



Mt. Vernon Township High School District #201
Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Education
August 17, 7:00 P.M.

President Goodwine called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members answering roll call were: Kimberly Alvis, Cynthia Davis, Pat Garrett, Jon Hawthorne, Carl Miller, Robert Stewart, and Karen Goodwine. Also present were Superintendent Michael Smith, Principal Ron Daniels, representatives of the Morning Sentinel and Register News, and Shirilyn Holt, Board Secretary.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Alvis and seconded by Miller to approve moving into executive closed session at 7:01p.m., in accordance with school board policy 2:220 – E2 items # 1, the appointment, employment compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILSC 120/2C(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057.

The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Alvis, Miller, Davis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, Goodwine).

Open Session:

Motion was made by Davis and seconded by Miller to approve moving out of executive closed session at 7:46 p.m.

The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Davis, Miller, Alvis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, Goodwine).

Reports of Committees

A. Finance Committee:

Review of EBS License Discussion

The committee discussed items related to the district EBS wireless license value and potential contractual arrangements related to lease and or sale of these. Board members present were: Garrett, Alvis, Goodwine, and Miller; also present were Superintendent Smith and Principal Daniels. Purposes of the discussion were to establish an understanding for the board of the present market value and projected future value of the licenses and to review standard contractual components. In addition, representatives of Buzz Broadband were at the meeting to present their assessment of these items. The committee reviewed a draft contract template prepared by Todd Gray, consulting counsel for the district, from the law firm of Dow Lohnes. Mr. Gray is a well known specialist in this area. Mr. Gray also joined the meeting electronically at approximately 5:35 p.m. Mt. Vernon.Net was contacted to attend, but based on scheduled commitment a representative was unable to attend. A timeline of future action was established as follows: By August 31, 2009 a follow-up committee meeting will be held with Mt. Vernon.Net and Xanado. These are two other entities which have presented assessments as to what a value and subsequent lease of the EBS licenses might entail. The board is establishing baseline parameters as to a comfort level regarding lease proposals. By the end of August 2009, the board will have parameters established and will select a company to enter into a lease with based on level of alignment of submitted proposal to board

parameters. The goal would be to have a finalized contract for the September 21, 2009 board meeting. He mentioned Don Musick was in the finance and treasurers meeting.

Financial Reports – Bills and Payroll

July 20th and August 5, 2009 payroll in an amount of \$815,011 were reviewed as were bills in the amount of \$347,840 through August 7, 2009. Total receipts of \$1,021,998 and total disbursements of \$1,162,852 represented a negative cash flow of \$140,854. There was a transfer necessary within the Building and Maintenance Fund of \$60,000 from savings to checking to cover expenses. Total fund cash balance was \$2,562,403, less outstanding liabilities of \$1,704,001 which include the tax anticipation warrants resulted in total fund assets of \$858,401.71 Area Vocation Center Budget contained an ending cash balance of \$26,718. The Activity Fund maintained an ending cash balance of \$123,522.

Treasurer's Report

A new format was presented for review and input.

Activity and Revolving Funds

These balances and process for these funds were discussed. Also, the management of booster club monies was asked to be researched.

FY 2010 Tentative Budget

A status report was given as to the finalization of the tentative budget. All funds have been completed in the areas of revenue. All projected expenses have been entered with the exception of Fund 10, the Education Fund and Fund 50, the IMRF/Social Security Benefit Fund. Salaries and benefits are being entered currently for Fund 10 which completes 80% of that fund expense and completes Fund 50. The plan communicated includes completing the tentative budget the week of August 10 and including the information in the August 17 board packet mailing.

B. Building Committee:

Review of Discussions

EBS License discussion from the Finance Committee continued until approximately 6:30. The second half of the Building Committee meeting discussed an update of G Building. The contractor maintains that the roof will be completed on Saturday and is bringing additional personnel to make this happen. If the roof is completed this weekend, our personnel can have the air conditioning units reconnected and ready to go on Monday the 17th.

C. Policy Committee:

Review of Discussions

New revisions to policy were discussed including subcommittee structure and roles. Committee involvement in such areas as employee discipline, textbook and supplementary material adoption, and negotiations was also discussed.

Presentation of New Policy Revisions for 1st Reading

PRESS summary for July 2009 as supplied by the Illinois Association of School Boards was presented. This material outlines the specific policies and changes which are available for staff and public review.

The first draft of policy change regarding committee restructuring was mentioned. These will be presented for finalization in September with the next round of policy revision adoption.

D. Curriculum Committee:

Review of Discussions

Formation of committees of varied stakeholders from across the educational community was discussed. A committee would study the practice of weighted grades and develop throughout the year a recommendation for the superintendent to provide the board. This recommendation for any revision in the current practice would be for the 2010-2011 school year.

The formation of a study committee was discussed regarding the library curriculum and staffing levels in that area. The committee would be comprised of varied stakeholders and would review current best practice as reflected by research, review the existing curriculum and how it supports the overall curriculum, and conduct a staff/student utilization study. As a result, the committee will recommend needed curriculum, staffing levels, and job description revisions as necessary.

The RTI (Response to Intervention) process was discussed with plans for freshman testing. Thoughts were expressed as to an overall target to test and monitor the progress of all students.

The special education curriculum was discussed. The district will engage in planning to insure that all students are held to high expectations, receive the same curriculum, and use the same materials with accommodations as required. This would include a move toward more mainstreaming and co-teaching environments.

The committee would like the administration to review the results of a recent study by a mathematics consultant.

Copies of the School Improvement Plan were distributed, and the committee's role as a possible liaison with the TAG training through IASB was discussed.

