

Board of School Trustees Meeting

Mt. Vernon Board of School Trustees
Mt. Vernon Administrative Service Center
Monday, November 18, 2019
7:00pm - 8:00pm

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CAS

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

Absent: Mrs. Laura Durig, SpEd Director; Lisa Heitman, Finance Dept

1 Work Session (6:00 p.m.)

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

For Sustainable Budget Plan Update

Minutes:

The Mt. Vernon Board of School Trustees held a Work Session at the Administrative Service Center at 6:00 p.m.

2 Public Hearing: Additional Appropriation for 2019 Debt Service Fund

Mr. Greg Elkins, Chief Financial Officer

Minutes:

Dr. Parker announced that this evening is the hearing for the 2019 Debt Service Fund. He turned the meeting over to Mrs. Walls to run the hearing.

Mrs. Walls began by saying this evening's board meeting has been appropriately advertised as a hearing on the 2019 Debt Service Fund. The Public Hearing was opened at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Walls called on Mr. Elkins to provide an update. Later in the meeting he will ask board members to approve Resolution 2019-16 authorizing a loan to finance the purchase of six new buses that were approved in August, 2019 as part of the 2020 Bus Replacement Plan. The loan has been declared as anticipated debt to the 2020 Debt Service Fund and adopted as part of the 2020 budget. In order to receive those loan dollars and pay out in calendar year 2019, we need to request and approve an additional appropriation to the Debt Service Fund. That is the fund that the loan proceeds will be received to. The principal amount of the loan is \$755,398.00 to be repaid over budget years 2020-2021. This resolution is asking for permission to receive the funds from the loan and does not involve additional tax funds.

Mrs. Walls stated this is the appropriate time for members of the public to comment on the information presented this evening. She asked if there were any members of the public present who would like to comment. There were none and the public hearing was closed at 7:02 p.m.

Mrs. Walls asked if there were any board members who have any comments or questions? There were none.

Action will be taken on this item under the Public Hearing Resolutions later in the agenda.

3 Public Hearing: Additional Appropriation for 2019 Pension Debt Service Fund

Mr. Greg Elkins, Chief Financial Officer

Minutes:

Dr. Parker announced that this evening is the hearing for the 2019 Pension Debt Service Fund. He turned the meeting over to Mrs. Walls to run the hearing.

Mrs. Walls began by saying this evening's board meeting has been appropriately advertised as a hearing on the 2019 Pension Debt Service Fund. The Public Hearing was opened at 7:03 p.m. Mrs. Walls called on Mr. Elkins to provide an update.

Mr. Elkins reminded board members that this was a procedural matter and did not involve any additional funds or any additional tax levy dollars. We are always scheduled to make two payments to the pension debt out of this fund. It originally was in December and June of each year. As two payments have already been made this year, he was advised of the need to get back on the December and June payment schedule. In order to make the December payment, an additional appropriation is needed.

Mrs. Walls stated this is the appropriate time for members of the public to comment on the information presented this evening. She asked if there were any members of the public present who would like to comment. There were none and the public hearing was closed at 7:04 p.m.

Mrs. Walls asked if there were any board members who have any comments or questions? There were none.

Action will be taken on this item under the Public Hearing Resolutions later in the agenda.

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

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Minutes:

The invocation given by Kari Slabaugh, Campus Life Leader.

5 Call to Order

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Minutes:

The Mt. Vernon Board of School Trustees held a meeting at 7:05 pm in the Administrative Service Center.

6 Adoption of the Agenda

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Minutes:

There were several last minute personnel items added to the Personnel Report which are highlighted in yellow.

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

7 Reports

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Minutes:

Dr. Parker announced there were several exciting reports tonight.

7.1 Good News

Mrs. Maria Bond, Communications Director

Please help me welcome MES student Ivy Zhu, who will be sharing most of the Good News Report.

