

MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
April 12th, 2016

The Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees met at Manchester Community Schools Administration Offices on April 12th, 2016 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. Mrs. Sally Krouse

ABSENT: Mr. Al Schlitt

Also in Attendance: Dr. Bill Reichhart, Superintendent; Mr. Scott Bumgardner, MCS Business Manager; Mackenzi Klemann, The Wabash Plain Dealer.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flack, School Board 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.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS
None

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

No public comment.

CONSENT ITEMS

- *A. Minutes
 1. Minutes of the March 8th, 2016 School Board Meeting.
 2. Minutes of the March 8th, 2016 Executive Session.
- *B. Claims
 1. Regular Claims dated April 12th, 2016.
 2. Prepaid Claims dated March 1-31, 2016.
 3. Payroll Claims dated March 11th, 2016 and March 25th, 2016.
- *C. Grants -
 1. Indiana Dept. of Education awarded \$12,220.00 to support the Indiana Literacy Early Intervention Program.
- *D. Donations
 1. Donation of \$100.00 to the Health & Wellness Annual Support from Tri Kappa.
 2. Anonymous donation of \$2000.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Softball Field Fencing.
 3. Anonymous donation of \$500.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Choir Program.
 4. Anonymous donation of \$500.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Drama Program.
 5. Anonymous donation of \$200.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Athletic Program.
 6. Anonymous donation of \$250.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School FFA Program.
 7. Anonymous donation of \$250.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School FFA Program.
 8. Donation of \$656.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Library Program from the Community Foundation of Wabash County.
 9. Donation of \$300.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Science Olympiad Program from Burgess Information Tech.
 10. Donation of \$100.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School FFA Program from Troxel Equipment Company.
 11. Donation of \$100.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School FFA Program from Troxel Equipment Company.
 12. Donation of \$1000.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School FFA Program from Ag Plus.
 13. Donation of \$250.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Science Olympiad Program from Halderman Farm Management and Real Estate.
 14. Donation of \$250.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School FFA Program from Strauss Veal Feeds, Inc.
 15. Donation of \$100.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School FFA Program from Agro-Chem, Inc.
 16. Donation of \$250.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Boys Basketball Program from Sweetwater Assembly of God.
 17. Donation of \$200.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Art and Drama Programs from Gamma Kappa Chapter of Tri Kappa.
 18. Donation of \$500.00 to the Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Drama Program from Manchester Family Dentistry.

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*E. Personnel

MES

Resignation

1. Christina Smith, Para-Professional

MIS

Employment

MJSHS

Leave Request

1. None

Resignation

1. Lynn Studebaker, English Teacher 7-12 April 10th, 2016
2. Sue Gnagy, 8th grade Volleyball Coach
3. Wendy Isbell, Para-Professional at Squire Academy
4. Eric Screeton, Student Council Sponsor

Employment

1. Nathan Patterson, Assistant JH Golf Coach
2. Chainey Zolman, Volunteer Boys Basketball Coach
3. Keri Mertz, Attendance Secretary/Asst. ECA Treasurer

Mrs. Sue Gnagy explained the grant that Manchester Community Schools received from the Indiana Dept. of Education to support the Indiana Literacy Early Intervention Program. It will be for grades 1st & 2nd. Mr. Joe Rodgers and Mrs. Gnagy feel this program is like having the cadillac version of the resources the students can use. Some examples were: collection of stories, non-fiction tales and writing activities with guided questions for them to answer. Dr. Reichhart thanked Mr. Rogers and Mrs. Gnagy for writing the grant and receiving it among many schools who applied.

Mrs. Krouse moved to approve all the Consent Items outlined above. Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion with no further discussion, a Board vote of 7:0 approved the Consent Items as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

*A. Revision of Policy #3110 – Tobacco Products

Dr. Reichhart reminded the board we started this at last month's meeting. Since then, significant changes have been made to the policy. Dr. Reichhart read the policy to the board and asked for any comments or changes to be made. There were no comments or changes, so Dr. Reichhart asked for the board approval.

Mr. Schilling made a motion; Mr. Brunn seconded the motion; and the Board voted 7:0 to approve the Revision of Policy #3110 – Tobacco Products as requested.

*B. Overnight Field Trips

1. Cross Country Team to Indiana Dunes Aug. 3-5th, 2016

Ms. Alspaugh announced that Mr. Sarber along with chaperones, will be taking his students to Indiana Dunes, Aug 3rd – 5th, as a kick-off session to the upcoming season.

Mr. Burgess made a motion to approve the Overnight Field Trip. Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The Board approved with a vote of 7:0 without further discussion.

