Peterson	Executive Director, Foundation of MCCA
Shelley Vitols	Principal, Arlington Elementary School
Mike Scherer	Director, Extended Services
Randy Tackett	Officer, AFSCME
Norma Owens	Officer, AFSCME
Bethany Nolan	Reporter, <i>The Herald-Times</i>

In addition to the above, 5 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 Paul, MCCSC representative on the Monroe County Public Library Board of Trustees, who began his term in 2007. He thanked the Board for the opportunity and asked to have this December be his last meeting. He noted several significant events that have occurred since he joined their Board. He feels the role of Trustee at the library has changed and he recommends that we look for someone from the public sector. The Board thanked Mr. Paul for his service.

Randy Tackett, AFSCME, has been working with Jobs for Justice and the White River Labor Council for the referendum. He presented the Board with a copy of what they had been distributing and asked how the Steering Committee is doing. Dr. Coopman reviewed his recent activities plus those of others.

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

Tina Peterson reported on the dedication of the Ivy Tech-John Waldron Arts Center and shared her appreciation of all that Ivy Tech does.

Ms. Peterson spoke about the successful first annual spelling bee held as a fund-raiser for New Tech technology. Approximately \$25,000 was raised.

The corporate major gift committee of the Foundation's campaign created an opportunity to apply for a grant and today she received word that the Foundation will receive a \$50,000 award which will be used to help support literacy services.

She also reminded everyone that the Foundation is currently accepting on-line grant applications. They have approximately \$100,000 to give out this fall and anticipate the same amount next spring.

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

Dr. Coopman gave an update on the recent activities regarding the referendum and shared the handouts we are using to educate the public. We will be using our voter registration maps and school boundaries to develop the canvassing territories. Mr. Thrasher has identified the PAC chair and they have begun their fund-raising efforts. Regina Moore is our Volunteer Coordinator. Our Referendum Chairs are doing a wonderful job. He expressed his appreciation to Keith Klein for allowing him the opportunity to speak on his radio show every Tuesday morning.

Dr. Coopman shared the following "Good News" from our schools:

Arlington Heights Elementary unveiled an art sculpture designed by one of the parents, Mr. Michael Donham along with students from the 2009 6th grade class, in memory of a former parent, Tim McCammon. Mr. Donham donated his work and Jim Stanger, from Stanger Excavating, also a parent donated all of the foundation materials.

Binford Elementary students with the support of the PTO, students raised over \$26,000 to support student learning and activities during Rogers/Binford Read-A-Thon Fundraiser, in the fall of last year.

Childs Elementary has a new Jackson Creek Trail that was completed in July and runs past the school.

Clear Creek Elementary will supply every fourth, fifth, and sixth grade student with a Netbook this school year for usage every day, all day long.

Fairview Elementary began this school year in a brand new building and a new focus on arts-based education. The school also hosts a new Apple desk top lab, a mobile Mac book lab, and a set of iTouches for students to begin the academic journey with the Artful Learning curriculum.

Batchelor Middle School was named a Four-Star School for the first time last school year. This state honor is bestowed due to high performance by students on ISTEP tests and student attendance rates.

Batchelor Middle School Teacher Jeff Rudkin and eight B-TV students visited Krakow, Poland in January 2010 along with Auschwitz Concentration Camp survivor Eva Mozes Kor. While in Poland, the group visited Auschwitz I, Auschwitz II Birkenau, the Schindler Factory, and several historical sites in Krakow. Mrs. Kor led the group around the camps showing where the atrocities happened.

A documentary of their experiences aired in June on B-CAT, our local origination television station. Mr.

Rudkin and his students hold multiple recognitions and awards for their work.

Jackson Creek Middle School's Science Olympiad team finished second in regionals and ninth in state competition. Similarly, the Academic Superbowl English Team placed first in its division and placed in the top ten in the state.

Bloomington High School North sent teams to the Japanese Olympiad of Indiana competition in 2010, taking home a fourth place at level four, third place at level three, and a second place at level four. Five students also took the Japanese National Exam this year. Two of the five ranked in the top 10 percent.

Bloomington High School South students earned just over \$3 million dollars worth of academic scholarship monies for the second year in a row. In addition, South students ranked 6th in the state in 2010 in SAT scores.

Broadview Learning Center administered 400 GED tests, with a 78 percent passing rate. Over 160 credits and 35 high school diplomas were earned through the NovaNet High School (online) program.

New Tech High School is recognized as a New Tech Network Demonstration Site, several teachers were recognized as New Tech Network 21st Century Certified Teachers.

The non-traditional learners who formerly would have attended Aurora Alternative School, which we all know had to be closed due to the funding issues is now housed at the Broadview Learning Center and the students have selected "The Bloomington Graduate School" as their name.

As part of our continuing effort to reach out to the public regarding the referendum, we will have two community forums next week, Tuesday, Sept. 21st at BHS North and Thursday, Sept. 23rd at BHS South.

Dr. Coopman welcomed Bethany Nolan, our new Education Reporter for *The Herald Times*.

FOR ACTION

5. PUBLIC HEARING: 2011 Capital Projects Fund Plan and 2011 School Bus Replacement Plan

Dr. Butler opened the hearing open for the purpose of adopting the 2011 Capital Projects Plan and adopting the School Bus Replacement Plan.

