

MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Jan 10th, 2017

The Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees met at Manchester Community Schools Administration Offices on Jan. 10th, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Board Members were present or absent as follows:

PRESENT: Mr. Steve Flack, Mrs. Sally Krouse, Mrs. Ruth Ayres, Mr. Brady Burgess, Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Mr. Brian Schilling and Dr. Nate Trump

ABSENT: None

Also in Attendance: Dr. Bill Reichhart, Superintendent; Mr. Scott Bumgardner, MCS Business Manager; Mr. Albert Schlitt, Attorney; Makenzie Kelmann, Wabash Plain Dealer; David Purvis-Fenker, News Journal and Keri Koenig, Warsaw Times Union.

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.

PRESENTATION – WEIGHTED GRADES

Dr. Lippe and Mr. Cripe explained to the Board why we currently have weighted grades and why we are moving away from them, beginning with the 2020 Freshman class. Mr. Cripe explained when Dual Credit and AP classes were first introduced to the high school curriculum, many educators wondered why would students take the more difficult and rigorous classes. Also, how would a school expand these programs and add more Dual Credit and AP classes, especially when they count towards school accountability grades? It also would assist in determining Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Dr. Lippe and Mr. Cripe began to look at these weighted grades and it wasn't doing what they wanted them to do as far as motivation for the students. They came up with reasons to eliminate weighted grades. The GPA calculation is not correct. Most universities/colleges do not accept weighted grades on transcripts. Students no longer need extra reward or motivation to register for AP or Dual Credit classes. In fact, AP and Dual Credit class enrollments are growing and we continue to add AP and Dual Credit classes to the curriculum. Dr. Lippe explained how a Valedictorian and Salutatorian would be figured in the future. They must earn an Academic Honors Diploma and complete a minimum of five AP or Dual Credit classes. Unweighted GPA's will then be used to determine the Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Mr. Flack asked Dr. Lippe if there was any input from people on this issue and Dr. Lippe replied he received support from teachers, parents and students. Dr. Reichhart informed the Board they do not need to take any action on this at tonight's meeting. The Board will be formally asked to accept this in the Spring when the school's handbooks come out.

SCHOOL BOARD REORGANIZATION

*A. Swearing in of Elected Board Members

Mr. Schlitt swore in Ruth Ayres, new Board member, Brady Burgess and Steve Flack, re-elected Board members.

*B. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

Mr. Schlitt submitted to the Board one Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement signed by Brady Burgess, who has a business relationship with Manchester Community Schools. Mr. Schlitt will file the Statement as required with the Clerk of Wabash County and the State of Indiana.

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD APPROVED

FEB 14 2017

*C. Election of Officers

1. President
Mr. Burgess nominated Steve Flack for President. Dr. Trump seconded. No other nominations were offered. With a 7:0 vote, Mr. Flack was appointed President.
2. Vice President
Mrs. Krouse nominated Brady Burgess for Vice President. Mr. Schilling seconded. No other nominations were offered. With a 7:0 vote, Mr. Burgess was appointed Vice President.
3. Secretary
Mr. Burgess nominated Dr. Trump for Secretary. Mr. Schilling seconded. No other nominations were offered. With a 7:0 vote, Dr. Trump was appointed Secretary.

*D. Consideration of Appointments for 2017

1. Corporation Treasurer
2. Corporation Assistant Treasurer
3. Corporation Attorney
4. Legislative Liaison
5. Heartland Career Center Representative
6. North Manchester Redevelopment Commission

Dr. Reichhart reported that Mr. Bumgardner will stay as Corporation Treasurer and Kendra Miller will remain as Corporation Assistant Treasurer. Dr. Reichhart recommended appointment of Attorney Al Schlitt for Corporation Attorney. Currently acting Legislative Liaison was previously Mrs. Krouse, and she is willing to continue. Heartland Career Center Representative was previously Mr. Flack, who is willing to continue. North Manchester Redevelopment Commission Member will be Mr. Bumgardner.

