

MERIDIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 505
MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
November 16, 2005

Chair Judy Boxx called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present were Judy Boxx, Brian Evans, Bryan Vander Yacht and Mary Mattison.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Sanderson introduced sixth grade students Logan Hopp and Brandon Simpson who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Mary Mattison and seconded by Bryan Vander Yacht. Motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items on the consent agenda were approved on a motion by Bryan Vander Yacht and seconded by Brian Evans.

- A. Minutes for October 19, 2005
- B. Accounts Payable/Payroll
- C. Budget Status Reports

REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Dickerson reported on Strategic Plan Goals and progress toward each of the five goal areas. The Strategic Plan Goals are Academic, Community, Facilities, Administrative and Staff. He reviewed the specific examples of progress toward the goals and the most recent additions to the list. (See attached)

B. Graduation Project Report

Mr. Dave Shockley said the report on the Graduation Project covers four broad areas: Successes, Challenges, What Needs to Be Done to Make It Work, and The Role of the Board. High school career counselor, Kathy Greshock, gave information on the graduation packet; the four parts to the project, which are Applied Activity, Research Paper, Portfolio and Presentation; and information on how the faculty advisor assists the student. She reported that Graduation Project fall progress reports will be included in report cards and will require a signature from the parent which will then be returned to the faculty advisor. Mrs. Greshock said information on the Graduation Project is accessible on the MHS website. High school student Sherean Kesheb spoke about how she chose landscaping as her applied activity. She gave information on why she selected the area in front of the library for landscaping, how much time she spent on her activity and why machinery was necessary to complete the project. She said she received donations of planting materials from Kent's Nursery and Judy Boxx.

Counselor Elaine Kheriaty and teacher Mark Van Dyke spoke of the many challenges students and faculty are facing regarding the Graduation Project. It was stated that the Graduation Project should not be a stumbling block to graduation and that some students, running start and non running start alike, have questioned whether the project is worth doing in order to graduate. Time seems to be the biggest challenge for advisors, and some students fail to keep appointments. Mrs. Kheriaty said that although faculty advisor training is good, the follow-up sometimes comes a long time after training, so more updated training is needed. She said once

a student's project has been approved it can not be changed after a particular date unless the student goes through an appeal process. Another challenge expressed was in the area of technology. Mrs. Greshock said students are encouraged to take pictures for a picture board instead of using a power point presentation because of limited technology.

Mr. Shockley spoke briefly on "how to make it work." He said extra counselor time has helped, but that implementing a Graduation Project class has met with resistance. He mentioned that time will probably have to be carved out of the schedule this year as a temporary solution. A permanent solution will have to be considered. He said it is very important for board members to be aware of the many challenges the high school is faced with, and what will happen if students do not successfully complete all four components of the project. Mary Mattison suggested that Summer School might be an option for students, and Brian Evans suggested students complete their presentation soon after finishing the first three sections instead of waiting for April. It was also suggested that updates on the Graduation Project be reported at each meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

RECESS

The board recessed at 8:05 p.m. and returned to regular session at 8:12 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second Reading and Adoption

There was second reading of Policy No. 3415 – Accommodating Students with Diabetes, Policy No. 3413 – Immunizations/Life Threatening Conditions and Policy/Procedure No. 2255 – Alternative Learning Experience Programs. Mr. Bruce Burpee gave added information on the Alternative Learning Experience Program policy and procedure. Mary Mattison made a motion to approve policy numbers 3415 and 3413 and policy/procedure number 2255. Bryan Vander Yacht seconded the motion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. *School Facilities Maintenance Plan*

Superintendent Dickerson reported that the School Facilities Maintenance Plan is a written plan that specifies the structure of the committee, a maintenance philosophy, improvement projects and timelines for routine maintenance as well as capital improvements. He said improvement projects will shift and change from year to year, and that the plan is to be reviewed and updated annually. There was discussion regarding the need to replace the football field lights. Bryan Vander Yacht made a motion to approve the School Facilities Maintenance Plan and Mary Mattison seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. *Church Property Inquiry*

Mr. Dickerson said he had been approached by a representative from a church whose property adjoins district property to see if the district was either interested in selling property to the church or buying the property. There was board consensus for Mr. Dickerson to gather more information about the property and report at a future meeting.

C. *Agreement for SLP Services*

On a motion by Mary Mattison and a second by Bryan Vander Yacht, Agreement for SLP Services with Elaine Maki was approved.

D. *Interdistrict Cooperative Agreement – Ferndale SD*

An Interdistrict Cooperative Agreement with the Ferndale School District was approved on a motion by Bryan Vander Yacht and seconded by Brian Evans. The motion passed.

E. Student Representative on Board

Superintendent Dickerson said a Meridian High School student visited him recently about having a student representative on the board. The student has identified this topic as his graduation project. Mr. Dickerson said he has gathered information from WSSDA, established a set of guidelines, and will meet again with the student

F. Personnel Report The personnel report was approved on a motion by Mary Mattison and seconded by Bryan Vander Yacht. See attached.

G. Resolution No. 10-05 Transfer of Funds from CPF to DSF

Mary Mattison made a motion to approve Resolution Number 10-05 Transfer of Funds from Capital Projects Fund to Debt Service Fund, and Brian Evans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

BOARD SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by Chair Judy Boxx.

Chair of the Board

Burton Dickerson, Superintendent
And Secretary to the Board