Minutes:

Mrs. Bond introduced Ivy Zhu, a 5th grader at McCordsville Elementary School who shared the following Good News:

1. The Mt. Vernon High School Football Team won Regionals and is headed to Semi-State.
2. MVHS is hosting a NASA Exhibit in their media center through December 13 called "Apollo and the Next Giant Leap!" This local exhibit is made possible thanks to the Mt. Vernon Education Foundation, the Main Street Arts at the Carnegie, and NASA. An actual moon rock was on display for the opening night.
3. Mt. Vernon Food Service celebrated National School Lunch Week with trivia, prizes, and musical entertainment, which included MVMS Principal Ben Williams and students.
4. Mt. Vernon celebrated Red Ribbon Week with a variety of activities designed to educate students and bring awareness on the dangers of drugs.

Attachments:

[11-2019 Board Report.pdf](#)

7.2 Recognition of Top Ten Teacher of the Year Ms. Deb Thomas, MVMS 7th Grade Teacher

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Minutes:

Mrs. Bond introduced Mt. Vernon Middle School 7th Grade Teacher Ms. Deb Thomas who was recently recognized as an Indiana Department of Education Top Ten Teacher of the Year. Ms. Thomas has engaged students through cultural awareness and community learning for over 29 years. She was selected as a finalist through a rigorous process with the platform of leading a mental health initiative to benefit students and staff after the recent loss of a fellow teacher at the middle school. She has advocated for mental health resources for the education industry because students who have experienced grief and trauma need a safe more supportive learning environment filled with well-trained adults. Ms. Thomas received an award for being the Top Ten Teacher of the Year at the 2020 IDOE Teacher of the Year Banquet.

Dr. Parker presented Ms. Thomas with flowers and a replica of a billboard in her honor. He recognized Ms. Thomas as an exemplary teacher with rock star skills and a heart of gold who makes Mt. Vernon look good.

Ms. Thomas stated it was a privilege to represent Mt. Vernon and thanked everyone for their support, especially Dr. Parker, board members, the administrative team and MVEF Director Renee Oldham. Through this process she has met alot of amazing people and was very humbled by the experience.

7.3 Lilly Grant Finalists

Mr. Casey Dodd, Principal, Mt. Vernon High School

Tessa Freeman and Anthony Fleming

Minutes:

Mr. Dodd, Principal at MVHS, introduced Lilly Grant Finalists Tessa Freeman and Tony Fleming. Mark Anderson from the Hancock County Community Foundation explained that HCCF has the privilege of administering the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship in Hancock County, a full four-year tuition scholarship award. Eligible applicants must be ranked in the top 15% of their graduating class and plan to pursue a baccalaureate course of study, to be completed in four years, at any accredited Indiana public or private college or university. Student applications are submitted online and reviewed blindly (without name) by a third party who selects eight finalists, two students from each Hancock County School. The winner will be announced in December.

Tessa Freeman is ranked 4th in her class with a gpa of 4.214. Her school activities include starting a chapter of Champions Together at MVHS which provides a way for students with disabilities to participate in sports; spearheaded with Student Government to start Mental Health Week at MVHS; volunteers at Hancock Regional Hospital in the emergency room; Million Meals Movement; Marauder Mentor Program; Marauder Mob Spirit Club; Hope House; captain of the girls' basketball team; and, been honored as Basketball Academic All-County and Academic All-State for cross country. Tessa plans on pursuing a career in the mental health field and attend either Notre Dame or I.U. majoring in neuroscience.

Tony Fleming is ranked 2nd in his class with a gpa of 4.270. His school activities include: the Spread Program at St. Andrews Parish that assists adults with disabilities; volunteer at Head Start; volunteer at Hope House where he serves on the Youth Executive Board; Kid's Closet; Student Government; Million Meals Movement; Mt. Vernon Theatre where he is currently producing this year's production of Shriek; Marauder Mentor Program; National Honor Society; co-founder and treasurer of One World-Foreign Exchange; Marauder Mob Spirit Club, African, and Best Buddies. Tony plans on pursuing a career in the field of psychology focused on criminology or the forensic side of psychology attending either Butler or Marion College.

