

MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
November 4, 2014

The Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees met at Manchester Community Schools Administration Offices on November 4, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

Board Members were present or absent as follows:

PRESENT: Mr. Byron Brunn, Mr. Brady Burgess, Mr. Steve Flack, Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Mr. Brian Schilling, and Dr. Nate Trump.

ABSENT: Mrs. Sally Krouse

Also in Attendance: Dr. Bill Reichhart, Superintendent; Scott Bumgardner, Business Manager; Attorney Al Schlitt; and Eric Seaman, *Wabash Plain Dealer*.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flack, School Board Vice President, called the meeting of the Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees to order at 5:30 p.m. Dr. Reichhart led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITING STUDENTS AND TEACHERS FROM BERGSTEDT, GERMANY

After a brief introduction by Ms. Alspaugh, Mr. Dave Zinsmeister had the MJSHS hosts introduce their 11 German guests along with the two German teachers who were also here for a visit last year from Hamburg. In return, twelve MHS students will visit Germany next Spring. The German visitors and their hosts will be taking a tour of Wabash County on Wednesday. They will also visit Indianapolis next Monday, Shipshewana next Wednesday, and take an industry tour lead by Jerry Bolinger next Friday. This is the second year for this MJSHS/German exchange. It is a great opportunity for each of the schools to learn about cultures in other countries.

CONSENT ITEMS

- *A. Minutes
 1. Minutes of the October 7, 2014 School Board Meeting.
 2. Minutes of the October 7, 2014 Public Work Session.
 3. Minutes of the October 21, 2014 Public Work Session.
- *B. Claims
 1. Regular Claims dated November 4, 2014.
 2. Prepaid Claims dated October 31, 2014.
 3. Payroll Claims dated October 10, 2014 and October 24, 2014.
- *C. Grant - None
- *D. Donations
 1. Anonymous donation in the amount of \$1,500.00 for MJSHS student programs and assistance fund.
 2. Donation in the amount of \$15.00 for the MJSHS Science Olympiad Program.
 3. Donation in the amount of \$112.50 for the MJSHS Volleyball program.
 4. Anonymous donation in the amount of \$800.00 for the MJSHS Boys' Basketball program for the purchase of jerseys.
- *E. Personnel
 - MIS
 - Leave of Absence
 1. Jen Birch, December 12-18 (3 personal days and 2 unpaid days)
 - Employment
 1. Susan Finney, change from Instructional Assistant to 4th Grade Maternity Leave Teacher
 2. JoEtta Herrmann, Instructional Assistant, increase of 2.5 hours
 3. Trina Semler, Instructional Assistant, increase of 2.25 hours
 4. Joel Eichenauer, Intramural Boys' Basketball Coach
 5. Heather Terflinger, Intramural Boys' Basketball Coach
 6. Andrew Zimmerman, Intramural Boys' Basketball Coach
 - MJSHS
 - Resignation
 1. Lisa Ulrey, Assistant Principal
 - Employment
 1. Chris Zolman, Boys' Freshmen/C Team Basketball Coach
 2. Jamie France, Volunteer Wrestling Coach
 - MAO
 - Unpaid Leave
 1. Dennis Unger (8 pay loss days Oct 20-29)

Dr. Reichhart recommended approval of all of the consent items hereinabove documented.

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD APPROVED
DEC 02 2014

Dr. Trump moved to approve the Consent Items as recommended by Dr. Reichhart. Mr. Schilling seconded the motion. With no further questions or discussion, a vote of 6:0 approved the Consent Items as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

*A. Overnight Field Trips - FFA State Convention, Purdue University, June 15-18

Ms. Alspaugh recommended approval of the overnight field trip for the FFA Club to the State Convention at Purdue University in June. This is an annual event for FFA members to perform in proficiency contests and receive awards. They also get to meet FFA members from all over the State of Indiana. The expenses are covered by the FFA fund. The FFA is currently doing their annual citrus sale.

Mr. McLaughlin moved to approve the overnight field trip as presented. Mr. Brunn seconded the motion. Without any further questions or discussion, the Board voted 6:0 to approve the overnight field trips.

*B. Winter Drumline

Ms. Alspaugh stated that Mr. Huber came to her last year with an idea to organize a Winter Drumline. It is a competition format available for those students who like to play percussion and want to continue their skills throughout the winter season. Last year MJSHS participated in a couple of events to test-run the idea. One of those events was a large competition at Warsaw High School. There was a great turnout and a lot of enthusiasm. This year there are already 16 students signed up who want to participate. This program would start now and run through March. MJSHS would probably participate in a couple of invitationals. Depending on how that goes, MJSHS could also participate in the District competition that then moves up to the State level for that program. As long as there is continued interested, MJSHS would like to continue the Winter Drumline activity. There is a requirement for minimum number of members, approximately 5-6, in order to participate in competitions. The funding would come out of band funds for entry fees and costume costs, and can be augmented with fundraisers or self-pay. Ms. Alspaugh recommended official formation and approval of the Winter Drumline to be recognized as a new ECA organization for MJSHS through the band.

