

MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

MARION, INDIANA

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

August 22, 2017

The Board of School Trustees of Marion Community Schools met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, Room 2-29, Marion High School, 750 W. 26th St., Marion, Indiana, at 7:02 pm.

Board members present:

Aaron Vermilion
Cathy Moritz
Scott Murphy
Chuck Griffin
Katie Morgan
Todd Nicholson

President
1st Vice President
Secretary
Member
Member
Member

Board members absent:

Greg Kitts

2nd Vice President

Also present:

Brad Lindsay
Shelley Preston
Bob Schultz
Michele Smith
Lynn Gosser
Olivia Wright
Kerri Wortinger
Mike Ripperger
Patricia Gibson
Zoeann Lassiter

Superintendent
Human Resources Director
Asst. Supt. of Business Affairs
Elementary Education Director
Director of Exceptional Learners / Secondary Ed
Director of Special Ed
Director of Little Giants Preschool
Director, Marion Regional Career Center
Director of Communications
Interim Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Media/Distinguished Guests:

Scott Simpson
Spencer Durham

Marion Teachers Association
Chronicle-Tribune

Spectators/Patrons

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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

17-137 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD AUGUST 8, 2017

17-138 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD AUGUST 8, 2017

17-139 PERSONNEL REPORTS

17-139.01 ADDENDA PERSONNEL REPORTS

17-140 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST

17-141 OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

17-142 APPROVAL TO ACCEPT DONATION

17-137 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD AUGUST 8, 2017

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the Executive Session held Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, at 6 p.m.

17-138 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD AUGUST 8, 2017

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, at 7 p.m.

17-139 and 17-139.01 PERSONNEL REPORTS

The Personnel Reports consisted of:

**MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
PERSONNEL REPORTS**

8/22/17

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Resignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Anne Liddick	MCS, Administrator on Assignment	8/15/17

BARGAINING UNIT REPORT

New Employee

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Brandy Grayson	Justice, Teacher	8/10/17
Javon Washington	MRCC, ABE Teacher	8/23/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license

Addenda Position Redignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Amanda Burchell	MHS, Girls Swim Coach	8/9/17

Darlyne Bridgeman	MHS, Girls Track Coach	6/11/17
Mark Fauser	McCulloch, 7 th -8 th grade Assistant Tennis Coach	8/14/17

Resignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Anna Zulkowski	Allen, Teacher	8/4/17

CLASSIFIED REPORT

New Employee

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Andrew Howell	Justice, Security	8/10/17
Dontae Weatherly	McCulloch, Sp Ed EA	8/9/17
Misty Sanders	Frances Slocum, 1:1 EA Sp Ed	8/9/17
Lindsey Gonzales	McCulloch, Sp Ed EA	8/9/17

Brittany Fisher	Justice, Sp Ed 1:1 EA for EE	8/9/17
Kevin Dudley	Transportation, Bus Driver	8/14/17
Brandi Cates	Transportation, Bus Driver	7/1/17
Catherine Raih	Transportation, Bus Driver	8/1/17
Susan Scott	Transportation, Bus Driver	7/27/17
Tori McNair	McCulloch, EA	8/14/17

Resignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Loreen Black	MHS, Educational Assistant Sp Ed	8/10/17
Darla Turner	Justice, Educational Assistant	8/9/17
Rachel Ireland	Riverview, Academic Lab/Technology Specialist	8/9/17
John Buckler	Transportation, Bus Driver	8/10/17
Tim Black	Kendall/Frances Slocum, Student Support Specialist	8/24/17
Isaac McClung	Frances Slocum, Academic Lab Specialist	7/28/17

**MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
ADDENDA
PERSONNEL REPORTS**

8/22/2017

BARGAINING UNIT REPORT**New Employee**

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Julie Coryea	Justice, Special Ed Resource Teacher	8/22/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license
Tyler Greathouse	McCulloch, College and Career Teacher	9/4/17- pending successful completion of the hiring process and receipt of an Indiana license

Resignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Michael Halliwell	McCulloch, English Teacher	8/8/17
Michael Lucas	McCulloch, College and Career Teacher	8/8/17