*C. MJSHS Summer Camp Proposals

Ms. Alspaugh announced that Mr. & Mrs. Huber, will conduct a Summer Band Camp for students 6 - 12th grades. The cost is only \$35.00 per student for an individual ½ hour session or with group sessions with Mr. Huber and/or Mrs. Huber. It is to encourage students to gain on their music skills and also keep them interested in music. Ms. Alspaugh applauded Mr. & Mrs. Huber for volunteering their time for this camp. Mrs. Krouse asked the question of where the proceeds will go. Ms. Alspaugh explained the proceeds from this, will go into the band fund. Marching Band camp, Mr. Huber receives payment. Music Booster club pays for guard and individual instructors he has for the band camps. Dr. Reichhart announced all the Summer Camps that will be held this summer: Girls & Boys Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer and Tennis camps.

Mrs. Krouse made a motion to approve all the Summer Camps. Mr. Brunn seconded the motion. Without further discussion and a Board vote of 7:0, the summer camps were approved as presented.

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*D. Reorganization for WMAP

Dr. Reichhart explained that WMAP is our Special Education people based out of MSD of Wabash County and their employees consist of special education workers, teachers, aides and we then are given an assessment that we have to pay. There are 4 corporations in this. They are MCS, Peru, Wabash City and MSD Wabash County. The Superintendents and Business Managers have worked for 6 months to try to decentralize the co-ops. Most of our students now attend our own schools. In the past, we would partner and send our students to other schools districts. A year ago, we did away with the transportation services since we decided it didn't make sense to put our students on our own busses. The next step now is taking back onto our payroll those teachers. We have currently 4 teachers employed by MSD. Beth McKnight, Jan Gilson, Tiffany Flora and Karen Daniels. Those 4 will become MCS employees as of July 1st, 2016. Dr. Reichhart will be asking at next months meeting to approve those teachers as part of the reorganization plan. By this action, it will allow us to evaluate the employees in our buildings and we also get to hire the employees who work with our students. There are about 30 positions that will still be excluded from our building, because they share buildings. Example: School Psychologists, speech teachers, physical therapists and any special type services all are Area Program. The Superintendents & Business Managers as well as the Director of Area Program, strongly recommend this reorganization. Financially it will save us money, probably not right now, but certainly in the future. By adding these Area Program employees, no one will lose their jobs, certified staff or support staff. We will guarantee all MSD employees who transfer to MCS will have full seniority and their years of experience. Dr. Reichhart has talked to MTA about this and they are in agreement. Dr. Reichhart also Explained that we are working with Susan Traynor, and attorney who will help draft this Language as well as the decentralization document. Mr. Schilling asked the question "Financially we are taking on those employees will be offset by the reduced assessment?" Mr. Bumgardner replies yes, even though right now it is hard to gauge their MSD benefits, because we do not have access to that information, but our benefits could cost less than MSD's package and it will be a much better program than to pay the quarterly assessment. Dr. Reichhart said that we will continue to explore this issue to take further steps and made a recommendation for approval of the reorganization.

Mr. Schilling made a motion, Mr. Brunn seconded the motion, and the board voted 7:0 to approve the Reorganization for WMAP.

*E. Sunday Facility Rental – Tri Kappa May 15th, 2016

Dr. Reichhart announced that Tri Kappa will be at MES to hold their annual bike rodeo in the school parking lot. Dr. Reichhart also added they do great things for our school district in terms of funding.

Mr. Trump made a motion, Mrs. Krouse seconded the motion, and the board voted 7:0 to approve the Sunday Facility Rental.

F. Discussion of Maple Park Property

Mr. Bumgardner made a request to move forward with the pursuit of the appraisal and take the steps to list the property. He will work with Mr. Schlitt to make sure we follow the correct procedures to sell the property. Mr. Burgess asked, "Can we donate the property, or do we still have to go through this process?" Mr. Bumgardner replied, "If we donate the property, we still have to get the appraisal". Mr. Bumgardner said there was not much interest in the property with a run down building on it, but now with it being cleared land, there has been much interest now and wants to be fair on the price for the land. Dr. Reichhart said there would be no motion tonight, just to move forward with appraisals. Dr. Reichhart asked the board if they wanted a certain person to do the appraisal, and they said no.

