

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting, October 12, 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, October 12, 2010, in the Board Room at the Administration Center, 315 E. North Drive, Bloomington.

Board members present:

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

Also present:

J.T. Coopman	Superintendent
Tim Thrasher	Comptroller
Peggy Chambers	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Jan Bergeson	Director, Secondary Education
Mike Scherer	Director, Extended Services
Tina Peterson	Executive Director, Foundation of MCCC
Terry Spradlin	Center for Evaluation and Education Policy
Tom Kinzer	Ivy Tech – Early College Program

In addition to the above, 13 citizens signed the visitor list (which is included as a part of the official record of this meeting); Bethany Nolan, reporter for *The Herald-Times*, Ben Skirvin, reporter for WFIU 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. and declared the Public Hearing on the 2011 budgets to be open.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2011 BUDGETS

Mr. Tim Thrasher briefly discussed the 2011 budgets. There were no comments from the Public or the Board and Dr. Butler declared the hearing closed.

2. **PUBLIC DIALOGUE**

Randy Tackett, AFSCME Local 3995, announced that several local, state and national unions and Jobs for Justice will be announcing their support of the MCCSC Referendum on Thursday, Oct. 14th.

3. **FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION: STATE REVENUE AND SCHOOL FUNDING TRENDS - TERRY SPRADLIN**

Terry Spradlin, Associate Director for Education Policy at the Center for Evaluation and Education Policy (CEEP), which is located on the Bloomington Campus of Indiana University, presented “K-12 Public Education Funding in Challenging Economic Times” which included responses to surveys of

Indiana school corporations regarding funding. He noted that MCCSC is ranked 288 of about 346 school districts and charter schools on tuition support per student funding and that there are still inequities in the funding formula. Mr. Spradlin encouraged the public to go to the CEEP website regarding policy statement regarding the school funding formula.

4. **FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION: EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM - TOM KINZER**

Tom Kinzer, Secondary Initiatives Coordinator for the Ivy Tech Community College, Bloomington Campus, presented information regarding Ivy Tech's Early College partnership with MCCSC. His primary focus is to set up the Ivy Tech dual credit opportunities, but his main mission is to coordinate seamless pathways for the high school student to transition into college.

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

Tina Peterson, Executive Director, thanked the ONB for the \$4,000 donation to the foundation as part of ONB's commitment to our community. Professors in communications classes in the Kelley School of Business gave their students two weeks to create a plan to raise money for the public schools and to also raise the money. They raised approximately \$2,500. Also, Ms. Peterson thanked the IU SPEA fellow program for providing a graduate student to work with the MCCS Foundation for a two-year period at minimal cost to the Foundation. She also expressed her gratitude to the many individuals and groups who work tirelessly, especially during the fund-raising period.

6. **FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION: FOOD SERVICES DEPT – HATTIE LOU JOHNSON**

Ms. Hattie Lou Johnson announced that it is "National School Lunch Week". A flyer was sent home this week with nutrition information for the parents as well as the students. There are many fun activities and contests with prizes for students, teachers and principals. At the national conference this summer there were prizes for the cafeteria that needed a makeover. She submitted the Arlington Heights Elementary School cafeteria and they won. She will be back with the total amount of the award for the makeover.

Also, Board member Sue Wanzer and Mike Glasscock, "Talk Radio" host, have a radio program called "Lunch Crawl" where they will visit a different school each week and talk about school lunches. They began this past week and the students thoroughly enjoyed it.

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

Dr. Coopman reported that MCCSC was selected as "Business Member of the Month" by Sam's Club and along with the certificate; we were given a \$25.00 gift card that we will use toward future purchases.

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

Childs Elementary School now has wireless capability in the intermediate grades and a classroom set of laptop computers that can be used for a variety of learning activities.

On another note, Childs first and fifth grade classrooms have created layered gardens on the school grounds, and they have been used for a variety of outdoor education experiences.

Finally, Mrs. Dwyer (P.E. teacher) and Mrs. Crane (music teacher) have coordinated a "Bike Rodeo" to promote bicycle safety and use in the Childs community. Through a partnership with the Bloomington Hospital and Bloomington Parks and Recreation, this safety program was implemented for all fourth grade students.

Batchelor Middle School teachers, this fall, have been challenged to adopt the motto, "Failure is not an

Option.” The four-star middle school has implemented an Academic Lab, Guided Study Hall, and Study Hall to provide academic support for struggling students.

Batchelor teacher Jeff Rudkin will be flying to Boston on Sunday, October 24 for the WonderWorldTV Awards. Congratulations to Jeff Rudkin, the B-TV students, and Lora Batchelor Middle School for winning the 2010 Golden Ribby Award for Best Student Film Program.

Bloomington High School North is shining the light on two faculty members who have recently received honors. Theater Teacher Francesca Sobrer was honored by the Bloomington Playwrights Project (BPP) with the 2010 R. Keith and Marion Michael Outstanding Artist and Educator Award.

