

MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
March 14th, 2017

The Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees met at Manchester Community Schools Administration Offices on March 14th, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Board Members were present or absent as follows:

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

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.

#### MARINE TRIP PRESENTATION

Mrs. Metzger, guidance counselor at MJSHS, had the opportunity to go to San Diego and attend a Marine camp to experience what happens when one of our students sign up. She and a crew from Indianapolis and Kokomo went and the Marines paid for the whole trip to fly out to San Diego. There were a total of thirty people who went. Once they arrived, they were treated just like a recruit would be treated. One example was the bus ride from the hotel to the base camp. They were not allowed to look out the window or to talk. When they got there, they had to empty their pockets of everything they had and put into red bowls. They experienced obstacle courses, target shooting, water training and combat fitness testing. Every recruit has to pass these. They went to camp Pendleton and saw where the final challenge was to become a Marine. It's fifty-four hours of walking thirty-one miles. They only get three meals to last them the fifty-four hours. They have to complete twelve stalls, the IED course, the "Reaper", which is a hill they had to climb, the confidence course and a gas chamber they have to go into. They complete all this with little sleep or food. Jodi also attended Morning Colors, which is graduation day. Once the recruits complete the Crucible, they officially become Marines.

#### CONSENT ITEMS

\*A. Minutes

1. Minutes of the Feb. 14, 2017 School Board Meeting.
2. Minutes of the Feb. 14, 2017 Executive Session Meeting.

\*B. Claims

1. Regular Claims dated Mar. 14, 2017.
2. Prepaid Claims dated Feb. 1 - 28, 2017
3. Payroll Claims dated Feb. 10, 2017 and Feb. 24, 2017

\*C. Grants - Active Teacher Grant

\*D. Donations

1. Donation of \$6545.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Marching Band for new Band Trailer from the Music Boosters Club.
2. Donation of \$1000.00 to Manchester Community Schools Corporation for the lunch program from an anonymous donor.
3. Donation of \$750.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Drama/Musical Program from an anonymous donor.

\*E. Personnel

MES

Employment

1. Katie Ayres, Instructional Assistant, remainder of 2016-17  
(Pending ECH & DCS check)

Leave Request

1. Lisa Williams, GRASP, one personal – two unpaid days  
(May 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

MIS

Maternity Leave

1. Stephanie Pinkerton, March 31, 2017 (or before if necessary)  
returning August 14, 2017-2017 school year

Employment

1. Karla Akins, LT Maternity Sub (Grade 4)
2. Sarah Morbitzer-Ifeanyi, Instructional Assistant, remainder of 2016-17
3. Jen Birch, Intramural Soccer Coach, 2016-17
4. Emily Haecker, Intramural Soccer Coach, 2016-17
5. Allison Kauffman, Intramural Soccer Coach, 2016-17
6. Jamie Schroll, Intramural Soccer Coach, 2016-17
7. Heather Terflinger, Intramural Soccer Coach, 2016-17

MJSHS

Resignation

1. Blake Moore, Assistant JH Track Coach, Effective 02/13/17
2. Rex Reimer, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach, Effective 02/14/17
3. Melanie Pitman, Spanish/EL Teacher, Effective end of 2016-17 school year

Employment

1. Amanda Teusch, Assistant High School Track Coach, 2016-17
2. Wisdom Ifeanyi, Volunteer Boys Soccer Coach, 2017-18
3. Mike Hendrix, Assistant JH Track Coach, 2016-17
4. Kim Fierstos, Volunteer Softball Coach, 2016-17
5. Dave Zinsmeister, Summer APEX Teacher
6. Judy Ward, Asst. Vocal Music, 2016-17

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 – Science Olympiad Team

Dr. Lippe reported the Science Olympiad Team will be going to the Indiana State Olympiad Tournament in Bloomington, March 17<sup>th</sup> & March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017. He wished them the best of luck.

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

\*B. Sunday Facility Rental – Old German Baptist Brethren Church

Dr. Lippe asked for approval of the Old German Baptist Youth group to use the facilities at the high school for a gathering.

Mrs. Krouse made a motion to approve the Sunday Facility Rental – Old German Baptist Brethren Church as presented; Mr. Schilling seconded the motion; and the Board voted 7:0 to approve the motion.

\*C. 2017 Manchester Summer Camps

Dr. Lippe requested approval of the 2017 summer camps for boys and girls' basketball, volleyball, soccer and tennis.

Mr. Schilling made a motion to approve the 2017 Manchester Summer Camps as presented; Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion; and the Board voted 7:0 to approve the motion.

\*D. Approval of Tax Anticipation Warrants

Mr. Bumgardner stated last month he came to the Board to advertise for tax anticipation warrants. He received a bid from Crossroads Bank with 2.45% interest. No other bids came in.