7.4 Spotlight on Schools

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Mrs. Stacy Muffler, Principal, Fortville Elementary School

Minutes:

Mrs. Stacy Muffler gave a report spotlighting Fortville Elementary School. She began by saying that on Delayed Start Wednesdays, the focus has been on grade level instruction and essential learning skills students must learn before they go on to the next grand level. Delayed Start Wednesday Essential Learnings work is tied to their School Goals. Goal #1 is all students at FES will improve their reading proficiency as measured by NWEA with the objective being 80% of the students will meet their

projected grown in NWEA as evidenced by the end-of-the-year NWEA Reading benchmark assessment. She used kindergarten as an example. Four essential questions PLC are: 1) What do we want students to learn?; 2) How will we know if they have learned it?; 3) How will we respond when they haven't learned it?; and 4) How will we respond when they already learned? She feels all teachers should be able to answer these four questions about the content they are teaching. For kindergarten, question #1 was students will be able to identify all uppercase and lowercase letters. A Smart Goal was set at 85% of kindergarten students will be able to identify these letters by October 22, 2019. Pre-assessment data (proficiency before any instruction is given) showed 11% of kindergarten students knew their upper and lower case letters. Question #2: End-of-unit assessments showed that number increased to 46%. Students were given incentives to reach the 100% mark. Teachers met to discuss what instructional practices worked making it a true team effort. Actions will be taken to ensure every student will be proficient by the end of the year.

7.5 Student Enrollment/ADM/Transfer Students

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Minutes:

Dr. Parker gave a report on student enrollment/ADM and transfer students. 2018-2019 student enrollment was 4,121, increasing to 4,220 in 2019-2020 (This includes 11 virtual students and 5 partner students), for a net enrollment of 4, 204 and the amount we collect ADM on. However, we do collect money in other ways for the 11 virtual and 5 partner students. Dr. Parker shared a chart showing cohort growth from 2015-2020. For instance, current 5th graders, when in kindergarten, had 238 students and now currently have 289 in grade 5. Total enrollment was 3535 in 2015, rising to 4221 in 2019-2020. There were 692 transfer students in 2018-2019 and 644 currently. 104 transfer students did not return to Mt. Vernon this school year. There are 93 transfer students new to the district this year generating \$602,268. 15% of that amount is allowed to be moved into the Operations Fund, meaning \$90,340 was moved. Since we still have room for additional transfer students, we will be able to continue that practice. Other figures show that if we had kept an open enrollment, where students could transfer in at any time, it is predicted we would gain an additional 1,795 students by 2029-2030. With no open enrollment, it is predicted 145 additional students by 2029-2030. With our new policy for transfer students, it is predicted 412 additional students by 2029-2030, a decline. The new transfer policy gives us the ability to manage the number of transfer students we accept as we keep a close eye on the number of students in each building. He reminded board members, once a Marauder, always a Marauder as we want to keep students once enrolled, and that includes any siblings of current transfer students.

8 Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

H225 - Public Comments and Concerns

Must sign in before the meeting begins

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 2 minutes duration

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

individually

Minutes:

There were none.

9 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:

Mrs. Freeman made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented:

1. The October 21, 2019, November 4, 2019 and November 11, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes;
2. Claims;
3. Request from the MVHS FFA to attend National Western Round Up January 8-13, 2020 in Denver, CO; and the Girls Basketball Team to attend the Twin Lakes Holiday Basketball Tourney December 27-28, 2019 at Twin Lakes High School;
4. Request to accept donation of \$180.00 from Mr. and Mrs. Ziebell to the Mini-Marauder Preschool to purchase an additional tricycle for students; donation of \$500.00 from Mr. Bernie Baldwin of Baldwin Excavating to support the MVHS Lady Marauders Basketball Program; and donation of \$4,500.62 from the Mt. Vernon Optimist Club to support Mt. Comfort Elementary (\$449 per teacher for Smekens Writing Conference; \$1,306.62 for 2nd Grade Self-Esteem Martial Arts; and \$500 for 2nd Grade Springhurst Visit); and
5. The following Personnel Items:

