

MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
MARION, INDIANA  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
February 23, 2011

The Board of School Trustees of Marion Community Schools met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, in the Board Room of the Education Service Center, 1240 South Adams Street, Marion, Indiana, at 6:04 p.m.

Board members present:

Mr. Aaron Vermilion	President
Dr. Harry Hall	1st Vice President
Mr. Scott Murphy	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Mr. Greg Kitts	Member
Mr. Mike Luce	Member
Mrs. Cathy Moritz	Member

Board member absent:

Mrs. Katie Morgan	Secretary
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Also present:

Mr. Steve Edwards	Superintendent
Mr. Jim McWhirt	Business Manager
Dr. Ken Folks	Chief Academic Officer
Dr. June Robinson	Director of Special Services
Mr. Troy Freeman	Director of Support Services
Ms. Amy Rauch	Secondary Instructional Coordinator
Mr. Lennon Brown	Interim Academic Principal, Marion High School
Mrs. Michelle Clouser	Elementary Instructional Coordinator
Mrs. Yvonne Stokes	Principal, Frances Slocum Elementary
Mrs. Michele Kelsay	Head Start Program Manager

Distinguished Guests:

Mr. John Clayborn	MTA President
Mr. Greg Jones	Education Reporter, Chronicle-Tribune
Mr. Kristopher Lee	WBAT-WCJC-WXXC Radio

Spectators/Patrons	5
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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Vermilion, Board President, called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given. There was a moment of silence.

## **II. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Edwards requested approval of the Board for the Consent Agenda Items as follows:

- 11-045 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2011*
- 11-046 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD FEBRUARY 17, 2011*
- 11-047 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 17, 2011*
- 11-048 PERSONNEL REPORTS*
- 11-049 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST*
- 11-050 APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF VISION INSURANCE*
- 11-051 APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST – MARION HIGH SCHOOL*

Any Board member may request to breakout any consent agenda item and conduct a separate vote.

### **11-045 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2011**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011.

### **11-046 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD FEBRUARY 17, 2011**

Mr. Edwards recommended approval of the minutes of the executive session held Thursday, February 17, 2011, at 5:00 p.m.

### **11-047 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 17, 2011**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on Thursday, February 17, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

### **11-048 PERSONNEL REPORTS**

The Personnel Reports consisted of:

## **MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PERSONNEL REPORTS**

2/23/11

### **BARGAINING UNIT REPORT**

#### **Retirement**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Beth Prater	Allen/Frances Slocum, Art	The Last Day for Professional Staff for the 2010-2011 School Year

#### **Addenda Position Recommendation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Kim Helton	MHS, Assistant Cheerleading Coach	For the 2010-2011 School Year
Laurie Kocher	Justice Marshall, Book Club Sponsor	For the 2010-2011 School Year

**Unpaid Leave of Absence**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Monica Fearnow	Frances Slocum, Kindergarten	1/24/11

**Resignation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Jesse Daniel	MHS, English	2/11/11

**Involuntary Transfer**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Troy Andrews	From McCulloch, English (half-time) & MHS, English (half-time) to MHS, English (full-time)	2/22/11

**CLASSIFIED REPORT**

**Family Medical Leave**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Fred Mindach, II	Justice Marshall, Custodian	2/1/11 through 2/18/11

**Termination**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Linda Starkey	Transportation, Bus Driver	2/23/11

**Unpaid Leave of Absence**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Malinda Hancock	MCS EC Center, Kitchen Assistant	2/10/11 through 3/7/11
Pat Howard	Frances Slocum, Kitchen Assistant	2/8/11, 2/17/11 and 2/23/11

**Resignation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Ruth Collier	Frances Slocum, Academic Specialist	2/9/11
Christal Helm	Riverview, Elementary Support Strategist	2/18/11

**Change in Assignment**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Julie Heth	From Detention Center, Instructional Educational Assistant to Tucker, Alternative School Instructional Educational Assistant	2/24/11
Annette Hueston-Ybarra	From Tucker, Alternative School Instructional Educational Assistant to Detention Center, Instructional Educational Assistant	2/24/11
Eileen Huskey	From McCulloch, Secretary to McCulloch, Principal's Secretary	2/24/11

**New Employee**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building &amp; Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Amy Miles	Tucker, Instructional Educational Assistant	2/24/11

The Superintendent recommended approval of the Personnel Reports, as presented.

