



Mt. Vernon Township High School
January 15, 2008
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:00 p.m.

1. The meeting was called to order by President Dan Hoffman who led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members answering roll call were Greg Backes, Ron Copenhaver, Pat Garrett, Karen Goodwine, Ron Stewart, and Dan Hoffman. Absent was Jon Hawthorne. Also present were Superintendent Terry Milt, Principal Ron Daniels, members of the media, guests and Board Secretary Shirilyn Holt.

2. Recognition of Public Comments: There were no comments

3. Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Backes made a motion to accept the consent agenda with a second by Copenhaver. Milt made mention that Treasurer Brown would be taking college classes on Tuesdays and if there were any questions please call her before or after the meeting. Milt stated in the Education fund the school currently has one month of reserves. Near January 20 the school should receive the first payment that the General Assembly has passed. At this time we do not know how it will be paid out.

Roll Call: Yes - Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent – Hawthorne

Motion Carried

4. Administrative Reports: Superintendent/Principal

- Milt mentioned Mt. Vernon is hosting the Egyptian Area Dinner on March 6 2008. He asked the board members if they would like to attend.
- The District 80 Balanced Calendar meeting will be held on January 24 at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Settle has invited other boards to attend.
- TIF project hearing on January 25 11:30 a.m. at City Hall.
- Milt stated the school had an attendance audit and the Average Daily Attendance was overestimated by 1000 days in the 2004-2005. The second finding on the safety grant was overspent by \$394.00. The 2008-2009 school year will be adjusted by \$48,699.00. This is money that was already paid to the school. Milt has filed a written request to pay back the finding over a three year period.
- Ron Daniels stated the next meeting of the School Improvement Committee would be Tuesday, January 22, at 3:45 p.m. The plan is due March 14, 2008. The committee is focusing on Math achievement scores, Reading achievement scores, and attendance.

- School report card mistake – The average class size was calculated as 10.5 and is incorrect. The school relied on the report generated by the Skyward program. There is research going on now on what the correct average size is now.
- Daniels stated the Discipline committee has spent hours looking at dress codes and related items. The next meeting will be February 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria annex.
- Safety committee – waiting on arrangements with the assistant fire chief.

5. Old Business

5.1 Second reading of policy updates.

Milt stated he had not had any comments regarding the policy and recommended acceptance.

Backes made a motion to accept the policy updates with a second by Stewart.

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Stewart, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hoffman.

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

5.2 Milt gave information regarding early graduation. Milt stated out of 292 students 132 students would have met the graduation requirements in December and that 62 had 24 credits or more. Hoffman stated there were questions the board needed to answer.

- First does the board still feel it is appropriate to have early graduation? *Consensus: All agreed the board should allow early graduation with close monitoring.*
- After discussion, Goodwine made a motion for this to be a first reading with a second by Garrett.

Roll Call: Yes – Goodwine, Garrett, Copenhaver, Stewart, Hoffman

No - Backes Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6. New Business

6.1 Accept resignation of custodian

Backes made a motion to accept the resignation of Kerry Ramsey with a second by Goodwine.

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.2 Approve closed session minutes to be open

After the addition of the November 26, 2007 closed session minutes, Backes made a motion to accept the recommendation with a second by Stewart.

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Stewart, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.3 Request to advertise for additional maintenance positions

Backes made a motion to advertise for two additional maintenance workers with a second by Stewart

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Stewart, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.4 Accept resignation of assistant track coach

Copenhaver made a motion to accept the resignation of Julie Holmes with a second by Stewart

Roll Call: Yes – Copenhaver, Stewart, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.5 Presentation by National Scholastic Sportsman Program

CTE employee Jason Patterson spoke regarding the National Scholastic Sportsman Program. He requested to be a recognized organization and after three years a school sponsored club.

Garrett asked if the board would be in violation of our own rules if firearms were used and the organization was affiliated with the school.

Consensus was for the board to receive more information. Milt stated this item would be back on the agenda in February 2008.

6.6 Request for educational training for non-certified employee

Employee Karen Hamilton has worked on a Mac computer for years but all Mac's are broken and the school needs her to complete her work on a PC. She will need to take classes

Copenhaver made a motion to approve the training with a second by Backes.

Roll Call: Yes – Copenhaver, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.7 TAOEP grant update

Tammy Beckham wrote for a \$46,519 grant. Milt would like half of the grant to be used for a social worker and half to be used for teacher/staff mentors to work with students as a type of Big Brother/Sister.

Backes made a motion to approve the update with a second by Goodwine.

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.8 Milt explained items 6.8 and 6.11 would be discussed after closed session

6.9 Request to authorize comprehensive, extensive health, life safety 10 year study

Milt asked the Board to authorize him to contact FGM to do a 10 year extensive survey proposal.

Garrett made a motion to authorize Milt to contact FGM with a second by Copenhaver.

Roll Call: Yes – Garrett, Copenhaver, Backes, Goodwine, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.10 Move the February Board Meeting

Because of a basketball game on Tuesday, Copenhaver made a motion to move the February Board meeting to Monday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m. with a second by Goodwine.

Roll Call: Yes – Copenhaver, Goodwine, Backes, Garrett, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

7. Closed Session – 8:40 p.m.

Stewart made a motion to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of personnel with a second by Backes

Roll Call: Yes – Stewart, Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

Open Session – 10:05 p.m.

Backes made a motion to return to Open Session with a second by Goodwine

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.8 Backes made a motion to hire Joe Brown as custodian with a second by Copenhaver

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

Stewart made a motion to hire James Seals as custodian with a second by Goodwine

Roll Call: Yes – Stewart, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Backes, Garrett, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

6.11 Backes made a motion to hire custodian Tim Lewis as Maintenance, replacing retiree Dave McNealy with a second by Copenhaver.

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Stewart, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

Teacher Resignation

Goodwine made a motion to allow teacher Tiffany Lampley to resign effective January 15, 2008 with a second by Stewart.

Roll Call: Yes – Copenhaver, Stewart, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, Hoffman

No - None Absent: Hawthorne **Motion Carried**

8. Adjournment – 10:08 p.m.

Backes made a motion to adjourn with a second by Goodwine. All present voted aye.

Motion Carried

Dan Hoffman, Board President

Shirilyn Holt, Board Secretary