CERTIFIED RETIREMENT/RESIGNATIONS

CERTIFIED RECOMMENDATIONS

Rebecca Watts, Temporary Speech and Language Pathologist

CLASSIFIED RETIREMENT/RESIGNATIONS

- Dan Brinker, MVHS Custodian (Retirement)
- Patricia Calder, MVHS Athletic Secretary (Retirement)
- Theresa Kidd, MCE Instructional Assistant
- Madyson Ugen, Mini-Marauder Preschool Instructional Assistant
- Erin Ellenwood, Mini-Marauder Preschool Coordinator
- Christi Booher, MVHS Instructional Assistant
- Laura Morrison, MVMS Custodian
- Camille Hull, MVMS Instructional Assistant

CLASSIFIED RECOMMENDATIONS

- Avery Bovard, Mini-Marauder Preschool Instructional Assistant
- Maria Hoseclaw, Mini-Marauder Preschool Instructional Assistant

Megan Garner, Mini-Marauder Preschool Aftercare Instructional Assistant

Lillie Perdue, Mini-Marauder Preschool Aftercare Instructional Assistant

Annalisa Maas, MVMS Cafeteria

Debbie Kline, MVHS Cafeteria

Carol Hughes, MVHS Cafeteria

Erin Costerison, FES Instructional Assistant

ECA RECOMMENDATIONS

Luke Webber, 6th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach

Ryan Roland, 6th Grade Boys' Assistant Basketball Coach

Monica Bulmahn, Freshman Volleyball Coach

Terry Trowbridge, MES Art

Lauren Hedrick, MES Student Council

Kayla Negley, MES Wellness and Team Leader

Abby Kern, MES Talent Show

Erin Hardin, MES Kindergarten Team Leader

Karen Feder, MES 1st Grade Team Leader

Anita Benoodt, MES 2nd Grade Team Leader

Beth Chaplin, MES 3rd Grade Team Leader

Dan Keeler, MES 4th Grade Team Leader

Abby Kern, MES 5th Grade Team Leader

Fred Bays, MES Robotics Club

Miranda Greenlee, MES Music

Taylor Gibson, MVHS Volunteer Baseball Coach

Adam Buchta, MVMS Assistant Wrestling Coach

Jill Stewart, MVMS Vocal Music

Stephen Day, MVMS Concert Band

Mark Douglass, MVMS Industrial Tech

ECA RESIGNATIONS

LEAVE REQUESTS

Walter Irby, MVHS Cafeteria (Leave of Absence November 4-29,2019)

Leslie Mills, Mini-Marauder Preschool Teacher (FMLA)

Michael Maley, MVCSC Maintenance (Leave of Absence October 18-November 4, 2019)

Mr. May seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

9.1 Executive Session Minutes

9.2 Regular Session Minutes

October 21, 2019 Board Meeting

November 4, 2019 Special Meeting

November 11, 2019 Special Meeting

Attachments:

[October 21 2019 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[November 4 2019 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[November 11 2019 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

9.3 Claims

Attachments:

[Claims.pdf](#)

9.4 Personnel Report

Attachments:

[Personnel Report 1.pdf](#)

[Personnel Report.pdf](#)

9.5 Overnight Field Trip Request

Attachments:

[Overnight Field Trip Requests.pdf](#)

9.6 Request to Accept Donation

Attachments:

[Request to Accept Donations.pdf](#)

10 Action Items

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

10.1 Policy Updates/Revisions - Second Reading

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

C100 Entrance Requirements

C125 Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students Without Legal Settlement in the Corporation

- C150 Homeless Students
- C275 Test Security Provisions for Statewide Assessments
- E175 Student Records
- F125 Purchasing Procedures and Capital Assets
- F175 Collection and Forgiveness of Debt (Bad Debt)
- H150 Public Records

Minutes:

