

Meridian Community Board Minutes
November 8, 2007
7:00 P.M.

Minutes of a Regular School Board Meeting of October 25, 2007

Call to Order and Roll Call

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District #223 was called to order by President Ron Steenken at 7:00 p.m. in the Meridian District Board of Education Room located in the Meridian Junior High School. Members present: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, King and Reeverts. Superintendent Prusator, Director of Business/HR Porter, Principal Mandzen, and Director of Buildings & Grounds Mickel were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by King, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the October 10, 2007 board meeting; payroll for November 5, 2007; October 17, 2007 Board Policy Committee Meeting Report; revisions to Policies 2:170, 4:120, 6:145, 6:160, 6:310 for first readings; and approval of Corporate Authorization Resolution for Stillman BancCorp, N.A. Ayes: Bonne, Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Reeverts and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Prusator reviewed the 2007 School Report Card. Mr. Prusator highlighted demographic, instructional and financial information. The 2007 School Report Card is posted on the district web site.

Building Principal's Report

Mr. Mandzen introduced Mrs. Audra Swenson who started an Athletes for Literacy program. Mrs. Swenson and several student athletes shared about the program; and what the program meant to them and their reading buddies at Highland. It was a very positive experience for both the student athletes and their reading buddies.

Building principal reports were available at board members' seats.

Notices and Communications

Mr. Prusator shared a letter from School Search awarding the district the 2007 Bright Star Award for Educational Excellence. Meridian was one of 80 school districts to earn the award (out of 872 districts). The award criteria was based on districts whose student academic performance ranked in the upper one third, but whose expenditure per pupil ranked in the lower one fourth.

Community Input

There was no Community Input.

Old Business

- 8.1 Presentation of the FY07 District Audit (Mr. Curt Kleckler)
Curt Kleckler and Stephanie Lombardi from Millikin, Benning, Kleckler, and Kobischa presented the FY07 Audit and related information. Mr. Kleckler indicated that the audit process was thorough and the district was utilizing appropriate accounting procedures. Mr. Steenken invited Board questions.
- 8.2 Approve Health/Dental/Life insurance recommendation for 2007-2008
Mr. Prusator stated that the information was reviewed at the last board meeting. Mr. Prusator's recommendation is to renew health insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield at the proposed rates at a 5.26% rate increase. (dental and life insurance are not up for renewal this year and the premiums remained the same as the previous plan year).

Motion: A motion was made by Jagielski, seconded by Reeverts, to approve the recommendation of the renewal of health insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield for 2007-2008. Ayes: Glendenning, Jagielski, King, Reeverts, Bonne and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously.

- 8.3 Review status search for Facility Project facilitator
Mr. Prusator is expecting information from five firms, individuals or agencies with a closing date of November 2nd. Discussion followed on how many to interview, length of time for presentations/questions, and a date to hold the interviews. The School Board will wait until a final number of candidates is determined prior to scheduling interview dates.

New Business

- 9.1 Preliminary discussion/place 2007 Levy figures on display for 2007 taxes due June/Sept. 2008. The levy hearing will take place on December 20, 2007 at 6:45 p.m. at Highland School.
Mr. Prusator and Mrs. Porter reviewed the preliminary FY07 tax levy figures and projected Equalized Assessed Valuation for the school district. Mr. Prusator stated that the tax rate for 2006 was \$4.75 per \$100 of assessed value.
- 9.2 Conduct facility tour of Meridian Junior High School
Mr. Prusator handed out and reviewed a Meridian Junior High School Fact Sheet. The Board, along with Mr. Prusator, Mrs. Porter, Mr. Mickel, Mr. Davidson, Cathy Reinsch and Kim Hofmeister toured the MJH building.

Board Comments

There were no board comments.

Adjourn to executive session

A motion was made by Reeverts, seconded by Bonne, to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing litigation. Ayes: Jagielski, King, Reeverts, Bonne, Glendenning and Steenken. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 10:10 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session

A motion was made by Glendenning, seconded by King, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. Time: 10:25 p.m.

Approve the minutes of the October 10, 2007 Executive Session

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by Jagielski, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2007 executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Bonne, seconded by King, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Fruin, Secretary