

Minutes of the Metamora CCSD #1 Board of Education Meeting of August 19, 2013

The August 19, 2013 meeting of the Metamora Community Consolidated School District #1 Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office at Metamora Grade School. Members present: Mr. Blundell, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Fisher, Mrs. Rauh, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Wernsman. Others in attendance included Metamora Grade School Principal Cathy Costello, Dean of Students Tim Damery, Kerry Fisher, Kris Tyler, Camille Hufnagel, Ray Talley, John Johnson, Mike Uzelac, Jan Holman, and Superintendent Marty Payne.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Wernsman, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Reports from the Public

No reports were given

Action Items

A. Discussion and Approval of a Tentative, Metamora CCSD #1, Fiscal Year 2014 Budget

Mr. Payne presented financial education as it pertains to the budget, including the fact that the state has cut general state aide by \$115,000 more than last year. The budgeted information for each respective fund accounts are as follows:

- Education, -\$470,036
- Operations and Maintenance, +\$11,079
- Debt Service, -\$66,470
- Transportation, +\$19,335
- IMRF/Social Security, -\$85,234
- Capital Projects, -\$117,929
- Working Cash, +\$75,598
- Tort, -\$7,371
- Fire Prevention/Life-Safety, +\$55,383

The tentative budget reads as "Unbalanced budget, however, a deficit reduction plan does not need to be submitted".

The discussion that followed focused on the fact the primarily local fund accounts, including the Operations and Maintenance, Transportation, and Working Cash, are all balanced, and that work has been done in these fund accounts over the past year to make a significant difference. However, the fund account that has heavy reliability on state revenue, the Education Fund, has a significant deficit.

The current state revenue is approximately the same revenue that was received ten years ago. Unfortunately, the expenditures are very much in line with the current fiscal year. The Board and Superintendent will need to conduct in-depth study, and perhaps make difficult decisions in order for the district to stay within financial means.

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Wernsman, to approve the tentative budget as presented. Those voting yea: Mrs. Rauh, Mr. Ward, Mr. Wernsman, Mr. Blundell, and Mr. Fisher. Those voting nay: Mr. Edwards. The motion carried.

B. Approve the date, time and location of Thursday, September 30, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., at Metamora Grade School for a public hearing regarding the district budget.

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Ward, to approve as presented. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

C. Discussion and approval of a service agreement with Ted Blunier for snow removal for the 2013-2014 winter months. The quotes were as follows:

Trucks by hour - \$80.00
Salting - \$125.00 per application
Skid Steer Needed - \$125.00 per machine
End Loader - \$150

Motion by Mrs. Ward, seconded by Mr. Wernsman, to approve the quote as presented. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

D. Discussion and approval of a contract renewal with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the district's health insurance. The increase in health insurance came to 6%

Motion by Mrs. Rauh, seconded by Mr. Blundell to approve the contract renewal as presented. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Discussion Items

A. SDS Financial Web Systems

A representative from SDS provided information, and a question and answer session, for the Board of Education at the July meeting. The discussion at the August meeting was in follow-up to the additional homework and discussion from the Superintendent. The cost for the upgrade includes a first year waiver, and training for our staff. The end result shows very little change in expense that we now incur. Other discussion included the overall benefit to the district, not just for current, business operations, but in planning for the future.

Costs will be cut from wasted paper expense, an improved, online support is available through SDS, and addition checks and balances to protect the bookkeeper are additional benefits to the online system.

Motion by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Wernsman, to approve the purchase of the SDS upgrade, online system. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

B. Lego League

Kris Tyler, Metamora Grade School Librarian, presented information to the Board of Education regarding a Lego League that could be hosted by the district. As the CAT Foundation is the primary support for the program, two representatives from Caterpillar were present, as well as Camille Hufnagel, assisted with the presentation.

Mrs. Tyler provided information with a Power Point, sharing history, design, and related costs with the program. The "First Lego League" involves competition among teams of designers, and are judged on project presentation, gracious presentation, and the robot game, and promotes teamwork, and technical know-how. Mrs. Tyler volunteered to be the coach, if approved by the Board of Education, for the team. The financial requirements for the program are as follows:

- Team Registration - \$225.00, sponsored by Caterpillar
- Tournament Entry Fees - \$50.00-\$100.00, sponsored by Caterpillar
- Field Setup kit - \$75.00, sponsored by Caterpillar
- Robot and Battery - \$499.00, sponsored by Caterpillar
- Laptop Computer - \$300.00, District responsibility
- Robot Game Table - \$100.00, District responsibility
- Team T-Shirts - \$50.00-\$100.00, District responsibility
- Presentation Expenses (paper, markers, etc.) - \$100, District responsibility

As the discussion unfolded, the district-related costs dropped as both visitors in attendance and members of the Board of Education offered to provide related equipment that the district would be financially responsible.

Motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Blundell, to the participation in the First Lego League. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Information Items

A. Committee Reports

1. Building Committee – no report
2. Education Committee – no report
3. Executive Committee – tabled for Executive Session
4. Finance Committee – no report
5. Negotiations Committee – no report
6. Policy Committee – no report
7. Transportation Committee – no report

While there weren't any "formal" reports to be given by the respective committee chairs, Mr. Payne shared the need to have several committee meetings in early September.

Building Committee – The natural gas usage/cost is higher than what it should be. As part of the performance contract, the Chevron Corporation included language indicating financial support if the district did not see significant reductions in the cost of natural gas. Mr. Payne has been in contact with Chevron representatives, requesting research on our natural gas. Specifically, Mr. Payne has asked for a comparison of natural gas use per building square foot prior to the work completed by Chevron, to the use now, both post-Chevron and with the addition of the newest wing. Mr. Payne will keep the Building Committee informed as the research information becomes available.

Executive Committee – As the District continues with both short and long-range planning, district property/space needs to be considered. There are several properties that need to be investigated, including the two homes that sit between the front parking lot and the baseball diamond, the corn/bean field that is to the north of the school and is owned by Snyder Village, and the vacated building that is roughly two blocks west of the school on Chatham Street.

Finance Committee – As the district continues to suffer financial difficulties due to lack of proper state funding, ways to cut costs need to be researched and addressed.

Negotiations Committee – The META and Board of Education will undergo the Collective Bargaining Process this fiscal year. The committee needs to meet to begin preparation for the process.

B. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Payne shared that new legislation has changed the School Board election process. Rather than the Board of Education Secretary, and several District approved representatives for the Secretary, the County Election Authority, the County Clerk, now has the responsibility for all election related activity.

Mr. Payne reminded the Board members that Thursday night, August 22, is the district's "Welcome Back to School" night, and he plans to introduce them as part of his welcoming address.

C. Principal's Report

Mrs. Costello asked the members of the Board if they had any questions regarding her report. No questions were asked.

D. Dean of Student's Report

This being the first day of student attendance, Mr. Damery did not have a report.

E. Athletic Director's Report

Ms. Vogel provided information on a coaching personnel change being recommended

Acknowledgement of Cards and Letters

There weren't any cards to share at this month's meeting/

Executive Session for the Purpose of Appointment, Compensation, Discipline, Dismissal, or Performance of Employees

Motion by Mrs. Rauh (at 8:40 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Wernsman, to enter into Executive Session. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Fisher (at 9:24 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Ward to adjourn the Executive Session meeting and return to Open Session. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Action Taken after Executive Session

Employment

Motion by Mrs. Rauh, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to accept the resignation from Danielle Buerkette from her position as 7th grade girls' basketball coach. All present vote yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to appoint Cathy Weinman to the position of 8th grade girls' basketball coach. All present vote yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mrs. Rauh, seconded by Mr. Wernsman, to hire Lindsey Glaub to the position of 7th grade girls' basketball coach. All present vote yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to hire Carla Koenig for the position of Latchkey Director. All present vote yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mrs. Rauh, seconded by Mr. Edwards, to hire the following personnel for the position of aide: part-time aides Suzanne Kahler and Mia Morge; full-time aides: Chrissy Nauman, Paula Adams, Brenda Dennis, Stephanie Kiesewetter, Alan Viek, Camille Hufnagel, Gail Simpson, and Lindsey Glaub. All present vote yea on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Wernsman, to approve the search for a full-time custodian. All present voted yea on a voice vote.

Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Wernsman (at 9:27 p.m.) seconded by Mr. Edwards, to adjourn the August 19, 2013 meeting of the Metamora CCSD #1 Board of Education. All present voted yea on a voice vote.

Robert Fisher
President

Deborah Rauh
Secretary