



Mt. Vernon Township High School District #201
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, May 17, 2010
7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by President Karen Goodwine, who led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members answering roll call were: Kim Alvis, Pat Garrett, Jon Hawthorne, Carl Miller, Robert Stewart, and Karen Goodwine. Absent Board Member was Cynthia Davis. Also present were Superintendent Michael Smith, Principal Ron Daniels, Board Secretary Shirilyn Holt, guests and media.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Alvis and seconded by Stewart to approve moving into executive closed session at 7:02 p.m. in accordance with school board policy 2:220 – E2 item # 1, the appointment, employment compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District.
5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Alvis, Stewart, Garrett, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine - Absent was Davis).

Motion was made by Alvis and seconded by Stewart to approve moving out of executive closed session at 8:10 p.m.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Alvis, Stewart, Garrett, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine - Absent was Davis).

Reports of Committees

A. Finance Committee

The committee met on May 10th.

Financial Reports – Bills and Payroll

Treasurer's Report

Beginning checking balance of \$3,458,972.54

Revenues of \$648,514.28

Expenditures of \$1,887,803.85

Transfers from Savings of \$0

PMA Investment Transfer of \$0

Ending checking balance: April 30, 2010 of \$2,219,682.97

Ending savings and investments: April 30, 2010 of \$58,020.34

Total cash balance: April 30, 2010 of \$2,277,703.31

Total outstanding liabilities: April 30, 2010 of \$54,479.62

Total unencumbered fund balance: April 30, 2010 of \$2,332,182.93

Activity Funds

Activity fund beginning balance of \$154,882.41

Deposits of \$29,877.40

Debits of \$48,135.64

Ending balance: April 30, 2010 of \$136,624.17

“The recommendation of the Finance Committee was to approve the financial reports, bills, payroll, and Treasurer’s report for April 2010 as action items presented later in the meeting. These reports were reviewed by the administration and by the Finance Committee.”

In addition to the review of the bills, payroll, and treasurer’s report, financial cash flow projections were reviewed as well as trend data comparing to previous years.

Presentations were given by representatives of Bernardi Securities, Stifel, Nicolas, and BMO Capital Markets outlining options regarding the sale of \$1,000,000 in Health/Life Safety Bonds under the Economic Recovery Zone provisions.

The next finance meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14th at 4:00 p.m.

Building Committee

The building committee met on May 10th.

A presentation was given by FGM outlining the scope of work and a timeline of the facility feasibility study. Also, life safety study work amendments to be filed were discussed as was the initial site review proposed by Neikirk. The role and possible tasks for the construction analyst and the request for proposals were discussed. Current issues of the fire tower structural examination and monitoring were discussed. The proposal of a community volunteer group to assist with cosmetic work around the exterior of the buildings and throughout the grounds was also discussed.

The next building meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14th at 5:00 p.m.

Policy Committee – Did not meet.

The next policy meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Curriculum Committee - Did not meet.

The next curriculum meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14th at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC INPUT –

- Tami Lovin spoke regarding possible reduction of working months.
- Kathy Calvert spoke regarding possible cuts in the Music Department. She also mentioned disappointment that the valedictorian and salutatorian students were not mentioned by name.

STAFF INPUT

- Teachers Crystal Nowak and Kiley Thomas spoke to the Board regarding the progress of the PBIS program. They also spoke on the subject of SWIS (School-wide Information System).

BOARD INPUT – There was no Board input at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Principal Daniels mentioned the following:

- 320 graduates this year.
- He mentioned the number of scholarships that were given to students.
- Student Alex Crisel received the outstanding senior French award.
- Music Teacher Frank Winchester will receive a \$5,000 award from the Schweinfurth foundation to buy instruments.
- Music Teacher Rolland Mays received almost \$4,000 from the Schweinfurth foundation for repairs to instruments.

B. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Superintendent Smith mentioned the following:

- May 2010 Dashboard Report
- Weighted Grade Formula/P.E. Credit: Graduation Policy
June curriculum committee will bring a consideration and recommendation of the weighted grade formula and a revision in the graduation policy regarding physical education for the board to consider.
- The handbook revisions will be reviewed in June.
- The 2010 Summer Building and Grounds Project List.
- TIF Zones – The board was in favor of Dr. Smith approaching the city in dialogue regarding this topic.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

April 19, 2010 Regular Meeting Open Session

B. Minutes

April 19, 2010 Regular Meeting Closed Session

C. Minutes

May 6, 2010 Special Meeting Open Session

D. Minutes

May 6, 2010 Special Meeting Closed Session

E. Special Education Cooperative Operating Agreement

Action approved the second reading of a mandated revision of the Special Education Cooperative Agreement between Mt. Vernon High School and the Franklin – Jefferson County Special Education Cooperative. This final draft has been approved by the executive committee and the governing board comprised of the superintendents and a board member representative from all the member districts.

F. Employee Resignations

Action approved the resignation of Scott Tickner as Assistant Football Coach and Greg Poole as District Computer Network Administrator.

G. HOSA Trip to the National Convention

As presented last month, HOSA had students who qualified for the national competition. Formal approval is needed for the students to attend.

H. Girls Track Trip to Santa Claus, Indiana

Action approved the girls track team annual trip to Santa Claus, Indiana. There is no cost to the district, but required board approval as it is out of state.

I. FFA Trip: Springfield, Illinois

Action approved the FFA Chapter attendance at the annual FFA Convention June 8-10, 2010 in Springfield, Illinois. There is no cost to the district, but required board approval.

