

MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
August 8, 2017

The Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees met at Manchester Community Schools Administration Offices on August 8th, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Board Members were present or absent as follows:

PRESENT: Mrs. Ruth Ayres, Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Mr. Brian Schilling, Dr. Nate Trump Mr. Steve Flack and Mr. Brice Bedke

ABSENT: Mrs. Sally Krouse

Also in Attendance: Mr. Mike Pettibone, Interim Superintendent, Mr. Scott Bumgardner, MCS Business Manager; Dr. Jon Lippe, Principal MJSHS; Mr. Randy Self, Principal MIS; Dr. Joe Rodgers, Principal MES; Mr. Albert Schlitt, Attorney; Chelsea Boulrisse, Wabash Plain Dealer; David Purvis-Fenker, News Journal.

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. Mr. Pettibone led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Mr. Flack requested two additions to Item E. Personnel of the consent items. The resignation of Stephanie Boggs, Second Grade Teacher, Effective 08/08/17 and the resignation of Tyler Kissinger, PE/Health Teacher, Effective 08/08/17.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

CONSENT ITEMS

- *A. Minutes
 1. Minutes of the July 11th, 2017 School Board Meeting.

 - *B. Claims
 1. Regular Claims dated August 8, 2017.
 2. Prepaid Claims dated July 1 - 31, 2017
 3. Payroll Claims dated July 14, 2017 and July 28, 2017

 - *C. Grants

 - *D. Donations
 1. Donation of \$15,000.00 for the 2017-18 academic year from the Ford Meter Box Company, Inc.
 2. Donation of \$150.00 to the Squire Buck Store from the Gamma Kappa Chapter.
 3. Donation of \$150.00 to the Begindergarten Teachers for supplies from the Gamma Kappa Chapter.
 4. Donation of EFI Utility Vehicle from Eel River Outdoor Power, North Manchester.
 5. Donation of \$609.00 to Manchester Jr. Sr. High School Girls Golf Program for golf bags from Mark and Cara Kissell.

 - *E. Personnel
- MES
- Resignation
 1. Debra Thompson, GRASP Reading Assistant, Effective 07/18/17
 2. Elizabeth McKnight, Special Education Teacher, Effective 08/04/17
 3. Julie King, School Counselor, Effective 08/01/17
 4. Stephanie Boggs, Second Grade Teacher, Effective 08/08/17
 - Employment
 1. Laurel Callaway, Instructional Assistant, 2017-18
 2. Sarah Emmert, Special Education Teacher
(Pending DCS & ECH check)

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3. Ashley McMahon, School Counselor
(Pending DCS \$ ECH check)
- MIS
Employment
1. Megan Long, Physical Education Teacher
(Pending DCS & ECH check)
- MJSHS
Resignation
1. Angela Brubaker, Custodian, Effective 08/15/17
 2. Tyler Kissinger, PE/Health Teacher, Effective 08/08/17
- Employment
1. Byron Sweet, Head Wrestling Coach, 2017-18
 2. Jennifer Maciejewski, Instructional Assistant, 2017-18
(Pending DCS & ECH check)
 3. Dick Brown, Assistant Football Coach, 2017-18
(Pending DCS & ECH check)
 4. James Bishir, Assistant Principal
(Pending DCS & ECH check)
 5. Rocky Addair, JH Assistant Football Coach, 2017-18
(Pending DCS & ECH check)

Mr. Pettibone recommended approval of all of the consent items as listed

Mr. McLaughlin moved to approve all the Consent Items outlined above. Mr. Schilling seconded the motion with no further discussion, a Board vote of 6:0 approved the Consent Items as presented.

Dr. Rodgers introduced Sarah Emmert, Special Education Teacher. Very excited about her coming to Manchester Community Schools. Sarah thanked Dr. Rodgers and Board members. Dr. Lippe introduced James Bishir, Assistant Principal. James also thanked Dr. Lippe and Board members.

NEW BUSINESS

- *A. Approval of Bonds for the Athletic Director and Athletic Director Secretary for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Dr. Trump made a motion to approve the Bonds for the Athletic Director and Athletic Director Secretary for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 as presented: Mrs. Ayres seconded the motion; and the Board voted 6:0 to approve the motion.

- *B. Approval of Kevin Walter as Library Board Representative

Mr. Schilling made a motion to approve Kevin Walter as Library Board Representative as presented: Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion; and the Board voted 6:0 to approve the motion.

- *C. Permission to Advertise 2018 Budget

Mr. Bumgardner presented the proposed 2018 Budget to the Board and requested permission to advertise. The General Fund is at \$10,395,709.00 to cover salaries and benefits, which is determined by enrollment. The Debt service which is our bonds is non-negotiable and the Pension debt is about to end. The CPF fund has not changed much from last year. Mr. Bumgardner informed the Board the budget will not come in much different than last year. The General Fund is operating well and Mr. Bumgardner thinks this is a responsible budget for 2018.

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Mr. Schilling made a motion to approve Permission to Advertise 2018 Budget as presented: Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion; and the Board voted 6:0 to approve the motion.

