

**Minutes of the Metamora CCSD #1 Board of Education Meeting, March 15, 2018**

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The March 15, 2018 meeting of the Metamora Community Consolidated School District #1 Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at Metamora Grade School. Members present: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Blundell, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Gualandri, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Palmisano, and Mr. Strawn. Others in attendance included Lisa DeVore, Megan Huss, Melanie Wallace, Liz Vancil, Molly Gualandri, Diane Grebner, Marcy Short, Mark Short, Bryton Short, Loren Snyder, Amy Zobrist, Aaron Zobrist, Brittany Emmons, Mark Dotterer, Amanda Peck, Tara Wilson, Beth Anglin, Amy Ernenputsch, Beth Wiley, Metamora Grade School Dean of Students Tim Damery, and Marty Payne.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Reports from the Public

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron and Amy Zobrist presented information to the Board regarding the current policy and the need to look at allowing 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to try out for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball team. They made comparisons to other sports, including Cross Country, allowing a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student who is a top runner, to participate with as high as 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Academic opportunities were also discussed, sharing that the strongest academic students are permitted to take enriched courses. From their perspective, our student athletes are at a disadvantage than area schools who do allow 6<sup>th</sup> graders to play on a higher grade level team, not allowing our athletes to fully develop.

Action Items

- A. Approval to begin the 10-Year, Health/Life-Safety Audit

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Barnes, to begin the audit. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Discussion Items

- A. Police Resource Officer

The discussion focused on the percentage of time that the office would be needed at the high school as compared to the grade school. With the understanding that more of the officer's time will be spent at the high school, there will be a proration of cost. As the cost for the officer between the two schools is \$30,000, a 30% proration would be \$9,000, and a 40% proration would be \$12,000. The discussion include what the officer would do at MGS. Much of it will be before and after school times, times of specific need, and for educational purposes for our students. The final decision will need to be made at the April BOE meeting.

B. 2018-2019 Fee Structure

As the fee structure is typically set at the April BOE meeting, a review of the past few year's rates were presented to the BOE. The past two years rates are as follows:

| <u>2016-2017</u>     |                    | <u>2017-2018</u>  |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <u>Registration</u>  | \$130              | \$135             |
| <u>Food Service:</u> |                    |                   |
| -S-Breakfast         | \$2.10             | \$2.15            |
| -A-Breakfast         | \$2.35             | \$2.45            |
| -S-Lunch             | \$2.85             | \$2.90            |
| - A-Lunch            | \$3.35             | \$3.40            |
| <u>Activity</u>      | \$25 each activity | \$25 per activity |
| <u>Latchkey</u>      | \$4 per hour       | \$4 per hour      |
| <u>Gate Fees:</u>    |                    |                   |
| -Adults              | \$2                | \$2               |
| -Senior Cit.         | \$1                | \$1               |
| - Students           | No Charge          | No Charge         |
| <u>Sub Teachers</u>  | \$85               | \$85              |

C. Board of Education Meetings for May, 2018 – April, 2019

D. Junior High Staff Numbers for 2018-2019

There were many junior high teachers in attendance, speaking on the need to add another science teacher at the junior high level. This would allow for 5 teachers at each grade level in junior high, providing for a “middle school” concept in which a team of staff is assigned to only one grade level. This allows for common planning time, and a more effective and efficient way to educate all levels of students. The current class sizes are large, with one last year being at 31 students. The larger numbers in the classroom present a safety issue for science/lab activity.

The following document was shared with the Board:

**Statement of Need:**

JH department needs an additional Science teacher to meet the needs of students and scheduling. This would allow for 5 sections per grade level. Currently, the grade levels are split due to Science teachers bridging grades.

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**Concerns:**

1. Class Size:
  - a. Average is over 25 students with a high of 31 per class
  - b. Numbers have negated a devoted enrichment class for algebra and literature

- c. Science lab safety concerns
  - d. Lack of availability of supplies (Literature and Science)
  - e. Visibility of demonstrations in science is obstructed
2. RTI:
- a. Oversized class size reduces time to implement initial interventions to help students before they fall behind.
  - b. Teachers are not available to students outside of scheduled class time due to bridging schedules.
3. Common Planning Time:
- a. Teachers do not have a common time to coordinate lessons across subjects. (IE. 8th grade needs to coordinate a WWII literature novel with history department and language essay writing. 6th and 7th also have coordinated lessons with no time to organize.)
  - b. Teachers are not able to discuss social, emotional, and behavioral observations across the grade level in a timely manner. This means students Social, emotional, and behavioral needs are not addressed immediately and consistently leading to more students utilizing the counseling department. (See numbers below)

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## **Statistics from WCSEA Psychologist & Social Worker**

Realistically, the junior high should account for 30% of the children seen by the school psychologist and social worker, based on numbers. The junior high kids make up about 50% of their caseload. Teachers are especially concerned about risk assessments.

### Counseling Cases

43 total, 16 JH

### Students in Tier 2 Groups

46 total, 20 JH

### Risk Assessments

18 total, 14 JH

### DCFS Reports

2 total, 1 JH

### Monthly Drop-Ins Average

30 total, 15 JH

### Information Items

#### A. Board of Education Committee Reports

- 1. Building Committee
- 2. Education Committee
- 3. Executive Committee
- 4. Finance Committee
- 5. Negotiations Committee

6. Policy Committee
7. Transportation Committee

### Board of Education Recognition

Board of Education member Joe Strawn has been promoted within his profession and has the need to relocate. As a result, he will need to resign from the Board of Education. A plaque was presented to Joe, thanking him for his service on the Board of Education.

### **B. Administrative Reports**

Action was not required for this agenda item

Executive Session for the Purposes of: appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an employee(s); collective negotiation matters between the public body and its employees; student disciplinary matters; the sale or purchases of securities, investments, or investment contracts; and the establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, and for the Discussion of a Person to fill a Public Office

Motion by Mr. Palmisano (at 8:15 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Blundell, to enter into Executive Session. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Palmisano (at 9:07 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Barnes, to adjourn the Executive Session meeting and return to Open Session. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

### Action Taken after Executive Session

#### A. Personnel

- a. Resignation from Gina Kurz from her position as a special education assistant.

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the resignation. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

- b. Cindy Coyne for the position of special education assistant.

Motion by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Blundell, to approve the employment. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

- c. Leave-of-Absence for Ashley Amen

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the leave. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

- d. Ashley Jones for the position of head girls' track coach.

Motion by Mr. Blundell, second by Mr. Strawn to approve the hire. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

- e. Cindy Roley for the position of assistant girls track coach

Motion by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Strawn to approve the hire. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

- f. Resignation from Joe Strawn as a member of the Board of Education

Motion by Mr. Strawn, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the resignation. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

- g. Resignation from Megan Miller from her position as 7<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball coach.

Motion by Mr. Strawn, seconded by Mr. Palmisano to approve the resignation. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

- h. The Board approve a split stipend for the boys head track coach between Paul Urycki and Tim Damery

Other Action Taken after the Executive Session Meeting

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Strawn, (at 9:12 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Palmisano to adjourn the March 15, 2018 meeting of the Board of Education. All present voted yea on a voice vote.

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Bob Fisher  
President

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Mary Miller  
Secretary