Mrs. Krouse made a motion to accept the slate of appointees as recommended and already serving as designated above, and Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion. No discussion or comments. With a vote of 7:0, the Corporation appointments for 2017 as recommended above were approved.

*E. Establishment of Designated Newspaper for 2017

Dr. Reichhart recommended that *The News-Journal* continue to be the primary publication for Manchester Community Schools, and that *Wabash Plain Dealer* continue to be the secondary.

Dr. Trump made a motion that *The News-Journal* will continue to be the primary designated newspaper and *Wabash Plain Dealer* will continue to be the secondary designated newspaper. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion. No further comment or discussion. On a vote of 7:0, the designation of Newspaper for 2017 was approved as recommended.

*F. Consideration of Board Members Compensation

Dr. Reichhart reported the compensation pay for Board Members is as follows: \$2000.00 yearly, \$50.00 for special meetings and \$300.00 for Presidents stipend.

Mr. Schilling made a motion to continue Board member's compensation as currently stated. Mrs. Krouse seconded the motion. With no further discussion and a vote of 7:0, the Board members compensation was approved to remain as is.

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD APPROVED

FEB 14 2017

CONSENT ITEMS

- *A. Minutes
 1. Minutes of the Dec. 13th, 2016 School Board Meeting.

- *B. Claims
 1. Regular Claims dated Jan. 10, 2017.
 2. Prepaid Claims dated Dec. 1 - 31, 2016.
 3. Payroll Claims dated Dec. 2, 2016, Dec. 16, 2016 and Dec. 30, 2016.

- *C. Grants
 - None

- *D. Donations
 1. Donation of \$100.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School Band Program from Pike Lumber Company, Inc.
 2. Donation of \$300.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior After Prom Program from The Gamma Kappa Chapter of Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc.
 3. Donation of \$100.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School Wrestling Program from Norman and Sue Hudson.
 4. Donation of \$250.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School Girls Basketball Program from Zimmer at the request of the Brice and Camille Bedke Family.
 5. Donation of \$500.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School Choir Program from Eric and Jennifer Reichenbach.
 6. Donation of \$500.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School Science Olympiad Program from Eric and Jennifer Reichenbach.
 7. Donation of \$500.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School FCA Program from an anonymous donor.
 8. Donation of \$500.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School Varsity Baseball Program from an anonymous donor.
 9. Donation of \$500.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School Girls Golf Program from an anonymous donor.
 10. Donation of \$800.00 to Manchester Junior-Senior High School Drama Program from an anonymous donor.

*E. Personnel

MES

Employment

1. Erica Risner, Part Time Cook, 2017-18

MJSHS

Resignation

1. Marilyn Mason, Choral Director, Effective 12/22/16
2. Amanda Schroll, 8th Grade Head Volleyball Coach, Effective 12/15/16
3. Mercedes Renz, JV Volleyball Coach, Effective 12/15/16
4. Amy Lambert, 7th Grade Head Volleyball Coach, Effective 12/16/16
5. Kris Underwood, Instructional Assistant Squire Academy, Effective 12/29/16

Employment

1. Sue Gnagy, Assistant High School Varsity Volleyball Coach, 2017-18
2. Mike Hanback, Volunteer Science Olympiad Coach, 2017-18
3. Sharon Lehman, Choral Director, 2017-18
4. Tabitha Suttan, Volunteer Winter Guard Assistant. 2017-18
(Pending ECH & DCS check)

MAO

Employment

1. Ashley Bumgardner, Director of CIM
(Pending ECH & DCS check)

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD APPROVED

FEB 14 2017

Dr. Reichhart recommended approval of all of the consent items as listed

Mr. Burgess 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. Overnight Field Trip Request

Dr. Lippe reported to the Board the AP Environmental Science Classes are going to the Florida Everglades National Park Feb.23 – Feb. 28, 2017 to study the ecosystem. It is a great trip and over 30 students have signed up so far.

Mr. Burgess made a motion to approve the Overnight Field Trip Request as presented: Mr. Schilling seconded the motion; and the Board voted 7:0 to approve the motion.

