

# MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

MARION, INDIANA

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

August 8, 2017

The Board of School Trustees of Marion Community Schools met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 8, 2017, Room 2-29, Marion High School, 750 W. 26<sup>th</sup> St., Marion, Indiana, at 7:03 pm.

### Board members present:

Aaron Vermilion	President
Cathy Moritz	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Greg Kitts	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Scott Murphy	Secretary
Chuck Griffin	Member
Katie Morgan	Member
Todd Nicholson	Member

### Also present:

Brad Lindsay	Superintendent
Shelley Preston	Human Resources Director
Bob Schultz	Asst. Supt. of Business Affairs
Michele Smith	Elementary Education Director
Lynn Gosser	Director of Exceptional Learners / Secondary Ed
Olivia Wright	Director of Special Ed
Lisa Graham	Executive Director, GC Special Ed Co-Op
Patricia Gibson	Director of Communications
Zoeann Lassiter	Interim Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

### Media/Distinguished Guests:

Stephanie Holcomb	Marion Teachers Association
Spencer Durham	Chronicle-Tribune

Spectators/Patrons

4

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Aaron Vermilion, President, called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given. There was a moment of silence.

## **II. CONSENT AGENDA**

*17-124 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD JULY 25, 2017*  
*17-125 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD JULY 25, 2017*  
*17-126 MINUTES OF WORK SESSION HELD AUGUST 1, 2017*  
*17-127 PERSONNEL REPORTS*  
*17-127.01 ADDENDA PERSONNEL REPORTS*  
*17-128 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST*  
*17-129 FINANCIAL REPORT*  
*17-130 STATEMENT OF BENEFITS*  
*17-131 CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SALARIES*  
*17-132 DECLARATION OF OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT*  
*17-133 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTS*

## **17-124 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD JULY 25, 2017**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the Executive Session held Tuesday, July 25, 2017, at 6 p.m.

**17-125 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD JULY 25, 2017**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held Tuesday, July 25, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

**17-126 MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION HELD AUGUST 1, 2017**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the work session held Tuesday, August 1, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.

**17-127 and 17-127.01 PERSONNEL REPORTS**

The Personnel Reports consisted of:

**MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
PERSONNEL REPORTS**

**8/8/17**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

**Resignation**

Michael Wingert	MHS, Administrator on Assignment	8/3/17
-----------------	----------------------------------	--------

**BARGAINING UNIT REPORT**

**New Employee**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building and Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Doug Ballinger	MHS, Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Laura Ashba	Kendall, Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Holly McGriff	Frances Slocum, Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Stephanie Curcuru	McCulloch, Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Kevin Alsup	Justice, Behavior Interventionist	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Larry Hinshaw	MHS, Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Lindsay Cornewell	McCulloch, ELA Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring

		process and receipt of an Indiana license
--	--	-------------------------------------------

**Addenda Position Assignment**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building and Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
James Bell	MHS. Asst Varsity Football Coach	7/31/17

**Resignation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building and Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Alex Goins	Frances Slocum-Kendall, Teacher	8/3/17
Joshua Halliwell	Allen, Teacher	8/1/17
Tammi Ashley	Frances Slocum, Teacher	8/1/17
Kaytlin Watson	McCulloch, Teacher	8/1/17

**Change in Assignment**

Ben Hawk	From Justice, Teacher to Kendall/Frances Slocum PE Teacher	8/9/17
----------	------------------------------------------------------------	--------

**CLASSIFIED REPORT**

**Change in Assignment**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building and Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Beth Carrico	From Kendall, EA to New Beginnings EA	8/9/17
Marie Owen	From Riverview EA, to Kendall, New Beginnings EA	8/9/17
Seth Harshman	From Justice, EA to Justice, Intermediate Academic College and Careers Specialist	8/9/17
Tanna Dawson	From Frances Slocum, Academic Specialist to Frances Slocum, Teacher	8/9/17
Carlos Delgado	From Justice, Sp Ed EA to McCulloch, Sp Ed EA	8/9/17
Brittany Callaway	Justice, Life Skills EA to 1:1 Sp Ed EA	8/9/17
Kelly Hawkins	From 6.5 hours to 7 hours	8/9/17/
Karen Nichols	Justice, Sp Ed EA to SNPS EA	8/9/17
Renee Arenibar	From SNPS, EA to GWA, EA	8/9/17

**New Employee**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building and Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
April Gambrel	Title I Resource Clerk/Human Resources Receptionist	8/14/17– pending successful completion of

		the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Steven Ward	MHS, Sp Ed EA	8/9/17
Atoya Mays	McCulloch, Discipline Secretary	8/14/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Misty York	McCulloch, Bookkeeper	

**Resignation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building and Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Stevi McNutt	McCulloch, Treasurer	7/26/17
Jessica Rodriguez	Riverview, Little Giants EA	7/26/17
Monica Carillo-Klein	McCulloch, Sp Ed EA	8/2/17
Kevelyn Hurst	Food Service Assistant	8/1/17
Breanna Elkins	Frances Slocum, Instructional EA (New Beginnings)	8/3/17

**MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
 ADDENDA  
 PERSONNEL REPORTS  
 8/8/2017**

**BARGAINING UNIT REPORT**

**New Employee**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building and Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Jackie Scott	Kendall, Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Kurtis Rumble	McCulloch, Resource Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Robert Gray	MHS. Teacher	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license

**Change in Assignment**

Olivia Wright	From Special Services Coordinator to Director of Special Services	8/8/17
---------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------	--------

**Resignation**

Lisa Graham	District, Director of Special Services	8/7/17
-------------	----------------------------------------	--------

**CLASSIFIED REPORT**

**New Employee**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building and Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Nancy Miller	Justice, ISS Supervisor	8/10/17
Shelby Goodwin	Riverview, Little Giants EA	8/9/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process.

**Resignation**

Mitch Antle	McCulloch, Educational Assistant	8/7/17
-------------	----------------------------------	--------

**Change in Assignment**

Shanta Gilmer	From Justice Non-instructional EA to Frances Slocum Non-instructional EA	8/9/17
---------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------

The Superintendent recommended approval of the Personnel Reports, as presented.

**17-128 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST**

The Expenditure Approval Lists for 7/1/17 through 7/31/17 and 8/1/17 through 8/8/17 was presented. The report included accounts payable claims #14,181 through #14,286 for a total of 106 accounts payable claims. The total dollar amount of claims was \$658,934.97; of that amount \$277,629.51 was expended from the General Fund. The Superintendent recommended approval of the expenditure approval list. (**Exhibit “A”**)

**17-129 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Fund Summary Report was presented to the board for review.

**17-130 STATEMENT OF BENEFITS**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the revised Statement of Benefits as presented.

**17-131 CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SALARIES**

The Superintendent recommended approval of revised classified personnel salaries as presented.

**17-132 DECLARATION OF OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT**

The Superintendent recommended the board approve the declaration of obsolete equipment, as detailed in the memo presented.

**17-133 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the revised administrative contracts as presented.

Cathy Moritz entered a motion to approve the consent agenda. Scott Murphy seconded the motion. Chuck Griffin abstained from 17-126, and aye to the rest. Katie Morgan abstained from 17-124, 17-125, and 17-126, and aye to the rest. Greg Kitts abstained from 17-124, 17-125, and 17-126, no to 17-130 and 17-131, and aye to the rest. All other board members voted unanimously yes. Motion passed.

## **II. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

### **17-134 BUDGET TIMELINE**

Dr. Bob Schultz gave a general look ahead at 2018 budget creation and approval process:

*July/August 2017:* 2018 Budget Development: Preliminary budget numbers developed in draft form.

*July 2017:* Meet with Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) Field Representative for review of draft budgets and budget process.

*By Aug. 1, 2017:* DLGF provides MCSC with estimate of maximum permissible property tax levies, tax rates, and estimated impact of circuit breakers

*August 2017:* DLGF provides Certification of Net Assessed Value for 2018

*September 12, 2017:* Board Meeting: Public Work Session. Permission to Advertise the Proposed Budget, Capital Projects Plan and Bus Replacement Plan.

*September 14, 2017:* Submit Notice to Taxpayers of proposed 2018 budgets and tax levies and Notice to Taxpayers of Public Hearing to DLGF through Gateway. Publish CPF Plan and Bus Replacement Plan Notices in newspapers. (Must be at least 10 days before public hearing; Oct. 12 is last day permitted for notices.)

*September 26, 2017:* Board Meeting. Public Hearing on Budget, Capital Projects Plan, and Bus Replacement Plan. (Must be at least 10 days before adoption; Oct. 22 is last day permitted for public hearing.)

*October 9, 2017:* Obtain Certificate of No Remonstrance from County Auditor

*October 10, 2017:* Board Meeting. Adoption of the 2018 Budget, Capital Projects Fund Plan, Bus Replacement Plan, Pension Debt Tax Neutrality Resolution and other budget related resolutions. (Nov. 1 is last day permitted for adoption.)

*October 12, 2017:* Publish Notice of Adoption of Capital Projects Fund Plan and submit 2018 budgets, tax rates, and tax levies to County Auditor and DLGF (Nov. 3 is last day permitted for submission of budget through Gateway.)

*February 15, 2018:* Statutory deadline for DLGF to certify 2018 budgets, tax rates, and tax levies

Bob also noted that with HB 1099 taking effect, the budget will look different; he is on committee advising how to implement that. He also reported that the estimate of property tax circuit breaker loss to MCS is \$1.4 million. He reminded that last year at this time, the estimate was \$1.5 million, but the actual loss ended up at about \$1 million. The real number will come in February or March.

