

MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

MARION, INDIANA

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

November 28, 2012

The Board of School Trustees of Marion Community Schools met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 28, 2012, in the Board Room of the Education Service Center, 1240 S. Adams Street, Marion, Indiana, at 6:10 p.m.

Board members present:

Mrs. Katie Morgan	1 st Vice President
Mr. Greg Kitts	2 nd Vice President
Mrs. Cathy Moritz	Secretary
Mr. Scott Murphy	Member
Mr. Mike Luce	Member
Dr. Harry Hall	Member

Board members absent:

Mr. Aaron Vermilion	President
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Also present:

Mr. Steve Edwards	Superintendent
Dr. Ken Folks	Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Mr. Jim McWhirt	Business Manager
Mr. Troy Freeman	Director of Support Services
Mrs. Lisa Graham	Director of Special Services
Mrs. Kristi Phillippe	TAP District Coordinator
Ms. Sylvia Flowers	MHS Assistant Principal

Distinguished Guests:

Mr. John Butcher	MTA President
Mrs. Stephanie Holcomb	MTA Representative
Mr. Eric Price	Reporter, Chronicle-Tribune
Ms. Layla Price	Reporter, WBAT-WCJC-WXXC

Spectators/Patrons	25
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I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Morgan, Board 1st Vice President, called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

RECOGNITION

Ms. Sylvia Flowers recognized the Young Entrepreneurs Program Winners from Marion High School. First place winners were Brittany Olson, Jaleecia Bell, and Garrett Treadwill. Second place winners were Amram Marks, Frances Sebastian, Caleb Herring and Erin Bailey. Mr. Tim Eckerle of the Grant County Growth Council congratulated the winners and noted what a pleasure it was to work with these students.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 12-259 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2012
- 12-260 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2012
- 12-261 PERSONNEL REPORTS
- 12-262 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST
- 12-263 REQUEST TO ACCEPT DONATION – RIVERVIEW ELEMENTARY
- 12-264 RESOLUTION TO OFFER EMPLOYMENT
- 12-265 REQUEST TO ACCEPT DONATIONS – MARION HIGH SCHOOL
- 12-266 REQUEST TO ACCEPT DONATION - DISTRICT

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

12-259 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2012

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the executive session held on Wednesday, November 7, 2012.

12-260 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2012

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.

12-261 PERSONNEL REPORTS

The Personnel Reports consisted of:

**MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
 PERSONNEL REPORTS**

11/28/12

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Change in Assignment

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Heather Pratt	From, MCS Early Childhood Center, Interim Head Start Coordinator to Head Start Coordinator	11/1/12

BARGAINING UNIT REPORT

Addenda Position Recommendation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Matt Hinds	MHS, Assistant Boys Basketball Coach	For the 2012-2013 School Year

New Employee

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Aimee Savader	Justice Marshall, School Counselor	11/29/12

CLASSIFIED REPORT

New Employee

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Joan Buck	St. Paul, After School Tutor/Interventionist	12/3/12
Tarah Cantrell	McCulloch, Academic Specialist	11/15/12
Phil Cooper	Riverview, Custodian	12/3/12
Dan Rumble	MHS , Custodian	12/3/12
Kelly Snyder	MHS, Academic Lab Specialist/Tutor	11/26/12

Family Medical Leave

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Eileen Huskey	McCulloch, Secretary	12/3/12 through 12/20/12
Bette Jarvis	Transportation, Secretary	Intermittent Leave beginning 10/5/12

Resignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Margie Bowman	Tucker, LPN Instructor	11/12/12
Kimberly Easter	Tucker, LPN Instructor	11/23/12
Janet Shindler	Riverview, Secretary	12/7/12
Mary Ellen Turner	McCulloch, Instructional Educational Assistant	11/13/12

Change in Assignment

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Karen Cox	From MHS, Instructional Educational Assistant – Life Skills to MHS, Instructional Educational Assistant – Study Hall	11/12/12
Donald Gibson	From MHS, Interim Working Lead Custodian to MHS, Working Lead Custodian	12/3/12
Nikki Kitts	Riverview, Secretary (full-time)	12/10/12

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

12-262 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST

The Expenditure Approval List for 10/26/12 through 11/28/12 was presented. The report included accounts payable claims #83,580 through #83,966 for a total of 387 claims. The total dollar amount of claims was \$2,522,282.65; of that amount \$1,086,846.66 was expended from the General Fund. The Superintendent recommended approval of the expenditure approval list. **(Exhibit “A”)**

12-263 REQUEST TO ACCEPT DONATION – RIVERVIEW ELEMENTARY

The administration recommended the Board approve the acceptance of a donation of \$100.00 to Riverview Elementary from Mr. Butch Shockey. The funds will be used for the purchase of birthday books for every Riverview student.

12-264 RESOLUTION TO OFFER EMPLOYMENT

The Board of School Trustees is not in regular session from November 29, 2012 through December 11, 2012; and from December 13, 2012 through December 18, 2012; and from December 20, 2012 through January 8, 2013.

Since it is in the best interest of Marion Community Schools to hire the most qualified candidates when previously allocated positions become available during November, December and January, the administration recommended that the Board approve a Resolution Authorizing the Superintendent to Offer Employment.

The Superintendent recommended approval of the Resolution Authorizing the Superintendent to offer employment during the months of November, December and January. (**Exhibit “B”**)

12-265 REQUEST TO ACCEPT DONATIONS – MARION HIGH SCHOOL

The administration requested approval to accept various donations to Marion High School, totaling \$1,800. The funds will help support the Choral Department, Girls Basketball and the Academic Team.