Addenda Position Recommendation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Jacqueline Parson	McCulloch, 8 th Grade Volleyball Coach	8/21/17
Denise Ladyga	McCulloch, 7 th Grade Volleyball Coach	8/21/17
Becky Fenwick	Justice, Yearbook Sponsor	8/18/17
Katelyn Letterman	MHS, Junior Class Sponsor	8/10/17

CLASSIFIED REPORT**New Employee**

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Deborah Renfroe	Frances Slocum, Academic Specialist	8/28/17
Altagrace Joseph	MHS, Educational Assistant	8/21/17– pending successful completion of the hiring process.
Christopher Sizemore	MHS, Security	8/18/17
Erin Tudor	Justice, Educational Assistant	8/24/17- pending successful completion of the hiring process.
Isaac McClung	Frances Slocum, Social Service Specialist	8/21/17
Jeffrey Guenin	Riverview, Educational Assistant	8/28/17
Kimberli Straley	Riverview, Food Service Asst.	9/12/17
Tiffani Dunica	Kendall, Food Service Asst.	9/12/17

Unpaid Leave of Absence

Lynnette Wood	Frances Slocum, Educational Assistant	8/23-8/25, 8/28-8/29
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Resignation

Carl Brickman	MHS, Custodian	8/18/17
Tori McNair	McCulloch, Educational Assistant	8/22/17

Change in Assignment

Julie Wilmert	From CTE Health Career Support to CTE Health Science II Athletic Training	8/9/17
Betty Arrendale	From 3.75 hours to 2.75 hours at MHS, Food Service	8/18/17

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

17-140 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST

REDO:

The Expenditure Approval Lists for 8/1/17 through 8/10/17 and 8/1/17 through 8/22/17 were presented. The report included accounts payable claims #14,287 through #14,422 for a total of 136 accounts payable claims. The total dollar amount of claims was \$826,121.06; of that amount \$227,569.07 was expended from the General Fund. The Superintendent recommended approval of the expenditure approval list. (**Exhibit "A"**)

17-141 OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM

An out of state field trip request form for the Marion Regional Career Center aviation program to the U.S. Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio, was presented to the board for approval.

17-142 APPROVAL TO ACCEPT DONATION

A donation of \$500 from Dr. Mueller to Riverview Elementary to provide books to students on their birthdays was presented to the board for approval.

Scott Murphy entered a motion to approve the consent agenda. Cathy Moritz seconded the motion. Chuck Griffin abstained from 17-137, and aye to the rest. All other board members voted unanimously yes. Motion passed.

II. ACTION

17-143 RESOLUTION TO OFFER EMPLOYMENT

17-144 HEAD START CONTINUATION GRANT APPLICATION

17-143 RESOLUTION TO OFFER EMPLOYMENT

This is a routine document providing permission to offer employment in the days between board meetings through the beginning of the school year.

Katie Morgan entered a motion to approve the consent agenda. Todd Nicholson seconded the motion. All board members voted unanimously yes. Motion passed.

17-144 HEAD START CONTINUATION GRANT APPLICATION

The Superintendent recommended approval of the Head Start Continuation Grant Application as presented.

Kerri Wortinger explained that this is for continuation of funding from Dec. 1, 2017, through Nov. 30, 2018, and lays out allocations for the funding, about \$20,000. Every year we are required to write a continuation plan, even though we already have the grant through 2021. These allocations are then approved by the federal Head Start program. She noted that the Little Giants Preschool program is full with a waiting list of about 50 currently. Last year, most or all who were waitlisted eventually got in throughout the year, due to students who left, etc. The majority of those waitlisted at this time are 3-year-olds; 4-year-olds get priority for enrollment spots.

Todd Nicholson asked to confirm that this funding is for programming, not capital. Kerri confirmed. Capital would have to be a different grant, she said, and at this time none is available. Todd asked if she foresees a need for capital funds. Kerri said she's open to discussing, and they are constantly on the lookout for available funds. As of now, numbers are steady and we've been responsible with our dollars. Our preschool facilities are great right now, but we always have an eye toward future needs.

Scott Murphy asked if there was a particular part of town where demand was high, and Kerri said Riverview has a waitlist, noted that we added a classroom there this year and still have high demand.

Katie Morgan said that as a parent she's incredibly impressed with our Little Giants Preschool program, and that we have something special. Hands down Little Giants is the best preschool program she's experienced, she said, and we should be proud of our team. Kerri agreed, said it is a team effort, and collaboration is strong. Even in 5 locations, they maintain the feel of a family.