Mr. Schilling made a motion to approve addition of the Winter Drumline to MJSHS ECA organization. Mr. Brunn seconded the motion. Without further discussion or questions, the Board voted 6:0 to approve officially adding Winter Drumline to the MJSHS ECA organizations.

*C. Sunday Facility Rentals

1. Old German Baptist Brethren Youth Group 12/14/14
2. Tri Kappa – Making Cheeseballs 11/15/14

Dr. Reichhart recommended approval of the two requests for facility rentals that land on Sunday dates as listed. Both have rented many times in the past without any problems. This is considered part of our community service in the school district. Insurance waivers are included with both requests.

Mr. Brunn made a motion to approve the Sunday facility rentals as presented. Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion. Without further questions or discussion, the Board voted 6:0 to approve the Sunday facility rentals.

*D. Superintendent Contract

Dr. Reichhart reviewed that the hearing for renewal of the Superintendent Contract took place at the last Board Meeting on October 7, 2014. No objects or comments were heard at said hearing. Approval at tonight's meeting would make the contract renewal official.

Mr. Schilling made the motion to approve the Superintendent's Contract as advertised. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion. With no further questions or discussion, the Board voted 6:0 to approve renewal of Superintendent Contract as presented.

*E. Tax Neutrality Resolution

Mr. Bumgardner stated that the Tax Neutrality Resolution should have been part of the 2015 Budget that was adopted at the October Board meeting. The resolution identifies the Levy Fund to be reduced to cover MCS debt. This resolution is the same as in the past years, but was overlooked at the time of Budget adoption.

Dr. Trump made a motion to approve the Tax Neutrality Resolution as presented by Mr. Bumgardner. Mr. Schilling seconded the motion. With no further questions or discussion, the Board voted 6:0 to approve the Tax Neutrality Resolution as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES AND REPORTS

A. Principals

Mr. Mullett reported a 93.5% rate for MES parent/teacher conference turnout. The teachers were pleased with the participation. Mr. Self and Ms. Alspaugh did not have updates to report.

B. Curriculum Director

Mrs. Gnagy shared a site available on DOE's web page that the teachers and administrators are constantly using. One link she emphasized is the Career and College Readiness Assessment which shows a preview of questions for the upcoming ISTEP testing with 3-4 sample questions for each grade level. Also, Mrs. Gnagy introduced the link for 'Calendar of Questions' which gives a list of questions that staff and administrators should be asking themselves throughout the year in preparation for upcoming assessments. There is even a column for school board members.

C. Business Manager

Mr. Bumgardner updated the Board that he is still looking at the facilities proposal and what will be feasible for MCS. Also in November open enrollment for 2015 insurance is coming up.

D. Superintendent

Dr. Reichhart thanked the administrators, teachers and parents for attending parent/teacher conferences. Some districts have gone away from having conferences, but MCS finds them very valuable. MJSHS saw a record number of conferences this year and MIS numbers came in at 83-84% which is pretty good. Dr. Reichhart thanked the Board for the salary increase on the Superintendent's Contract. Dr. Reichhart also thanked Lisa Ulrey for her services to MCS as a teacher and administrator. He further commented that it is a great thing for the community and schools to engage in cultural awareness and the opportunity to go to Germany. Also, thanks to Mr. Zinsmeister and Ms. Alspaugh for their work in support of this project. Mrs. Kern and Mr. Schlitt will be traveling to Germany this year, possibly accompanied by Mr. Zinsmeister.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Ms. Cassel commented that it was with great sadness that she learned that Mrs. Ulrey resigned. Mrs. Cassel very much appreciated her.

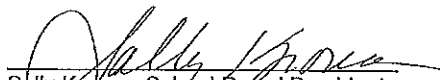
COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

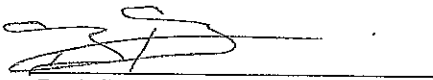
Mr. Flack thanked MCS staff for the effort that goes into parent/teacher conferences. From a parent's perspective, he feels it is very obvious the love and passion the teachers feel for what they do. The teachers are to be commended for that and he feels it went very well.

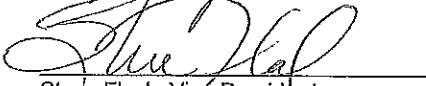
Speaking ahead of the final election results, Dr. Reichhart congratulated the four board members for winning the elections – as all four ran unopposed.


ADJOURNMENT

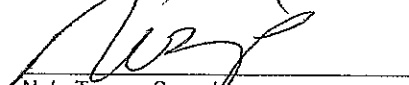
With no further business, Mr. Flack, School Board Vice President, adjourned the Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees Board Meeting at 5:50 p.m.



Sally Krouse, School Board President

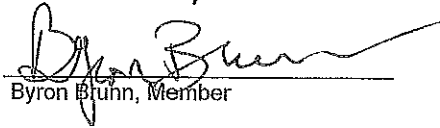

Brady Burgess, Member


Steve Flack, Vice President


Tim McLaughlin, Member


Nate Trump, Secretary


Brian Schilling, Member


Byron Bruhn, Member