

Board of School Trustees Meeting

Administration Office
Monday, April 15, 2019
7:00pm - 8:00pm

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Present: Mr. Tony May, Board Member; Mr. Mike McCarty, Board Member; Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President; Mrs. Kellie Freeman, Board Member; Mr. Greg Rollo, Director of Technology; Mrs. Gwen Scrogam, Board Secretary; Mrs. Maria Bond, Director of Community Relations; Mr. Scott Shipley, Director of Secondary Education; Mrs. Beth Smith, Board Member; Mr. Chris Smedley, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Derek Shelton, Director of Operations; Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

1 Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance (6:55 PM)

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Minutes:

The invocation was given by Hayden Kovell, a member of MVHS Campus Life.

2 Call to Order (7:00 PM)

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Emergency Procedures

Minutes:

The Mt. Vernon Community School Board of Trustees held a meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Administrative Service Center.

3 Adoption of the Agenda

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Minutes:

There were two additions to the agenda. Additions to the Personnel Report and High School Tennis Courts was changed from an Action Item to a Report Item.

Mrs. Freeman made a motion to accept the amended agenda as presented. Mr. McCarty seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

4 Reports

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Minutes:

Dr. Parker announced there were several reports.

4.1 High School Indoor Percussion (10 minutes)

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

We ask that all board members and meeting participants/observers adjourn to the gymnasium for a short performance by our High School's Indoor Percussion Ensemble. After the performance, we will all come back into the board room to recognize the students and their directors.

HS Band Director: Jackie Nason

HS Percussion Director: Greg Wolff

Minutes:

Dr. Parker invited board members and those in attendance to adjourn to the gymnasium for a performance by the MVHS Indoor Percussion Ensemble under the direction of Jackie Nason, Band Director and Greg Wolff, Percussion Director.

4.2 **Good News** (5 minutes)

Mrs. Maria Bond, Director of Community Relations

Minutes:

Mrs. Bond shared the following Good News. Assisting her was FES 5th Grader Olivia Dunham a member of the News Crew, Choir, FES Student Council and Running Club:

1. Dr. Parker served cake to the MES and MVHS staff in celebration for being recognized as a Four-Star School.
2. MVHS Acapella Choir "Locked Out" performed at the State House for Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month.
3. MES's 2nd grade Sunshine Committee served their staff with treats on their "Sunshine Mobile" cart which brought out many smiles.
4. MCE held their Literacy Night and the Mini-Marauder Preschool held a Science Night.
5. MVMS held their Open House with former principals and superintendents in attendance. Community members enjoyed music performances by MVMS students, tours and a dinner.
6. The MVEF Black & Gold Gala was a huge success with over 250 people in attendance raising an unprecedented amount.

Mrs. Walls congratulated Mrs. Bond on being awarded the Leanne Brown Cornerstone Award at the MVEF Gala.

Attachments:

[4-2019 Board Report 1 .pdf](#)

4.3 **Spotlight on Schools** (5 minutes)

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Mr. Greg Roach - Mt. Vernon High School

Minutes:

Mr. Greg Roach gave a presentation spotlighting Mt. Vernon High School. He began by sharing the 2017-18 Report Card from the Department of Education showing the high school's letter grade of "A." He was especially proud of the increase in growth in Performance Domains in both the top 75% of students as well as the bottom 25%. In English/Language Arts the top 75% grew 108.2%, while the bottom 25% grew 109.3%. Math growth was even larger with the top 75% growth at 120.8% and the bottom 25% at 122.1%. Graduation Rate and College Readiness Rate are both high and Attendance Rates are good. ISTEP scores are not where he would like them to be, but are improving every year.