*B. Approval of bid for purchase of Maple Park Property

Mr. Bumgardner asked the Board to accept the \$40,000 bid we received from Ian Poston. He is a local citizen that plans to develop the land which would be in favor for us in the future. We sold all the tracks together in one deal.

Mr. Schilling made a motion to approve the bid for purchase of Maple Park Property as presented: Mr. Burgess seconded the motion; and the Board voted 7:0 to approve the motion.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES AND REPORTS

A. Principals

Dr. Lippe reported to the Board the students and staff came back from Christmas vacation and are ready to move on. Working on scheduling through the month of January. Sports programs are in full swing and looking forward to second semester. Dr. Lippe also asked Board members to take a walk after the meeting to look at Hannah Burnworth's mural that was painted along the walls in the hallway, here at the Junior high building.

Dr. Rodgers and Mr. Self were absent

B. Curriculum Director

Mrs. Gnagy presented to Board members a copy of the Corporation High Ability Report 2015 Data. In December, Mrs. Gnagy attended the High Ability Conference and received our 2015 report and was surprised the IDOE is behind in the reporting. The report is based on 2014 - 2015 submission. It has the district identification on it, by grade level how many students are being serviced in our high ability program. The general intellectual means they are being serviced both in Math and English. Some students are being serviced just in math and just language arts. Those are the areas that we receive the funding for high ability. We certainly have students who are receiving high ability level services in other areas such as the arts and the science. Those are not reported to the IDOE. The percent identified goes from 2013 to 2015 and it shows we are pretty consistent in our identification. That has been the goal of the program. Mrs. Gnagy also reported to the Board that our 3rd Graders who are High Ability had 88% of them in Math pass ISTEP with a pass plus rating and 100% of them in Language Arts passed ISTEP at pass plus.

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD APPROVED

FEB 14 2017

C. Business Manager

Mr. Bumgardner reported teachers received their performance pay in December from the State. Highly Effective teachers received \$819.74 and Effective teachers received \$745.22. Congratulations to all teachers. All work at the high school has been completed over Christmas break. Three rooms received new carpet. At the Administrative building we have completed two new offices. Very pleased with everything.

D. Superintendent

Dr. Reichhart welcomed Ashley Bumgardner as our new Director of CIM. Ashley thanked the Board members, Dr. Reichhart and the interview committee. Ashley is very excited about this opportunity and is looking forward to being a part of the team here at Manchester. Dr. Reichhart asked everyone to please keep Becky Cook's family in our thoughts and prayers on her passing. She was a very professional teacher and will be very missed. All three snow days have now been used. We are on the verge of our first eLearning day and we will be sending out a letter to parents in the next week. Dr. Reichhart welcomed new Board member Ruth Ayres. He also expressed wishes to the new State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jennifer McCormick. Looking forward to her leadership at the state level.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

None

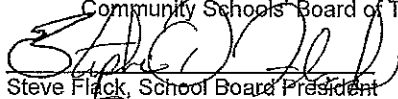
COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

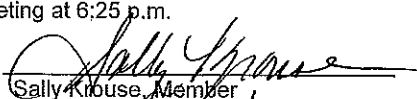
Comments from Board Members

Mrs. Krouse expressed sadness on the retirement of Marilyn Mason. Mr. Burgess thanked all the donors for their generous donations.


ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. Flack, School Board President, adjourned the Manchester Community Schools Board of Trustees Board Meeting at 6:25 p.m.

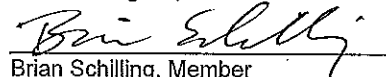

Steve Flack, School Board President

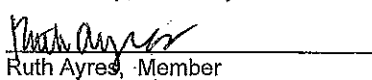

Sally Krouse, Member


Brady Burgess, Vice President


Tim McLaughlin, Member


Nate Trump, Secretary


Brian Schilling, Member


Ruth Ayres, Member

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD APPROVED

FEB 14 2017