Dr. Trump made a motion to approve the Tax Anticipation Warrants as presented; Mr. Burgess seconded the motion; and the Board voted 7:0 to approve the motion.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES AND REPORTS

A. Principals

Dr. Rodgers reported they have completed ISTEP and IREAD is going on this week. Round two of ISTEP will begin soon. The second year of Donuts with Dad was a huge success again. A great turnout of over two hundred people showed up. Grandparents day and Muffins with Mom events are coming up soon. The first ever Carnival will be held May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Games, food and fun. Kindergarten round-up was last Thursday. Eighty – two children signed up. Community Partners program is going well. The goal last year was ten volunteers and this year the goal was twenty and they have achieved that goal.

Mr. Self reported they have completed the first round of ISTEP. It went very well and Mr. Self thanked the staff and students for doing a great job. Everyone was ready to go. Mr. Self congratulated Abby Love on winning their spelling bee, winning the Wabash spelling bee and then moved onto the Journal Gazette spelling bee in Fort Wayne last weekend. She made it through to the tenth round. Mr. Self wished Science Olympiad good luck this weekend.

Dr. Lippe reported Academic Excellence Program will be held Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, in the PAC. Many students will be recognized for their excellence. ISTEP round one went very well. He thanked Mrs. Metzger and the entire staff for their hard work to make sure it went well. Choir received gold at ISMAA. FFA contest this weekend. The play "Shrek" will hold four performances next weekend. The Everglades trip went well with Mr. Burnworth and they had a great time.

Dr. Reichhart had asked Mr. Markham to report to the Board a phone call he received from a grandparent, whose grandchildren are home schooled and was inquiring about participation in the athletic program. At this time we do not have a policy in place. The IHSA has one that they instituted about four years ago. Mr. Markham read the IHSA policy to the Board.

The student has to be homeschooled for three consecutive years before they can participate in a IHSA sport.

The student would be required to take the statewide mandated tests.

The student would have to show a report card that they are passing five out of the seven classes to be eligible to play sports.

MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Mar. 14th, 2017

Page 4

The student must be enrolled in and attend a minimum of one full credit subject offered by the school.

Dr. Reichhart told Board members he asked Dr. Lippe and Mr. Markham to present this tonight so the Board heard what the policy could be. If the Board is interested in pursuing this as a formal policy, then we would work on designing a draft and bring it back at the next Board meeting in April. This policy would also include all extra curricular activities, drama, musical, theater, etc. Some schools that do have students that are home schooled have found a negative part of this plan. Those students are taking away playing time from students who are in the buildings seven hours a day. The home schooled students attend one hour a day in the school and they can take a spot away from a student who is here for seven hours.

Mr. Markham asked one school that has this policy if there was anything they would change when they adopted the policy and they said they would have made it a requirement of two or three classes for the home schooled student to attend the school. Board members agreed to have a draft brought to the next board meeting to discuss.

B. Curriculum Director

Mrs. Gnagy passed out the NWEA map (measures of academic progress) graph to Board members. Students and teachers in grades three through ten use this to monitor and test beginning, middle and end of the year academic progress. In February 2017, NWEA released results of the cut scores on reading and math tests on grades three through eight that correspond to each ISTEP performance level. Mrs. Gnagy read one example of the results. In grade three in reading, they tested one hundred twenty one students. 60.3% was passing, 39.7% not passing, 6.6% not passing but growing. The definition of success is students that passed added with students that didn't pass but showed with growth. We will look at this data and really make this our drive for instruction. Dr. Reichhart made the comment that there are a number of superintendents across the state who believe that the NWEA test, which takes three hours, one hour for each test, should replace the ISTEP. This gives us instant information, that then we can turn around and differentiate the data and it will break it down into strands of what teachers need to do to help or improve our students learning.

C. Business Manager

Mr. Bumgardner reported he has been working on the bus issue. He has been exploring some ideas and he has come up with the idea of bus leasing. Bus leasing is not leasing. It is basically a bus loan that you take out as you own the busses during and after the payments. It is not debt towards the corporation so that is why they call it a lease. He will have a proposal at the next board meeting that will allow us to lease two busses. He informed the Board that many schools are going to this idea. He reported also that last year at this time IPAD repairs were at \$31,000, with the parents paying the majority of the repairs. This year up to this point, we have spent zero dollars on repairs. Chromebooks are working. In the area of repair costs, we repair in house and Lenova pays us to repair them.

D. Superintendent

Dr. Reichhart announced we have three weeks till Spring Break. We will be discussing the scheduling of parent – teacher conferences in terms of times. Also, we are not reducing our force of teachers.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

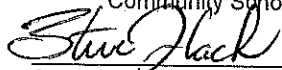
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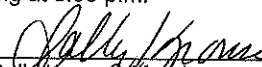
COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

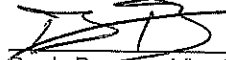
Mrs. Krouse thanked Mrs. Metzger on her Marine trip presentation and the Read It Global program that is going on. Mr. Burgess was appreciated by the donations that we received.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. Flack, School Board President, adjourned the Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees Board Meeting at 6:50 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