Mr. McCarty made a motion to accept policies C100,C125,C150, C275, E175, F125, F175, and H150 as presented. Mrs. Freeman seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. ✓

Attachments:

[2nd Reading 11-18-19 - Google Docs.pdf](#)

10.2 Policy Deletions

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Minutes:

Mr. May made a motion to delete policies as outlined (6320.01, 6325 and 6440), due to the adoption of new policies that render them obsolete. Mrs. Smith seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. ✓

Attachments:

[Obsolete Policies.pdf](#)

10.3 Permission to Declare Items Surplus

Mr. Greg Rollo, Director of Technology

Minutes:

Mr. Rollo presented a list of technology items that have reached the end of their typical life cycle and no longer needed for school purposes. All items have been removed from the classrooms and/or school use. He asked that they be declared surplus items so they can be disposed of.

Mrs. Smith made a motion to declare the technology items presented as surplus equipment. Mr. May seconded.

Mrs. Freeman asked what happens with them now. Mr. Rollo replied, chromebooks may be able to be sold for parts, everything else is in bad shape and will be thrown away. He will use a recycling company to get rid of things.

The motion carried 5-0. ✓

Attachments:

[Technology Surplus Items.pdf](#)

10.4 Public Hearing Related Resolutions

Mr. Greg Elkins, Chief Financial Officer

Resolution 2019-14: Resolution Authorizing Requesting and Approving Additional Appropriation for the 2019 Pension Debt Fund.

Resolution 2019-15: Resolution Authorizing Requesting and Approving Additional Appropriation for the 2019 Debt Service Fund.

Resolution 2019-16: Resolution Authorizing 2019 Loan for Bus Purchases

Resolution 2019-17: Resolution Authorizing the Reduction of 2019 Budget Appropriations

Minutes:

Mrs. Freeman made a motion to approve the four resolutions (2019-14: Resolution Authorizing Requesting and Approving Additional Appropriation for the 2019 Pension Debt Fund; 2019-15: Resolution Authorizing Requesting and Approving Additional Appropriation for the 2019 Debt Service Fund; 2019-16: Resolution Authorizing 2019 Loan for Bus Purchases; and 2019-17: Resolution Authorizing the Reduction of 2019 Budget Appropriations) as presented. Mrs. Smith seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

3 relate from public hearing section

17- have ability to reduce our 2019 budget, odds are slim that we need to do this,

if dont use an appropriation can ask dlcf to roll over to next year's budget.

1st kellie 2nd beth 5-0

Attachments:

[Resolution 2019-](#)

[14 Authorizing Requesting and Approving Additional Appropriations for the 2019 Pension Debt Fund.pdf](#)

[Resolution 2019-](#)

[15 Authorizing Requesting and Approving Additional Appropriations for the 2019 Debt Service Fund.pdf](#)

[Resolution 2019-16 Authorizing 2019 Loan for Bus Purchases.pdf](#)

[Resolution 2019-17 Authorizing the Reduction of 2019 Budget Appropriations.pdf](#)

11 Board Member Reports

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Fortville RDC - Mr. Tony May

Cumberland RDC - Mrs. Kellie Freeman

Hancock Co. RDC - Mr. Mike McCarty

McCordsville RDC - Mrs. Shannon Walls

MVEF - Mrs. Beth Smith

Minutes:

1. Mr. May reported that the Fortville RDC did not hold a meeting this month.
2. Mrs. Freeman reported that the Cumberland RDC did not hold a meeting this month.

3. Mr. McCarty was unable to attend the Hancock Co. RDC meeting.
4. Mrs. Walls was unable to attend the McCordsville RDC meeting.
5. Mrs. Smith did not have a MVEF report.

12 Announcements

Dr. Jack Parker, Superintendent

Minutes:

Dr. Parker announced he appreciated everyone's efforts this evening and all the celebrations.

13 Adjournment

Mrs. Shannon Walls, Board President

Minutes:

Mrs. Freeman made a motion to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Mr. McCarty seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.