12-266 REQUEST TO ACCEPT DONATION – DISTRICT

The administration recommended the acceptance of a donation from The Relief Society Women Organization of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, of approximately 60 sets of hats and gloves. These items will be given to students in need. The approximate value of this donation was \$400.00.

Mr. Luce entered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items #12-259 through and including #12-266, as presented. After a second by Mr. Murphy, the motion passed with Mr. Kitts abstaining on the Riverview Secretary recommendation and Mrs. Moritz abstaining on Items #12-259 and #12-261.

III. ACTION

12-267 NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF NON-RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS

Indiana law requires that administrators who are assistant superintendents, principals or assistant principals be given written preliminary notice that the School Board is considering non-renewing their administrative contract. Mr. Edwards, on behalf of the Board of School Trustees of Marion Community Schools, moved that the Superintendent issue written preliminary notice of the Board’s consideration of non-renewal to those administrators in the school corporation whose contracts may not be renewed as recommended by the Superintendent.

Dr. Hall entered a motion to approve the notice of consideration of non-renewal of contracts, as presented. After a second by Mrs. Moritz the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

12-268 SUBSTITUTE TEACHER PAY RATE

Marion Community Schools continues to experience a shortage of substitute teachers. In an attempt to remedy this problem, the Superintendent made the following recommendation:

1. The employment of up to fourteen (14) permanent substitute teachers to serve the district on a daily basis as at-will employees at the pay rate of \$150.00 per day.
2. Increase the pay rate for regular substitute teachers from \$55.00 for non-certified substitutes to \$70.00 per day and for certified (teacher licensed) substitutes from \$70.00 to \$80.00 per day.
3. Identify another service to contract with for the calling of substitute teachers and once this task is completed, cancel the contract with PCMI and enter into a contract with the identified entity.

After much discussion among the Board and Superintendent, the Superintendent revised his recommendation with points one and two remaining the same. Point three was revised to begin the process of canceling the contract with PCMI on November 29, 2012.

Dr. Hall entered a motion to approve the revised recommendation, as presented. After a second by Mr. Murphy the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

12-269 EMPLOYEE DENTAL INSURANCE

Mr. McWhirt reviewed the dental insurance renewal information and made the recommendation that the Board approve staying with Nationwide Insurance for the plan, with the new rates as quoted. (**Exhibit "C"**).

After much discussion the recommendation was revised with a change to the percentages paid by the district for dental insurance for Level B and Level C employees. The district will pay 70% of the dental insurance premium for Level C employees and 40% of the premium for Level B employees. The percentage of dental insurance premiums for teachers paid by the district is mandated by the Master Contract.

Dr. Hall entered a motion to approve the revised recommendation. After a second by Mr. Murphy the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

IV. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

12-268 REVISIONS TO MCS DISTRICT GOALS

MCS District Goals have been updated and were reviewed with the Board.

12-269 UPDATES TO THE MARION HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE

Dr. Croner presented suggested updates to the Marion High School course description guide for the 2013-14 school year.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

VI. MARION TEACHERS ASSOCIATION COMMENTS

Mr. John Butcher commented that he appreciated the information from the Board goals and the update of the MHS Course Description Guide. He stated that he felt that goals need to be added for the elementary level and that the Board focus on goals beyond Marion High School.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Mr. Edwards commented that the administration is still reviewing class sizes and that the district is seeking a teacher to fill a Grade 4 position at Allen Elementary School. Most class sizes throughout the district are acceptable, but there are eight classes at Justice Marshall Intermediate School with 29 students. Mr. Edwards reported that he is thrilled with the turnaround at Justice Marshall Intermediate School and that McCulloch Junior High School and Frances Slocum Elementary School are having good years. Mr. Edwards provided information regarding the Stakeholder's meeting held Monday, November 26, 2012. Officials from around the community attended the meeting to provide input, ideas and suggestions for the district to consider. The group had a good discussion that included a magnet school, a more robust summer school program, longer school days, a longer school year, the establishment of a group similar to the Friends of Marion High School for the district and more time for art, music and physical education. He stated that he is still receiving emails with additional ideas.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Kitts thanked all of the contributors of the donations approved at this Board meeting.

Mr. Murphy commended Mr. Lennon Brown on the 8th Grade Night held at Marion High School. He stated that the high school administration did an outstanding job. Mr. Murphy also thanked Mr. Tim Eckerle and the Grant County Growth Council for the phenomenal job they have done. The Growth Council brought a group from China and Mr. Murphy was able to take them to Marion High School to meet our Chinese teacher. Mr. Murphy feels having Chinese offered as a foreign language is a tremendous asset for the district. He also commented that he would like the district to pursue additional Head Start and preschool classes.

Dr. Hall commented that he thought the Veterans Day Program at Marion High School was excellent. He stated that he is always impressed by the behavior of the students at these programs and is very proud of the JROTC students and Marion High School. Dr. Hall suggested that the district consider ways to align the LPN Program with other vocational offerings at the Tucker Career and Technology Center.

Mrs. Morgan welcomed Mrs. Pam Hutchinson, newly elected Board Member, to the Board meeting and commented that she looked forward to working with Mrs. Hutchinson on the Board.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be a regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 12, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Service Center.

There being no further comments, Vice President Morgan adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Aaron Vermilion, President

Dr. Harry Hall, 1st Vice President

Scott Murphy, 2nd Vice President

Katie Morgan, Secretary

Greg Kitts, Member

F. Michael Luce, Member

Cathy Moritz, Member