Brad Lindsay said that thinking ahead to growth, funding would be one question, but right now we are capped at space. So for significant growth of this program, we'd be back to considering reshaping and reconfiguration of grade levels to make more space for preschool.

Kerri noted that she has asked the federal Head Start office if there is any extra grant money available that she could apply for, with the waitlist in mind. No new money is available at this time. So the Little Giants program looks at different ways to stretch dollars to maximize space and staff. She is in contact with other school systems who use multiple funding streams, and will continue to explore.

Katie Morgan entered a motion to approve the consent agenda. Cathy Moritz seconded the motion. All board members voted unanimously yes. Motion passed.

III. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

17-145 TEACHER APPRECIATION GRANTS POLICY

~~17-146 DISTRICT TARGET #2: PRODUCING LEARNING RESULTS UPDATE~~

17-147 DISTRICT TARGET #3: FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY

17-145 TEACHER APPRECIATION GRANTS POLICY

Dr. Bob Schultz explained that we are required to have a policy to the state by Sept. 15 to take advantage of this grant opportunity. Previously this grant was tied to test scores, which created wide disparities and controversy. The state considered axing program altogether, but instead revamped it and equalized it, based on enrollment. Only highly effective and effective teachers are eligible; stipends paid to highly effective teachers must be 25% higher than effective. Actual amounts will be based on enrollment figures as reflected by ADM. This is a one-time stipend.

Scott Murphy asked how much per student. Scott Simpson said \$39, adding that stipends will likely be about \$600 per teacher.

Bob noted that this is a first reading, and this policy will be brought back for second at the next board meeting.

Scott Murphy asked if this is replacement for the teacher performance grant. Bob confirmed. This grant, he said, rewards them for their work, but is not tied to student performance (only to teacher evaluation).

17-147 DISTRICT TARGET #3: FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY

Dr. Bob Schultz noted that the next board meeting will include a public work session for the budget. Permission to advertise will also be requested at that time.

This is the last year for budget process as it's been for decades, Bob noted. For 2019, it will change dramatically due to state law changes. Capital projects and bus replacement plans will be part of the budget this year as it has been in the past, and we're required to advertise in local print media. The rest of the budget is online on Gateway only.

The budget is closely tied to student enrollment, Bob noted. We know our Title funds are being reduced, he said, and we also have major challenges by way of property tax circuit breaker and pension debt replacement - about \$2 million to \$2.5

million. Nonetheless, Bob said, we feel good about the budget, and the board will get more details as we move through the budget process.

Scott Murphy asked if the state is doing anything different with the transportation fund. Bob said there is a slight change in how assessed value is related. All schools will be allowed to request 4% more than in previous years due to this.

Aaron Vermilion asked how a county income tax or local income tax raise would affect us. Bob explained that public schools don't benefit from this at all, even though all other taxing entities do benefit. Aaron emphasized that if city or county raises this specific tax, it won't benefit schools AT ALL.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

IV. MARION TEACHER ASSOCIATION COMMENTS

Scott Simpson said he appreciates Katie's comments, and noted that we hire only licensed teachers for Little Giants. Our preschool teachers are professional and passionate. This is one of the reasons why we are a premiere program. Little Giants is a great introduction to Marion Community Schools, he said, and MTA is happy to have the preschool teachers as part of bargaining unit.

Scott also noted that the school year is off to great start.

In addition, he thanked the board for approving the out of state field trip for the aviation program to the Dayton Air Museum; this trip will be extremely educational and beneficial to these students, he said..

V. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Brad Lindsay said it has been the best start to the school year yet during his tenure. Everyone is speaking positively, making great connections, he said. It takes all of us, and he's thankful. He believes we're going to keep getting better.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

Todd Nicholson noted that Rocky Kent, former athletic director, has died recently. Under Kent's reins, no detail was overlooked, Todd said.. It was a good era in our athletic program, and he will be missed as a person. Todd offered personal condolences to the Kent family.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be a regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 12, 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 7:33 p.m.

Aaron Vermilion, President

Cathy Moritz, 1st Vice President

Greg Kitts, 2nd Vice President

Scott Murphy, Secretary

Todd Nicholson, Member

Katie Morgan, Member

Chuck Griffin, Member