Math ISTEP scores have gone from 26.5% in 2015-16 to 39.0% in 2016-17 to 48.0% in 2017-18, well above the 36.2% state average. ELA ISTEP scores have gone from 58.7% in 2015-16 to 70.3% in 2016-17 dipping a little to 64.3% in 2017-18, but still above the 58.9% state average. A new program to the high school, Bring Change to Mind, was started to meet social and emotional needs for our students. It was started to end stigma and discrimination surrounding mental illness. Mt. Vernon is one of ten high schools in Indiana with this program with 25 students in attendance at their first meeting on March 26th. They created a Google Classroom for announcements, etc. and will collaborate with JAG and Student Government. He commended high school counselor Lee Larkins for his tremendous work with this program.

Attachments:

[Mt. Vernon High School Report.pdf](#)

4.4 **International Program** (10 minutes)

Mr. Scott Shipley, Director of Secondary Education

Mr. Greg Roach, High School Principal

Minutes:

Mr. Roach gave a presentation on the International Program. The purpose of the program is the help our students see society from a global perspective; bring a variety of world cultures to our students; develop partnerships with schools in other countries to send students and staff to experience their cultures and educational processes; share our culture and educational process with students and teachers from other countries; and for visiting students to experience a full English immersion. Mt. Vernon has hosted students and teachers from Spain (September 2017); teachers from Anshan China (November 2017); students and teachers from Germany (April 2018); and Taiwan students and teachers (April 2018 and December 2018). In November 2017, administrators and teachers attended the Global Forum on Education in Taiwan. MVHS students and teachers visited Montreal and Quebec in September 2018. During the 2019-20 school year, the program plans to host up to three groups per school year, different age levels. In June of 2020, MVHS students and teachers will visit Taiwan.

Attachments:

[International Program.pdf](#)

4.5 **Kindergarten Roundup** (5 minutes)

Mr. Scott Shipley, Director of Secondary Education

Minutes:

Mr. Shipley reported on the recent Kindergarten Roundup. FES registered 100 students; MCE 68; and MES 89 for a total of 257 kindergarteners. Last year, all three elementary schools registered 253 students at roundup, ending up with 307 students on ADM County Day. Mr. Shipley stated it was worth noting that last April during Roundup Mt. Vernon had an Open Transfer Student Policy and this Roundup we had a Closed Transfer Policy. Parents may still register their kindergarten students.

Attachments:

[Kindergarten Registration Data.pdf](#)

4.6 Textbook Adoption

Mr. Scott Shipley, Director of Secondary Education

Minutes:

Mr. Shipley reported he has been working with middle and high school social studies teachers on textbook adoption. 2009 was the last time we adopted Social Studies resources. The content looked at was digital textbook resources that can be accessed on student devices with each teacher having a set of textbooks in their classroom. After discussing resources with the teachers, three companies were previewed, McGraw Hill, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and Discovery Ed, and each company gave presentations to teachers on their resources. The consensus was high school teachers thought McGraw Hill and middle school teachers thought Houghton Mifflin Harcourt resources best met their needs. Mr. Shipley presented a breakdown on the total cost per student. The next step is to advertise for parents/community members to preview the materials and then bring back to the board to adopt along with the textbook fees.

Attachments:

[Textbook Adoption.pdf](#)

5 Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

0167.3 - Public Participation at Board Meetings

May only address items listed in the agenda

Must be recognized by presiding officer.

Must provide name, address, and group affiliation, if and when appropriate

Limited to 3 minutes duration

All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually

Minutes:

There were none.

6 Consent Agenda

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

The school board shall use a consent agenda (Policy #0166.1) to keep routine matters. By a single motion, the Board approves/adopts the following items or actions which reflect application of School Board Policy and/or Indiana Code. Any items marked "Consent" may be removed from the agenda by a Board Member or the Superintendent.

