

MERIDIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #505
MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
April 15, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brian Evans at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members present were Brian Evans, Craig Wasilewski, Judy Boxx, Mary Mattison, and student representatives Kelsey Johnston and Marshall McBride. Charlie Crabtree arrived shortly after the meeting began.

ADOPT AGENDA

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Judy Boxx and seconded by Mary Mattison. The motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Craig Wasilewski made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Judy Boxx seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- A. Minutes for March 18, 2009 and April 1, 2009 meetings
- B. Accounts Payable/Payroll

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

State Budget Items – Superintendent Yeomans reported that the senate and house proposed budgets have large discrepancies with 580,000 on the low end to 1,200,000 on the high end. He said district staff is watching the budget reports on a daily basis, but it is too early to speculate on the outcome.

Audit Report – Mr. Yeomans said the recent state audit showed no findings. He gave information on recommendations from the auditors and commended Jean Calman, Deka Smith and Maggie Bagwell on their efforts.

2008-2009 Budget Status Report – The budgeted yearly average enrollment of 1771 FTE has been met with the average enrollment reported at 1772 through April and there has been no significant drop in enrollment. Mr. Yeomans reported that Meridian Parent Partnership Program will report enrollment in September 2009, but not in December, and then be counted through June 2010.

Summer School Status – There has been discussion regarding changing the configuration of summer school. Mr. Yeomans said some ideas are to offer summer school in August to help give students a jump start for school in September, and focus on math and reading.

District Capital Projects and Conditional Use Permit Hearing – Superintendent Yeomans said the county has approved the application for the conditional use permit for the portable classrooms and the new playfield and parking area. He said the new classrooms will be ready for use by the end of August.

Secondary Graduation Requirements and Schedule Public Meeting – A public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21 at Meridian Middle School for middle and high school parents to review secondary graduation requirements and new class schedule.

Bond Committee Input – Mr. Yeomans reported on the input sheets gathered from the last Capital Facilities Committee meeting. He said suggestions for a bond ranged from \$4,000,000 to the full \$23,000,000. There were many suggestions to running a bond not asking for quite as much as

before, and some people offered detailed descriptions. There was lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of offering a community survey, the timeline and the wording of a survey. Charlie Crabtree provided information on the cost of completed telephone surveys and said there is also the volunteer aspect. Mr. Yeomans said he would e-mail members the draft survey questions for their perusal as well as information on filing dates.

American Express Program—Mr. Yeomans provided information on the American Express credit card program. He said many vendors do not accept purchase orders and this program would benefit the school district especially in September when cash flow is low. He said he will continue to look into the program and provide more information at a later date.

December Survey Results—Kate McLean from WWU was present to give information on survey results that staff and students took in December. Ms. McLean said the three main broad questions were (1) what are the best things about Meridian, (2) what are the challenges at Meridian, and (3) suggestions. She said the next step is to meet with staff and students to share results of the survey. Ms. McLean said she will develop more detailed questions based on the results of the survey. She said she is considering developing an internet survey so people will have time to take the complete survey as well as ensure confidentiality. She asked for input from the board after they had reviewed the survey results.

INFORMATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Brian Evans said he had toured the high school early in the morning and said the campus looked sharp. He said he saw the new school buses, and Mr. Yeomans said they are ready to be licensed. Mary Mattison said she had visited the middle school and that the grounds were well maintained.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second Reading Revision to Board Policy Revision Number 3110 – Admission and Qualifications for Attendance.

There was second reading to revision of board policy number 3110 – Admission and Qualifications for Attendance. Mary Mattison made a motion to approve the revision to board policy number 3110 – Admission and Qualifications for Attendance. Judy Boxx seconded the motion and the motion passed.

B. Second Reading Revision to Board Policy and Procedure Number 4130 – Title I Parent Involvement.

There was second reading to revision of board policy/procedure number 4130 – Title I Parent Involvement. Craig Wasilewski made a motion to approve revision to board policy/procedure number 4130 – Title I Parent Involvement. Mary Mattison seconded the motion and the motion passed.

C. Second Reading Board Policy/Procedure Number 6801 – Capital Assets.

There was second reading and brief discussion on board policy/procedure number 6801 – Capital Assets. Judy Boxx made a motion to approve board policy/procedure number 6801 – Capital Assets and Craig Wasilewski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

D. Second Reading Revision to Procedure Number 2255—Alternative Learning Experience Programs

There was second reading to revision of board procedure number 2255 – Alternative Learning Experience Programs. Mary Mattison made a motion to approve revisions to board procedure number 2255—Alternative Learning Experience Programs. Judy Boxx seconded the motion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Teaching and Learning Update – New Courses

Deka Smith and Maggie Bagwell presented a list of elective course proposals with scope and sequence descriptions. Mr. Yeomans said the change in the schedule allows for the opportunity to add classes. Mrs. Smith outlined the process that staff has taken to help develop the proposed classes. The list of course proposals are classes that teachers are prepared to teach and that students have shown an interest. She discussed the option of adding honors classes rather than A.P. classes. Mary Mattison shared information she has gathered from community members regarding proposed classes and there was discussion regarding community input to the process. Lengthy discussion followed. It was determined that an additional meeting to further discuss the topic is needed, and Mr. Yeomans asked for feedback from the board after they have reviewed the course proposals.

B. Personnel Report

Judy Boxx made a motion to approve the personnel report and Charlie Crabtree seconded the motion. The motion passed (See attached)

C. Chemistry Class Overnight Trip to WSU May 29-30

Craig Wasilewski made a motion to approve the overnight chemistry class trip to WSU May 29-30 and Mary Mattison seconded the motion. The motion passed.

D. Possible Meeting Dates

There was discussion of possible special meeting dates to discuss curriculum and budget issues. It was decided to hold a school board meeting at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22 to discuss curriculum and on Thursday, April 30 at 4:30 p.m. to discuss budget issues. Both meetings will be held in the middle school library.

BOARD SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board went into executive session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss the following items:

- A. Legal Issue—Attorney Update
- B. Personnel—Single Position Discussion

ADJOURNMENT

The board returned to regular session at 9:20 p.m. and the meeting was immediately adjourned by Chair Brian Evans.

Chair of the Board

Timothy S. Yeomans, Superintendent and
Secretary to the Board