Mr. Thrasher commented that both plans had been presented previously in some detail. Ms. Merriam moved to approve the resolutions to adopt the Capital Projects Fund Plan and the School Bus Replacement Plan. Dr. Sabo-Skelton seconded the motion.

There being no comments from the public or from the Board, the vote was taken on the recommendation to approve the resolutions to adopt the Capital Projects Fund Plan and the School Bus Replacement Plan.

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

6. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Dr. Coopman recommended approval of the Consent Agenda: (a) Minutes of Previous Meetings (Regular Board Meeting - August 10, 2010, Executive Session - August 18, 2010, Regular Meeting - August 24, 2010 and Work Session - August 31, 2010); (b) Donations, ECA Expenditures and Field Trip Requests; (c) Financial Report (Financial Report (7/2010) and Approp Balances (7/2010)); (d) Allowance of Claims and (e) School Improvement Plans for 2010-2011

Ms. Merriam requested that since Mr. Rudkin was in the audience that he speak regarding the requested field trip for B-TV. He commented that not only would the students attend workshops, but they would be teaching one based on their Poland trip. He also noted that they will be doing a partnership with a middle school in England.

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

7. **CONTRACTS**

Ms. Streiff moved to accept the contracts as listed on the agenda. Dr. Sabo-Skelton seconded the motion.

Mr. Thrasher recommended approval of the following contracts: (a) Change Orders – Listing of change orders for the Fairview building project; (b) Bloomington Hospital Rebound – Contract Athletic Training Services for the football and wrestling programs at Batchelor, Jackson Creek and Tri-North Middle Schools. Term: August 1, 2010 through March 1, 2011; (c) Spencer Owen Community School Corporation of Owen County, Indiana – Agreement with the MCCSC Transportation Department to provide transportation for SOCS student(s) to the Indiana School for the Deaf, Indianapolis, Indiana, during the 2010-2011 school year; (d) Lifetouch – Publication Agreement with Tri-North Middle School for publication of 2011 Yearbook and (e) Grant of Easement for Recreational Trail between the MCCSC and the Board of Commissioners of Monroe County for a right-of-way and temporary right-of-way for grading to construct a trail segment for the Karst Farm Green

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

8. **PERSONNEL REPORT**

Dr. Sabo-Skelton moved to accept the Personnel Report as recommended. Ms. Streiff seconded the motion.

Ms. Chambers noted the retirement notification received from Karen Portle, Director of Information Services; Michael Gardner, Lead-skilled maintenance; Terri Gardner, Corporation Bus Driver; and Laura Ranard, Custodian. Following recommendation of our legal counsel, we will be including recommendations for new homebound instructors and substitute teachers. Ms. Chambers recommended approval of the personnel report.

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

9. **DECLARE LISTED ITEMS AS SURPLUS TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION**

Ms. Streiff moved to approve the recommendation to declare the listed items as surplus and to be sold at auction. Mr. Klein seconded the motion.

Due to construction, remodel, and normal replacement, a large number of items are no longer needed, have accumulated and need to be sold at public auction. Mr. Scherer recommended that the Board declare the listed items as surplus to be sold at public auction with the date of auction to be determined.

There being no comments from the public or from the Board, the vote was taken on the motion to declare the listed items as surplus to be sold at public auction. Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Sabo-Skelton, and Streiff Absent: Muehling and Wanzer Motion carried.

FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

10. INFORMATION, PROPOSALS OR COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Randy Tackett, AFSCME, made comments regarding the work ahead in getting the referendum approved.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND PROPOSALS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Sabo-Skelton thanked Randy Tackett for his comments regarding the referendum and encouraged those who want to do something to not wait to be asked.

Ms. Merriam has been canvassing the rural areas for the referendum. She has reviewed the ISTEP scores and congratulated our fourth graders and sixth graders at who scored over 80% on the science portion. Education Week just came out with the SAT averages and BHS North and BHS South were far above the average. The sign is up for the health clinic. Ms. Merriam feels that we should have a noticed Work Session before every meeting.

Ms. Streiff thanked Mr. Tackett for his mention of the various groups who are stepping up to support the referendum and thanked Ms. Peterson for the good news of the \$50,000 grant.

Mr. Klein expressed his concern that we are hearing so many negatives regarding the referendum. He also thanked Pizza Xpress for the 25 cents coupon that they are offering to benefit MCCSC.

Dr. Butler addressed the misconceptions regarding the number of lost teaching positions and clarified the reduction in administrative positions and other misinformation that is out there. She encouraged everyone to address the misinformation any time they hear it. We need PAC contributions and encourage everyone to visit the website and the farmer's market. She will work with Dr. Coopman to arrange additional work sessions as Ms. Merriam suggested.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Dr. Butler declared the meeting to be adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Jeannine Butler, President

Valerie Merriam, Vice President

Victoria I. Streiff, Secretary

Keith Klein, Assistant Secretary

(absent)
Jim Muehling, Member

Lois Sabo-Skelton, Member

(absent)

Susan P. Wanzer, Member