PUBLIC INPUT – No public input

STAFF INPUT – No staff input

BOARD INPUT – No board input

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Start of School Year

- Principal Daniels gave a short report on the students coming through the registration process.
- Current enrollment today – 1385 students (1285) with 100 students who are expected to register.
- Technology department – computers
- Freshman lunch went well with 318 freshman enrolled at this time

Activity Calendar

- Principal Daniels passed out monthly activity calendars to Board Members.

B. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

EBS License Update

G Building Update

Fiscal Year 2010 Tentative Budget

Organizational Chart

- Superintendent Smith stated this was the final version for this school year, explained the organizational chart and answered various questions.

Employee Resignations

- Teacher Aide Heather Laskowski has resigned

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

*July 16, 2009 Special Meeting Open Session
July 16, 2009 Special Meeting Closed Session
July 20, 2009 Regular Meeting Open Session
August 5, 2009 Special Meeting Open Session*

B. Financial Reports and Bills July 2009

Action on this item approves the financial report, bills, and payroll as reviewed by the finance committee.

C. Treasurer's Report

Action on this item approves the July 2009 treasurer's report as reviewed by the finance committee.

D. Non-Certified Retirement Letter Date Revision Request

Norman Vance had originally submitted a letter to the board stating his intent to retire at the end of this school year with his last date of employment being July 1, 2010. He is now requesting that the last date of employment be May 31, 2010 with retirement becoming effective then.

E. Employment of Temporary Custodian

Action approves Mike L. Smith as a temporary custodian filling the position of a current custodian who is on medical leave.

Motion was made by Garrett to approve the consent agenda as presented with a second by Davis. The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Garrett, Davis, Alvis, Hawthorne, Miller, Stewart, Goodwine).

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of August 17, 2009

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Alvis to approve the closed session minutes from the August 17, 2009 executive session as reviewed.

The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Miller, Alvis, Davis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, Goodwine).

B. First Reading of Illinois Association of School Boards Policy Updates First Quarter 2009-2010

Action approves the formal presentation for review of board policy updates as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards. The proposed changes will be available for public, staff, and board review over the next month. A second reading will be held in September by the board after review by the policy committee. Final adoption would be anticipated on September 21, 2009.

Motion was made by Stewart and seconded by Davis to approve the first reading of quarterly board policy updates as provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Davis, Alvis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine).

C. Second Reading and Adoption of Illinois Association of School Boards Policy Updates Fourth Quarter 2008-2009)

Action approves the policy changes to be added to the district policy manual.

Motion was made by Davis and seconded by Alvis to approve the second reading and adoption of quarterly board policy updates as provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Davis, Alvis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Miller, Stewart, Goodwine).

D. Approval of Revised Minutes from the Regular Meeting June 15, 2009

Action approves the corrected minutes from the June 15th board meeting. These minutes were pulled from approval last month due to a needed correction.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Stewart to approve the revised minutes of June 15, 2009 regular meeting as presented.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Miller, Stewart, Alvis, Davis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Goodwine).

E. Approval of 2009-2010 Fitness Center Agreement with Rend Lake College

Action approves an agreement which is up for renewal between Mt. Vernon Township High School and the Rend Lake Fitness Center operated here on campus. This would be a standard renewal.

Motion was made by Stewart and seconded by Davis to approve the Fitness Center Agreement for 2009-2010 between Mt. Vernon Township High School and Rend Lake College as presented.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Davis, Alvis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine).

F. Approval of Early Dismissal and School Improvement Days

The board has adopted a school calendar which has been approved for the upcoming school year by the State Board of Education. This calendar indicates certain days of attendance, nonattendance, holidays, and some early dismissals. It is felt that it is important for the board to see all intended early dismissal days and to formally approve these. There are a number of recommended 2:00 p.m. dismissal school improvement days as well as some 2:00 p.m. early dismissal days before holiday breaks. These would not have been reflected on the state submitted calendar.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Davis to approve 2009-2010 school calendar early dismissal and school improvement days as presented.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Miller, Davis, Alvis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, Goodwine).

G. Approval of Out of District Student Attendance and Tuition Waiver

There has been a request from a neighboring district on behalf of a family residing in that district to allow attendance of a student at Mt. Vernon Township High School based on safety and well being concerns for that student. The student would attend tuition free which requires board approval and

would be counted in all state reporting and funding formulas as a Mt. Vernon student. The student must provide their own transportation to and from school and or events.

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Alvis to allow enrollment and attendance of the referenced student at Mt. Vernon Township High School under the terms and conditions outlined.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Garrett, Alvis, Davis, Hawthorne, Miller, Stewart, Goodwine).

H. District Tentative Fiscal Year 2010 Budget

This budget is tentative and will most likely have several adjustments prior to adoption in September. Action approves the budget being placed on public display for a minimum of 30 days with final adoption anticipated on September 21, 2009.

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Davis to approve the Fiscal Year 2010 Mt. Vernon Township High School District 201 Tentative Budget to be placed on public display.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Garrett, Davis, Alvis, Hawthorne, Miller, Stewart, Goodwine).

I. Setting of Public Hearing for the Adoption of the FY 2010 Mt. Vernon Township High School District 201 Budget

This action approves the setting and delivery of required and legal public notice of a hearing to be held on September 21, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. for the purposes of comment, review, and adoption of the fiscal year 2010 school district budget.

Motion was made by Stewart and seconded by Miller to approve the setting and delivery of required and legal public notice of a hearing to be held on Monday, September 21, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in Administration Building A, Board of Education meeting room for the purposes of discussion and adoption of the 2010 school district budget.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Miller, Alvis, Davis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Goodwine).

9. Adjournment

Motion was made by Stewart and seconded by Garrett to approve adjourning the meeting at 8:47 p.m.
The motion carried by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Garrett, Alvis, Davis, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine).

Karen Goodwine, Board President

Shirilyn Holt, Board Secretary

Date Signed