Minutes:

Mr. McCarty made a motion to approve:

The March 25, 2019 Regular Session Minutes;

Claims;

Permission for the MVHS Girls Soccer Team to go to Cincinnati, Ohio June 12-13, 2019 on a team bonding trip and the date of the MVMS 8th Grade Kings Island Trip (previously board approved) to be changed from June 5, 2019 to June 4, 2019;

Request from the Third Grade Team at McCordsville Elementary to accept a \$1,000 donation from Mt. Vernon Optimist Club to go towards attendance at the Get Your Teach On National Teaching Conference in Dallas, Texas;

And the following Personnel items:

CERTIFIED RETIREMENT/RESIGNATIONS

Stan Daugherty, Director of Alternative Education - Retirement

CERTIFIED RECOMMENDATION

Margaret Tidrow, MCE School Counselor (Maternity Leave for Teran Strickland for remainder of 2018-2019 school year and first semester of 2019-2020 school year)

Marissa Ellworth, FES 1st Grade Teacher

Grace Gregory, Temporary 7th Grade Language Arts (Adam Bisesi)

CLASSIFIED RETIREMENT/RESIGNATIONS

Phil Morris, MVHS Instructional Assistant

CLASSIFIED RECOMMENDATION

Jamie Perry, FES Custodian

Brady Harrison, MVHS Science Teacher (Maternity Leave for remainder of school year)

Tracy Furnas, Corporation Nurse (retroactive to August 1, 2016)

ECA RECOMMENDATIONS

Jamie Bell, 8th Grade Track Volunteer Coach

Marc Bucksot, 8th Grade Baseball Volunteer Coach

Billy Fields, 8th Grade Softball Volunteer Coach

Katie Stanfield, MVMS Track Volunteer Coach

Brian Burhenn, MVMS Track Volunteer Coach

Amy Mozingo, MVMS Track Volunteer Coach

Blake Wampler, 7th Grade Softball Volunteer Coach

Derek Shelton, 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer Coach

Chris Noone, 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer Coach

Mike Hankley, 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer Coach

Scott Blanchard, 7th Grade Baseball Volunteer Coach

Mike Scheidt, 8th Grade Baseball Volunteer Coach
Katie Downend, MCE IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Liz Moan, MCE IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Ashley Witt, MCE IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Kelsey Wade, MCE IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Lauren Bailey, MCE IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Jordan Sell, MCE IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Sara Keljo, FES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Jennifer Strantz, FES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Jill Chastain, FES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Sherry Earley, FES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Allison Hillebrand, FES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Allison Barron, FES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Lynn Hartley, MES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Chad Wimmenauer, MES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Chloe Schwartz, MES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Jes Gowin, MES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Dan Keeler, MES IREAD and ILEARN Tutor
Shanina Letcher, 8th Grade Track Volunteer Coach
Debra Goodblood-Dailey, MVMS Volunteer Track Coach

LEAVE REQUESTS

Amanda VanHeel, MVHS Instructional Assistant (Leave of Absence for Student Teaching 9/23/19-12/6/19)
Kristina McCoskey, FES Teacher (Maternity Leave 2/11/19-4/15/19)
Mr. May seconded, and the motion carried, 5-0.

6.1 Executive Session Minutes

None

6.2 Regular Session Minutes

Attachments:

[March 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

6.3 Claims

Attachments:

[Claims.pdf](#)

6.4 Personnel Report

Attachments:

[Personnel.pdf](#)

6.5 Overnight Field Trip Request

Attachments:

[Overnight Field Trip Requests.pdf](#)

6.6 Request to Accept Donation

Attachments:

[Donation Request.pdf](#)

7 Action Items

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

7.1 High School Tennis Courts

Mr. Derek Shelton, Director of Operations

Minutes:

Dr. Parker reported that the high school tennis court project has become a more extensive repair project than previously reported and he asks that no action be taken yet as he, Mr. Smedley and Mr. Shelton are putting together further details of the project. Mr. Smedley reported that due to the fact that alot more work needs to be done than initially thought, mostly due to the infrastructure, the cost has gone up significantly higher to fix the courts and fix them properly. Mr. Smedley is looking to finance the project by securing a General Obligation Bond and has started talking to bond attorneys to get the process started of securing bids with the goal to keep tax rates level. Mr. Shelton added he researched every possible avenue and even the possibility of fixing half of the courts at a time, but as the problem is the underlying soil, that won't work. We are at the point where if we don't get them fixed, we won't be able to host home matches. He feels by fixing the courts correctly, taking them out totally and putting proper drainage in underneath, we will save money in the long run. Mr. Smedley's goal is to seek approval for the bid winner at the June board meeting and have the contractor selected begin work immediately. He reminded board members that our current bond comes off in 2019 so this bond will basically replace that one with the first payment due in 2020.