**11-049 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST**

The Expenditure Approval List for 2/1/11 through 2/22/11 was presented. The report included accounts payable claims #70,709 through #70,720, #70,725 through #70,731, and #70,734 through #70,877, for a total of 163 accounts payable claims. The total dollar amount of claims was \$1,661,759.58 of that amount \$914,484.61 was expended from the General Fund. The Superintendent recommended approval of the expenditure approval list. **(Exhibit "A")**

**11-050 APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF VISION INSURANCE**

Members of our teaching staff, as part of their benefits, are offered vision insurance and this service is currently provided through VSP. The VSP agreement for these services expires on June 30, 2011. VSP has submitted an offer to renew our agreement through December 31, 2013 with the current plan benefits and premiums.

The premium structure is as follows:

	<u>Single Plan</u>	<u>Family Plan</u>
Total Annual Premium	100.08	240.24
Corporation Share of the Premium	78.84 (79%)	192.12 (80%)
Employee Share of the Premium	21.24 (21%)	48.12 (20%)

Mr. McWhirt has discussed this renewal proposal with Mr. John Clayborn, President of the Marion Teachers' Association, and Mr. Clayborn is in agreement that we should accept this renewal proposal. Mr. McWhirt recommended the Board approve the renewal of the VSP vision insurance agreement, as presented.

### **11-051 APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST – MARION HIGH SCHOOL**

The administration recommended approval of the overnight field trip request for the Marion High School Black History Club annual college tour field trip, this year to New Orleans, LA. The group will leave Marion High School on Sunday, March 20, 2011 at approximately 10:00 p.m. and return on Thursday, March 24, 2011 at approximately 10:00 a.m. Transportation will be provided by American Heritage Trails, Laotta, IN. There will be approximately 30 students participating and 12 adult chaperones. This field trip is during spring break, so the students will not miss any class time.

Board Policy #2340 requires Board approval for school sponsored out-of-state student trips and/or overnight field trips. The Superintendent recommended approval of the field trip request as part of the Consent Agenda Items.

Mrs. Moritz entered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items 11-045 through 11-051. After a second by Mr. Murphy, the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### **III. DISCUSSION**

#### **11-052 RECOMMENDATION FOR ALTERNATIVE TO SUSPENSION SCHOOL**

Dr. Folks discussed the proposal for an Alternative to Suspension Program, which would be located at Tucker Vocational School. The program will address the short term educational needs of students in grades 7-12 who are suspended from school. Being assigned to the Alternative to Suspension Program, instead of serving their suspension at home, will provide students the opportunity to continue their schoolwork in a structured environment.

### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Joselyn Whitticker addressed the Board with regard to student success.

### **V. MARION TEACHER ASSOCIATION COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the teachers association.

### **VI. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

The Indiana Department of Education will be visiting Marion High School on Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, as a follow up visit. There will be a public legislative forum this Saturday at Eastbrook Jr./Sr. High School at 10:00 a.m.

### **VII. BOARD COMMENTS**

Dr. Hall thanked the Superintendent, Dr. Folks and Mrs. Bowyer for putting together the Alternative to Suspension School as well as the support from the Prosecutor's Office. He is looking forward to seeing the results from this new program. He also thanked Mrs. Whitticker for her comments and invited more participation from the public.

Mr. Kitts thanked everyone for being here tonight and hearing the message of what we are trying to do at Marion Community Schools. He expressed his concerns with the thoughts behind vouchers and charter schools.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be a regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Service Center. There being no further comments, President Vermilion adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Vermilion called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**II. PUBLIC HEARING – FRANCES SLOCUM ACCREDITATION STATUS**

This portion of the meeting was a public hearing for Frances Slocum Elementary’s Accreditation Status, per PL221. Frances Slocum is in year 1 of the academic probation under the Indiana Accountability Model, Public Law 221. The PL 221 Accountability Model takes into consideration the school’s overall performance on the ISTEP test and how students have improved from year to year. Frances Slocum has developed a school improvement plan to address noted deficiencies and will be visited by a technical assistance team assigned by the Indiana Department of Education to review school improvement initiatives and to make recommendations for improvement.

The Superintendent stressed to the community that Frances Slocum Elementary is an excellent elementary school. Mrs. Yvonne Stokes, Principal of Frances Slocum Elementary, gave a report outlining the school initiatives to improve student achievement.

The public was invited to speak. Mrs. Joselyn Whitticker addressed the Board.

The hearing on Frances Slocum Elementary accreditation status was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

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Aaron Vermilion, President

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Dr. Harry Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

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Scott Murphy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

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Katie Morgan, Secretary

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Greg Kitts, Member

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F. Michael Luce, Member

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Cathy Moritz, Member