D. A rescinding resolution to withdraw from WMAP

Mr. Pettibone explained to the Board that last December it was recommended the MCS schools give a consideration to withdrawal from WMAP. Mr. Pettibone discussed with Ann Higgins, director of WMAP, our principals and the superintendents of Peru, Wabash County and Wabash City. It was learned that Special Education is an area that you do not want to make mistakes. There are changing regulations and you do not want to be in violation. Ann Higgins and the cooperative can assist in helping MCS to stay in compliance. Mr. Bumgardner stated that WMAP has been willing to adjust to meet the needs for our schools. The changes meet our needs and gives us a reason to reconsider. Mr. Pettibone reported Ann Higgins and the other three superintendents have been very professional in the discussions. We want to inform WMAP if we are staying or if we decide to leave. This should not be a last minute decision. If the Board decides to rescind the consideration to withdrawal, we would need to report to the Wabash Miami Special Education Cooperative and see how they respond. There is discussion on whether they would accept the letter to reapply to the CO-OP. Mr. Flack asked Mr. Bumgardner to refresh the Board on why we wanted to leave. Mr. Bumgardner replied it felt like we were not getting the attention that we had agreed upon, because we have the fewest number of special education students in the CO-OP. We thought we could service the schools in other ways. We have improved our communication. WMAP have met the requests. They are setting a number of days the assistant director will be in our district and in our offices. The assistant director will help us with special education evaluations. Mr. Pettibone proposed to not take action tonight, but bring it back to the September board meeting. Mrs. Ayres thanked Mr. Pettibone and Mr. Bumgardner for bringing this back to the Board.

E. Update on Transitional Kindergarten

Dr. Rodgers and Mr. Pettibone consulted the IDOE and had conversations with the Assistant Director for Early Learning and learned we have to do some back tracking from the original presentation that was presented in May. The original plan for a two year transitional kindergarten program needed adjusted. The original plan was for a two year program that would allow four year old children to start formal education early. Dr. Rodgers met with parents that were interested in the program explained the adjustment. Parents were given the option to appeal for their four year olds to enter kindergarten early. Of the twenty-eight who appealed, eleven of them were approved and deemed for kindergarten. Seventeen of those students were not approved for kindergarten. The eleven that were approved will be kept together in the same class along with other kindergarten students. The other children will attend a preschool program at MES. Mr. Pettibone announced the program will be reviewed in January before the start of the next school year.

*F. Approval of Manchester Youth Football

Mr. Pettibone asked for approval of the Manchester Youth Football to use school facilities for the fall of 2017.

Mr. Schilling made a motion to approve the Manchester Youth Football as presented: Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion; and the Board voted 6:0 to approve the motion.

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ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES AND REPORTS

A. Principals

Dr. Rodgers reported they are almost fully staffed. Teachers have been in the classrooms getting ready and the building looks great. Still looking for a Second Grade Teacher, or a long term sub for that position.

Mr. Self and teachers met for two days this summer and discussed what they can do for the students. They came up with five ideas they want students and staff to focus on during the school year. Trustworthy, caring, respectful, responsible and intentional. A banner will hang in the hallway with these words to remind everyone to stay focus throughout the school year. Mr. Self attended the PLC conference in Chicago. August 21st, 2017 is open house. Parents and students can go into the classrooms and teachers will be serving ice cream in the gym to everyone.

Dr. Lippe reported registration went very well. Six teachers went to PLC training in Chicago with Randy Self. Mr. Bishir was also able to attend. Fall practices are going well. Girls golf season is under way and having an outstanding season. Everyone is ready and excited to come back.

B. Curriculum Director

Mrs. Gnagy was absent.

C. MTA

Mrs. Good reported teachers are excited to come back and start teaching. The annual book give away is August 10th from 4:00 – 8:00 and August 12th from 6:00 - 8:00. MTA went through training with Uniserve director Heidi Miller. Mrs. Snover thanked Mr. Pettibone and Dr. Lippe for letting them talk at New Teacher Orientation Day. The general meeting for all members and potential members will be on August 14th at the high school auditorium.

D. Business Manager

Mr. Bumgardner reported registration took in ten percent more dollars for book fees and eight percent more in lunch dollars compared to last year. Mr. Bumgardner thanked Eel River Power for their generous donation for the EFI utility vehicle. The well at MIS and the football score board at MJSHS were struck by lightning. The well has been fixed and the score board will be repaired.

E. Interim Superintendent

Mr. Pettibone announced the ISBA Conference is October 2nd and 3rd, 2017. He encouraged Board members to try to attend the October 2nd meeting. State Superintendent Jennifer McCormick will be in Lafayette, IN September 5th and in Fort Wayne, IN on September 13th. Mr. Pettibone gave an update on the collaboration study. Mr. Pettibone and Mr. Bumgardner attended a meeting concerning the demographics of Wabash County. The workforce of Wabash County met separately with each of the districts and reviewed our facilities, our finances and also academic advancement. A meeting will be held with Mr. Pettibone, Mr. Bumgardner and Mr. Flack on September 7th. On September 12th, there will be an Executive Session meeting with Board members. The collaboration team will review the findings. They will make public presentations in September. Mr. Pettibone expressed the time he will be here will be to focused on student achievement. Two things he wants to emphasize are alignment and time on task. The goal is eighty to ninety percent of all students to pass standardized tests. With alignment and time on task, achievement can improve. Increased achievement benefits student choice.

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Mr. Pettibone suggested to begin the discussion on the Superintendent search and how Board members would like for that to take place. He emphasized again, the hiring of the Superintendent is the responsibility of the Board.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

A member of the community spoke about the needs of Special Education in our community and the concerns of compliance.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Schilling thanked teachers for all of their hard work in the classroom but also during the summer to help our students.

ADJOURNMENT

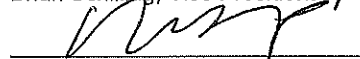
With no further business, Mr. Flack, School Board President, adjourned the Manchester Community Schools' Board of Trustees Board Meeting at 6:55 p.m.



Steve Flack, School Board President



Brian Schilling, Vice President



Nate Trump, Secretary

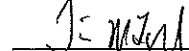


Ruth Ayres, Member



Brice Bedke, Member

Absent
Sally Krouse, Member



Tim McLaughlin, Member

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