7.2 Policy Updates/Revisions - Second Reading

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

- 5111 Student Transfer Policy - Updates required by the Board
- 5111.01 Homeless Students - Requires immediate enrollment of homeless students by law
- 5111.03 Children in Foster Care - This is a new policy as required by law

Minutes:

Dr. Parker presented second reading of the following policy updates/revisions:

- 5111 Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students Without Legal Settlement in the Corporation - Updates required by the Board
- 5111.01 Homeless Students - Requires immediate enrollment of homeless students by law
- 5111.03 Children and Youth in Foster Care - This is a new policy as required by law

Mrs. Freeman made a motion to accept the policy updates/revisions as presented. Mrs. Smith seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Attachments:

[Policy 5111.01 Update Homeless Students.pdf](#)
[Policy 5111.03 New Children in Foster Care.pdf](#)
[Policy 5111 Student Transfer.pdf](#)

7.3 2020-2021 School Calendar

Minutes:

Mrs. Smith made a motion to accept the 2020-2021 School Calendar as presented. Mr. McCarty seconded.

Mrs. Walls pointed out that the first student day was a Wednesday and questioned whether it would be a Delayed Start Day. Dr. Parker stated no, and it would be communicated that it was a regular start day. Mrs. Freeman asked if teachers were okay with not having Good Friday off. Dr. Parker stated he had not heard any concerns. Mr. May asked if any potential snow days were planned. Dr. Parker stated that was something they needed to look at as they had previously discussed setting a limit on how many E-Learning Days would be allowed before the need for a make-up day. Mrs. Freeman asked if there was a Department of Education limit to how many E-Learning Days a corporation could have and there is not. It would be Mt. Vernon's decision as to whether or not to set a limit and require an actual make-up day.

The motion carried 5-0.

Attachments:

[MVCSC School Calendar 2020-21 .pdf](#)

8 Board Member Reports

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Minutes:

1. Mr. May reported that the Fortville RDC meets this week.
2. Mrs. Freeman reported that Cumberland currently does not have any TIF Districts in our school district, but it

is anticipated that by the end of the year there may be a couple of new businesses that will apply. The RDC held their annual training on what a TIF District does and how it works.

3. Mrs. Smith reported that the MVEF Gala was a tremendous success and proceeds are way ahead of where they were last year. She congratulated Rene Oldham, MVEF Director, on a job well done. Next event coming up is the Geist Marathon. Everyone can register on-line.

4. Mr. McCarty reported that the Hancock County RDC Board of Commissioners voted on the creation of a new TIF around the Buck Creek Fire Station, part of the old TIF around the McDonalds. It won't have much of an impact on us, but we should continue to track it. New businesses coming in by MCE asking for additional TIF dollars. That is all on hold currently.

5. Mrs. Walls was unable to attend the McCordsville RDC meeting as it was the same night as the Mt. Vernon Middle School Open House.

9 Announcements

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Minutes:

Dr. Parker stated he was appreciative of the board members and their involvement in the other government entities especially regarding the TIF Districts and potential TIF Districts. While impact is minor for future TIF Districts, they can be very significant and their voice being heard is important as they do impact school districts. He appreciates the time they spend having those engaging conversations. Mr. May asked if someone from the Cabinet would be able to attend the Hancock County RDC meetings as it is sometime hard for Mr. McCarty to attend due to the time of day they are held. Dr. Parker asked Mrs. Bond and Mrs. Scroggins to work together to get those on his calendar.

Dr. Parker thanked everyone for the wonderful Gala. He made mention that 17 of the 19 building and administration administrators were in attendance and thanked them for their strong support.

10 Adjournment

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Minutes:

Mrs. Freeman made a motion to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Mr. May seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.