J. Financial Reports and Bills April 2010

Action on this item approved the treasurer's report as reviewed by the finance committee.

K. Treasurer's Report April 2010

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

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Stewart to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Miller, Stewart, Alvis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

ACTION ITEMS

Employment of Temporary Electrician

The district has had a maintenance employee on ongoing leave. The district had employed a temporary custodian for another employee on leave in the custodial department. The full time custodial employee has since returned. The temporary custodial employee is a trained electrician. As a result, the administration is recommending that the employment of the temporary custodian be continued, but as an electrician in the maintenance department until the leave of the current permanent electrician in that department can be resolved.

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Alvis to approve Mike L. Smith, Sr. as a temporary electrician in the maintenance department.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Garrett, Alvis, Hawthorne, Miller, Stewart, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

QNS Service Contract

As presented and discussed in committee, Quality Network Solutions, Inc., is proposing to provide contracted services to upgrade, repair, troubleshoot, and manage on an ongoing basis the district's network infrastructure.

Motion was made by Stewart and seconded by Miller to approve authorizing a service agreement with Quality Network Solutions, Inc. for computer network administration in a net amount of \$36,000 annually as presented.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Miller, Alvis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

Memo of Understanding: Race to the Top

The first application for Race to the Top made by the state was not awarded by the Department of Education. The Board voted on a Memo of Understanding which accompanied the second application which will be made by Illinois for the Race to the Top Program. Approval verified the district's willingness to consider participating in the Race to the Top Program should the state receive the award.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Alvis to approve the memo of understanding regarding the Race to the Top application as presented.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Miller, Alvis, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

2010-2011 Calendar

Action was deferred until next month to explore options centering on the parent-teacher conference.

2010 Life Safety Amendments

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Stewart to approve the Life Safety Amendments as certified by the district's architectural firm to be filed with the Regional Office of Education and the State Board of Education of Illinois.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Garrett, Stewart, Alvis, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

2010 District Life Safety Plan

According to FGM, the district's architectural firm, the district's 2009 Health Life Safety Plan needs to be filed again with the state based on a financing code error recorded by them when the plan was originally submitted.

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Miller to approve the 2009 Life Safety Plan as amended by the district's architectural firm. This revised plan is to be filed with the Regional Office of Education and the State Board of Education of Illinois.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Garrett, Miller, Alvis, Hawthorne, Stewart, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

Construction/Renovation Feasibility Study

Action approved the district architectural firm FGM to conduct, with the assistance of a third party construction analyst, a feasibility study for long term considerations of district facilities. The study

will produce a report to include three construction and renovation options which are aligned with current and future program needs of the district.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Garrett to approve a construction and renovation feasibility study to be conducted by FGM as discussed and under terms as presented.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Miller, Garrett, Alvis, Hawthorne, Stewart, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

Request for Quotes for a Facility Consultant

Action approved the release and advertisement for firms to provide quotes on participation in the district facility feasibility study as a third party analyst to assist in cost estimation and program/facility design and construction options.

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Stewart to approve the request for quotes to seek firms to serve as construction analysts in conjunction with the district facility feasibility study as presented.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Garrett, Stewart, Alvis, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

Existing Site Study

Action approved an initial site study on the current property with Neikirk Engineering. This study as outlined, includes existing boundaries, survey review, floor elevations, utilities, and other existing conditions of the current property. This will lay the foundations for conceptual options on the existing site.

Motion was made by Stewart and seconded by Garrett to approve a site study under the terms and conditions as presented in an amount not to exceed \$8,500 with Neikirk Engineering.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Garrett, Alvis, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

Life Safety Bond Firm

In committee, board members had observed presentations by three leading companies of bond sales for school districts. On May 10th, three firms, Bernardi Securities, Stifel Nicolas, and BMO Capital Markets presented plans for issuance of \$1,000,000 in Health Life Safety Bonds under the County Economic Recovery Zone Allocation.

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Stewart to approve Bernardi Securities to contract with the district for the sale of a specified amount of Health Life Safety Bonds.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Garrett, Stewart, Alvis, Hawthorne, Miller, Goodwine; Absent was Davis).

Dismissal of Specific Personnel

The following employee was recommended for release based on specific and repeated job performance related issues. These issues have been reported in the evaluation process.

Motion was made by Miller and seconded by Stewart to approve the dismissal for cause of Oscar Brown based on repeated actions of a nature detrimental to the successful completion of assigned duties and as reflected in employee evaluations.

The motion passed by a vote of 5 yes and 1 abstention. (Miller, Stewart, Alvis, Garrett, Goodwine; Abstain-Hawthorne, Absent was Davis).

Consideration of and possible action upon resolutions to reduce force among Educational Support Personnel for financial reasons

Superintendent Smith stated he had withdrawn his recommendation to move specific 12-month employees to 11-month.

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Stewart to approve the following resolution for honorable dismissal of the following non-certified employees as presented this evening.

Release of 1 FTE Custodian (**Bobbie Smith**)

Release of 1 FTE Supervisory Aide (**Gary Pierce**)

Release of 1 FTE Supervisory Aide (**Valerie Bigley**)

Release of 1 FTE Supervisory Aide (**Lillie Bland**)

The motion passed by a vote of 5-1. (Garrett, Stewart, Alvis, Miller, Goodwine; Hawthorne - no, Absent was Davis).

Adjournment

Motion was made by Garrett and seconded by Stewart to approve adjourning the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

All present voted aye.

Karen Goodwine, Board President

Shirilyn Holt, Board Secretary

Date Signed