### **17-135 DISTRICT TARGET #2: PRODUCING LEARNING RESULTS UPDATE**

#### **• START OF SCHOOL UPDATE**

Director of Elementary Education Michele Smith said she couldn't be more proud to be a Marion Giant. She said that though she has been here a long time, today ranks among most wonderful days: About 120 teachers were in today for an all-day teacher academy, to hear about LitNum strategies to improve instruction and outcomes. There

were six breakout sessions. It was a full day, and a productive day. All of our teachers heard (or will hear, at the upcoming duplicate session) the same message at the same time. We are setting a new direction, we provided new learning, new structure, and we are going to have new results.

Superintendent Brad Lindsay thanked Michele for her excellent leadership, and said he is so proud of the work the staff has done this summer.

Michele replied with thanks, and noted that it takes a team to accomplish big things.

### **17-136 DISTRICT TARGET #4: FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS UPDATE**

#### **• SUMMER PROJECTS UPDATE**

Dr. Bob Schultz said Dave Khalouf, new Director of Operations, has done an outstanding job this summer. He has addressed many, many concerns, and has provided excellent communication regarding status of projects. In the last few days, Dave has been spending much time with Transportation Department. We're addressing every change possible, making plans to make best start of year possible. Bob also said the maintenance staff has done a great job, has fixed known problems, and has even found other things that needed to be addressed. This is all while buildings have been full of staffers for various programs and planning. He said he is looking forward to a fantastic school year.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Larry Cruz stated he was father to three MCS students. In response to 17-135 discussion, he said he was wondering what the results were last year, what results we are expecting this year, what's the new direction you're taking our students, what was wrong last year that changes were needed this year. He was surprised not to hear more discussion at tonight's meeting. He also presented his concerns regarding communication from school to parents. He is concerned about changes made to dropoff procedures at Kendall, specifically that parents cannot walk children to classroom, and felt these new rules were communicated at the last minute. He said he understands safety needs, but felt this takes away interaction opportunity for parents and teacher. Also felt communication of changes in staff roles and teacher assignments came at last minute.

Board President Aaron Vermilion thanked Larry for coming. He noted that ISTEP results from last year are still embargoed by the state. He also noted that MCS is constantly asking for more, for better. Until every student is an A, we'll continue to ask how we can get better. He noted the public work session the previous week had lasted about three hours, and results and plans were discussed, we looked at where we're strong, where we need to focus on and get better. Noted that explains why there wasn't much discussion today when Michele presented. As to communication, he said we talk about this every year. Sometimes we're good at it, sometimes we're not. We always strive to do better. As to new roles at Kendall and safety questions, those questions will have to be addressed later in person by school staff.

Katie Morgan emphasized that the state releases ISTEP. We don't release it. We can respond to it after state releases it.

Larry Cruz responded that he wants to know progression of results over the year. He also emphasized the need to listen to teachers and aides about what they think needs to change. Says he doesn't trust people. Doesn't know board. Doesn't have reason to believe he can't trust them, but he just doesn't trust authority.

Aaron Vermilion emphasized the board members aren't here because they want to be authority figures; they are involved to see this school system get better.

Greg Kitts emphasized that many of the board members are Marion grads, many have students here currently. We want to see the school system continually get better.

Superintendent Brad Lindsay said Michele Smith and Olivia Wright will work with Kendall Principal Trudy Grafton to reach out to Larry. We're always working to make decisions in the best interest of students, and we will be happy to continue this conversation with you personally, he told Larry.

#### **IV. MARION TEACHER ASSOCIATION COMMENTS**

None

#### **V. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Superintendent Brad Lindsay announced Olivia Wright's new assignment as Director of Special Education for MCS, and also announced Lisa Graham's new role as Executive Director for the Grant County Special Education Cooperative.

Olivia Wright said she's happy to be here, she's excited, and she thinks we're going to have the best year yet.

Brad Lindsay noted that tomorrow was the first day back for teachers, and we had a welcome rally planned in the morning. The next day would be the first student day, and we're striving to make this the best year yet

#### **VIII. BOARD COMMENTS**

Todd Nicholson said he appreciates all the work that has been done to get ready for start of school, and that he is looking forward to a great year.

Katie Morgan said she wishes the teachers the best as they start the year and welcome our students back, along with all staff.

Scott Murphy said he appreciates the investment of MCS staff. Most people think teachers get summers off, he said, and until he joined the school board, he had no idea how much work and prep goes into a school year. He thanked the teachers for all that hard work, said he was looking forward to an exciting year.

Aaron Vermilion said he too is looking forward to a great year.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be a regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Room 2-29 at Marion High School. There being no further comments, Mr. Vermilion adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.



---

Aaron Vermilion, President

---

Cathy Moritz, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

---

Greg Kitts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

---

Scott Murphy, Secretary

---

Todd Nicholson, Member

---

Katie Morgan, Member

---

Chuck Griffin, Member