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*G. Recommendation on Technology for 2016-17

Mr. Miller introduced to the board, the Chrome Laptop that would replace the iPads we currently have now. He explained the uses of the Chrome laptop, such as the 10 yr. battery life, the ability for headphones, mouse usage, an ISB for storage, keyboard and camera. It would also come with a carrying case, so students will have the capability to keep them nicer and eliminate dropping them on the floors. Mr. Miller recommended buying out the 4 yr. lease with iPad. Some suggestions were to sell them to students or staff or a company to pay off the debt. Mr. Miller recommended we enter a 3 yr. lease with Chrome Books laptops. We can keep the technology fee still at \$100.00 and that would include a extended warranty and accidental breakage program. By keeping this, we can pay off the lease and not take any money out of CPF. After the 3 yrs. we can give the laptop to the student, with the case and they walk out with the device. Mr. Miller thought this was a good incentive to students and parents. He also has a student advisory group of about 18 students that will be using the Chrome & carrying case to test out these laptops and point out what they like and dislike. On making any repairs to the Chrome, Mr. Miller and his team will become certified from Chrome and Chrome will send all parts to them directly. The repairs on the iPads were much harder to do and they took longer to repair. Dr. Trump asked if there will be a learning curve for the teachers and Mr. Miller said it will be somewhat of a challenge, but we have Jacob Everett to help them. Mr. Bumgardner added that we will no longer be charging the \$40.00 to parents for the insurance, which has become an issue, because this will be built into the cost of the 3 yr. lease. Mr. Bumgardner believes we have met all the needs for the teachers and students with this new plan and it also keeps our textbook fees reasonable for our parents.

Mr. Miller made a recommendation to buy out the 4 yr. lease for the iPads.

Mrs. Krouse made a motion, Mr. Schilling seconded the motion, and the board voted 6:1, with Mr. Burgess sustaining, to approve buying out the 4 yr. lease for iPads.

Mr. Miller made a second recommendation to enter into a 3 yr. lease with BIT Computers, Inc. with a 3 yr. accidental damage & extended warranty program.

Dr. Trump made a motion, Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion, and the board voted 6:1, with Mr. Burgess sustaining, to approve entering into the 3 yr. lease with BIT Computers, Inc.

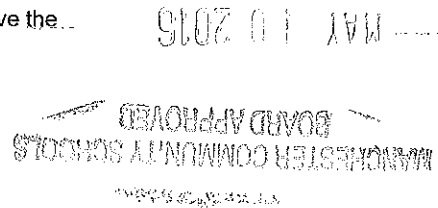
Mr. Miller made a third recommendation to declare the iPads as surplus devices.

Mr. Schilling made a motion, Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion, and the board voted 6:1, with Mr. Burgess sustaining, to approve the iPads as surplus devices.

*H. Board Approval of the 2013-14 Audit

Mr. Bumgardner announced to the board that the 2013-14 audit is available online and there is a copy available in the office also. He said we were cited for mostly internal control things. Some we had no control over. Since then, we have addressed those issues and Mr. Bumgardner signs off on all deposits and 2 people sign off on payroll to meet their needs. Mr. Bumgardner made a recommendation to approve the 2013-14 audit.

Mr. Burgess made a motion, Mrs. Krouse seconded the motion, and the board voted 7:0 to approve the 2013-14 audit.



ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES AND REPORTS

- A. Principals - none
- B. Curriculum Director

Mrs. Gnagy gave the board an update on WISE. She applied for a license to show the Sundance film "Most likely to succeed" and the application was accepted. The first screening will be June 9th, Thurs. during the day and the second showing will be that night also for the community at Eagles Theatre. It is an excellent film. Other information she shared was the Maker Space Area is growing. This year, they will be having a Maker Space Area Carnival Theme. This will consist of booths and teachers from all 3 districts to bring students to actually model some of the Maker Space they are doing in the classroom. Our art teachers who attended a national art conference has signed up to demonstrate what they learned in the Makers Space area. Teachers and students will show how to make pop can robots. The WISE committee consists of Sue Gnagy, Jacob Everett, Justin Vale, Brian Miller & Melissa Briscoe. They were labeled as not the fun people, so Sue added onto the committee, Beth Rosen and Christy Schuler for the fun part.

- C. Business Manager

Mr. Bumgardner reported that on May 19th, we will meet with all of the contractors at the high school to make sure we are organized for this summer's work. We replaced both end sections of the bleachers in the high school gym that were bad. We got a great deal on some bleachers from a school in northern Indiana for half the price, because their order of bleachers came in the wrong color. The sign for MES will be coming soon. We had no complaints from the neighbors after putting a truck out there with the sign for a couple of days to demonstrate. Looks good.