Also, BHSN Science Teacher Jean Schick was invited to apply for the MMIA (Molecular Medicine in Action) teacher program at the Wells Center for Pediatric Research. Mrs. Schick was accepted to participate in prestigious program with approximately 30 other teachers from around the state.

At Bloomington High School South, Kathleen Mills, English teacher and sponsor of the BHSS paper, has been named a recipient of the 2010 Butler University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Teacher Excellence Award. This award is designed to honor teachers, who have had a significant impact on the lives of students.

BHS South students Jack Sprinkle (junior) and Earnie Bruce (senior) printed t-shirts in their printmaking class and sold them in the community to raise money for Dennis Shoup's family after he passed last spring. The two boys and Ms. Benham invited Debbie Shoup, Dennis' wife, to class last week and presented her with a check for \$1,800.

MCCSC Central Administration is spotlighting the MCCSC Human Resources Department for this Good News reporting cycle. HR's Office of School & Community Services was instrumental in organizing Read for the Record Day on Oct. 7, 2010 in partnership with the City of Bloomington and the Agency for Instructional Technology (AIT). Record for the Record is a national reading campaign focused on early childhood literacy. Local celebrity readers from the community visit classrooms and read a selected book to pre-school, kindergarten and first grade students.

Dr. Coopman also commented on the movie “Waiting for Superman” which was mentioned this morning on the Tuesday radio program. “Waiting for Superman” is well-made and says important things about the challenges of public education, however the reductive message is “charters are good and teachers’ unions are bad” oversimplifies complicated issues and threatens to thwart thoughtful discussions about education reform. The ‘us vs. them’ mentality that the film promotes encourages division rather than collaboration, which few would dispute, is necessary for true change to occur. With the right people, time and resources, MCCSC will get better. However, we are not waiting for superman.

FOR ACTION

7. 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 – September 14, 2010 and Regular Meeting – September 28, 2010); (b) Donations and Field Trip Request; (c) Financial Report (Financial Report (8/2010) and Approp Balances (8/2010) and (d) Allowance of Claims (10/12/2010).

There being no 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.

8. **CONTRACTS**

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

Mr. Thrasher recommended approval of the following contracts: (a) Change Orders – Listing of change orders for the Hoosier Hills Career Center building project; (b) School Improvement Administrator Consultant – Cheryl Christen agrees to serve as the School Improvement Consultant for Fairview Elementary School from August 6, 2010 to May 27, 2011; (c) Artful Learning Liaison – Mary Carol Reardon agrees to serve as the Artful Learning Liaison for Fairview Elementary School from August 1, 2010 to July 31, 2011; (d) Ivy Tech Community College – Memorandum of Understanding to provide opportunities for MCCSC Bloomington Graduation School students to enroll in up to two courses at Ivy Tech effective 2010-2011 school year; (e) STAR Financial Bank – Escrow agent for MCCSC-Weddle Bros; BHSN West Façade Renovation; (f) SCAAP Head Start Program – Letter of Understanding for Special Needs with MCCSC to serve the special needs of preschool children who are either suspected of or identified as eligible for special education for effective 2010-2011 school year and (g) MapleNet Wireless – Maintenance and replacement Contract for Unionville.

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

9. **APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH AFSCME LOCAL 3995**

Ms. Wanzer moved to approve the amendments to the collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME Local 3995. Ms. Merriam seconded the motion.

Ms. Chambers recommended approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with AFSCME Local 3995 and noted that some language was clarified and the contract was reorganized to make it more readable, but there were no benefit or salary increases. AFSCME members voted unanimously to ratify the agreement. This agreement is for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011.

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

10. **PERSONNEL REPORT**

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

Ms. Chambers recommended the Personnel report be approved as presented.

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

11. **CONTRACT BUS ROUTE EXTENSION - ROUTE #189**

Ms. Streiff moved to approve the contract bus route extension as recommended. Dr. Sabo-Skelton seconded the motion.

There being no comments from the Board, the vote was taken on the recommendation to approve the contract bus extension. Aye: Butler, Klein, Merriam, Muehling, Sabo-Skelton, Streiff and Wanzer Motion carried

FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

12. INFORMATION, PROPOSALS OR COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments from the Public.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND PROPOSALS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Muehling brought up the resolution received from “Hoosiers for Central Time” and the concerns their study addresses regarding safety for students. He would like for us to consider forwarding the same resolution to the state at our next meeting.

Dr. Sabo-Skelton commented on the wonderful positive people she has encountered during the referendum canvassing.

Ms. Merriam announced that Fairview Elementary School is participating in an on-line contest to be named one of America’s favorite schools in the “America’s Spirit School Challenge”. Templeton Elementary School lost their “Fruit and Veggies” grant and they are looking for individuals to donate to support the continuance of the program.

Ms. Wanzer spoke regarding the recent rash of teen suicides and the recent bullying and anti-gay stories. She also thanked the many referendum volunteers.

Ms. Streiff spoke about the “It Gets Better” project on “YouTube” for gay, lesbian and bi-gender individuals.

Dr. Butler echoed the many thanks for the referendum volunteers.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Dr. Butler declared the meeting to be adjourned at 8:54 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