- D. Superintendent

Dr. Reichhart explained to the board about the Appeal of the Non-Compliance from IERB. In 2013-14 we attended the IASBO conference and IERB was there also. IERB told the audience, that if a school district is looking for a compensation model to follow, look at Manchester's, and asked him to present it to the 2013-14 winter conference. So in front of 800 board members and superintendents, he presented it. So, this past week over Spring break, he received a non-compliance issue from IERB that our contract does not meet the needs that it what it should have. Dr. Reichhart believes that our teachers association and board work very well together in drafting contracts and paying our teachers and staff and he still feels that way, despite the non-compliance issues. The one that stood out was, about the credit hours approval. It may be that we have in our contract with teachers that we pay \$300.00 per credit hour up to 6 credit hours per year, that they go back to school and we support that. IERB says that, because, only highly effective and effective teachers can get increases or raises, they consider the payment of college university graduate classes as extra compensation for our teachers. Even though we are reimbursing them for their cost, they are saying that's extra compensation. Dr. Reichhart has appealed that issue. Dr. Reichhart has reached out to the representatives of MTA and they have encouraged him to write the appeals. They fully support this. Dr. Reichhart wanted to make the board aware that the language says we are to decess and desist with this contract, but it can remain in effect until the end of the year. Dr. Reichhart also heard rumors that ISTA may be looking at filing some actions against IERB. He suggested to the board to please read this.

Dr. Reichhart reported to the board we will be taking the Pilot test for ISTEP next week for grades 3rd, 4th and 10th. We were suppose to take the first round, but we missed it and we called the DOE and they said not to worry about it. Then a memo came out last week by the DOE that said, we are required to take the test. However, there are school districts he can name that are not going to do it. The memo said from the DOE, we would be in violation if we don't give the pilot items, but there would be no penalties. He didn't know if to make this a bigger issue, since we are a smaller school district, we don't have the clout of a larger school district to stand behind us on this one. But at this point, we will take the pilot test, unless the board tells me different. This really has no value to our students. They are using our students to test out future questions that will be on the tests.

Dr. Reichhart furnished the board with some exit interview data that they requested at the last board meeting. He was able to get about 16 districts to reply with the information. He asked the board for a motion for him to do something with the data, since the board requested it. The Board decided to take no action on this item.

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Dr. Reichhart asked Ms. Alspaugh to give the board an update on Marilyn Mason. She said, Marilyn is still on medical leave and hopes to return in about 2 weeks. She will not be on a full day, only a couple of periods a day.

Ms. Alspaugh updated the board on the 10th grade English position. Jennifer Reichenbach will come over from MIS to fill Lynn Studebakers spot. It's great to have her here and Ms. Alspaugh told the students to help each other and finish strong for the year end. Emails were sent out, informing staff and students about the replacement and Ms. Alspaugh appreciates Jennifer coming over to MJSH.

Dr. Reichhart informed the board, that hopefully in May at the next board meeting, we will have two candidates for teachers at the elementary and maybe in June, we will have the candidate for the English position at the high school.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

No comments from visitors.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

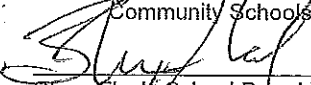
Comments from Board Members

Mr. Burgess asked Mr. Bumgardner what can we spend out of the CPF fund? Mr. Bumgardner replied that, technology salaries, improvements, maintenance issues, energy savings contracts.

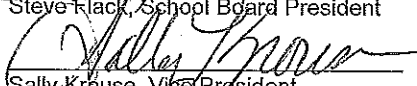
Mrs. Krouse mentioned her trip to Boston for the NSBA conference she attended. It was very informative on The Language of Code. Some information she shared was, technology teachers go to classrooms and teach coding. Students and teachers love this. Also, they mentioned, that by the year 2020, there could be about a million jobs opened for this.

ADJOURNMENT

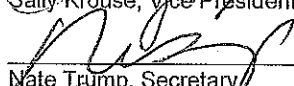
With no further business, Mr. Flack, School Board President, adjourned the Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.



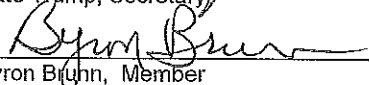
Steve Flack, School Board President



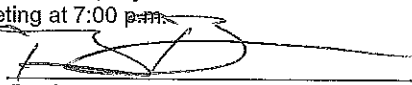
Sally Krouse, Vice President



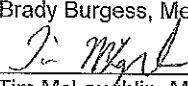
Nate Trump, Secretary



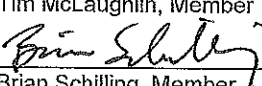
Byron Brun, Member



Brady Burgess, Member



Tim McLaughlin, Member



Brian Schilling, Member

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