

**MT. VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**BOARD MINUTES**  
**August 18, 2008**

The Board of School Trustees of Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation held a regular meeting on Monday, August 18, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the Administration Building. The following Board Members were present: Robert Hiday, Nancy Werner, Shelton Oakes, Paul Riddle, and Kevin Burk. Also present were Superintendent William Riggs, Assistant Superintendent Mick Horton, Business Manager Beverly Baugh, and Attorney Milo Gray.

President Hiday called the meeting to order and reviewed the emergency evacuation procedures for the facility.

Mr. Riddle moved to approve the board minutes of the July 21, and August 13, 2008 meetings. Mr. Burk seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Werner moved to certify that an executive session was held on July 21, 2008 and that no matters were discussed in the executive session other than the specified subject matter in the public notices. Mr. Riddle seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Burk moved to approve claims #1380 - 1543 for a total of \$1,104,936.44, and construction claims for pay affidavit dates of July 23 and August 8, 2008, for the MCE and MVHS construction projects for a grand total of \$2,331,645.64. Mr. Oakes seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

There was no correspondence.

Leanne Brown and Shannon Walls addressed the Board on behalf of the Mt. Vernon Education Foundation. Mrs. Walls is the chairperson for the MVEF Gala, which is scheduled on November 15, 2008 at 6:30pm at the Hillcrest County Club. The purposes for the formal event are to recognize the recipients of the 2007-08 grant awards, to increase public awareness of the MVEF, and as a fundraiser for the 2008-09 grant cycle. Corporate sponsors and donations for a silent auction are currently being pursued. She formally invited everyone present and requested they assist publicizing the Gala. Press releases will be forwarded to the local newspapers, notices will be included in the school newsletters, and formal invitations will be mailed in the near future.

Barbara Campbell, MVCSC Professional Development Coordinator announced that MVCSC received the Growth Achievement Award from Northwest Evaluation Association. This award recognizes the MAP growth data in both math and reading for more than 65% of the student population, and for being a school corporation with one of the highest overall percentages of students who met their growth targets in those content areas for the 2006-07 school year. She presented the Certificate from NWEA and commended Dr. Riggs and Board Members for being 11 of 2600 NWEA partner school corporations throughout the nation to earn this achievement. There were only 2 corporations in Indiana to receive the award (MVCSC and Brownsburg).

Technology Director Greg Rollo gave a demonstration on the *Lobbyguard* system that will soon be installed in each of the six school buildings. He announced that the machines are currently in transit toward the district. The security system takes a picture of the visitor, scans

an individual's driver's license, and produces a nametag with the person's photo and the reason for the visit to the school. Individuals visiting or picking up students from school will be required to have an identification badge printed for each visit. When the visit is complete, the bar code on the ID badge will be scanned and will record the visitor's departure time from the school building. Various employees who visit buildings on a regular basis will have a key card for quick check-ins and check-outs. He explained that when someone attempts to enter the school with a criminal history, the machine will not print an ID tag, but will instead direct the individual to the office to check-in. Additionally, the machine will automatically alert specified administrators in the buildings and has the potential to alert the Sheriff's department. . The machine has USP ports and a network connection for wireless capabilities. The machines will be located on mobile carts in each building to permit use in various parts of the facilities for countless number of events as desired.

Mr. Horton reported that brick continues to be laid on the exterior of the MCE construction project. The HVAC system, plumbing, electrical conduit, and interior walls are being installed. Roof installation has begun and work on the drainage ditch will begin in the next two days. The ball fields were re-seeded in July, herbicide was recently applied, the infields will soon be cut out, and fencing will be installed during the next few weeks.

At the high school, Mr. Horton reported that the south end classroom addition is ready for exterior brick and waiting on the delivery of such. Masonry work, ductwork, and electrical work have begun in the same area. On the west side of the high school erection of steel has begun for the café, band and music areas. The northeast corner has had all trees removed and footers will be poured within a week for the main gym expansion. He noted that 142 of 250, 300-foot wells have been drilled for the geothermal system on the second well field. Drilling should be completed by October when the lateral connection work will begin. The southwest well field had difficulties with lime and broken bits. The crew will move from MVHS to MCE when completed on the north campus, as Loop Master is the general contractor for each project. Mr. Horton stated that additional parking space should be ready by mid-September. A deceleration lane will be created along 200 West. He commended the students on adapting well and dealing with the construction situations the first week of school.

Dr. Riggs reported on student enrollment figures as of Friday, August 15, 2008. He stated that the total enrollment at that time was 3,657 compared to 3,514 in September 2007, reflecting a total increase of 143, as per the attached. He reminded those present that Indiana's official ADM count day is Friday, September 12, 2008 and cautioned that these numbers will not be official until the September count date. The elementary total enrollment has increased along with MVIS, MVMS, and MVHS. The ADM counts kindergarten students as half-students even though they attend a full-day program. The classroom averages listed reflect teachers only without consideration of the instructional assistants on staff.

Dr. Riggs updated Board Members on the consideration of an annual bus fee for band members similar to the fee approved by the Board for all student-athletes in grades 5-12. He stated that trips taken by the choirs and bands are currently treated as field trips as they are part of their classroom grade. Additionally, \$20 of the MVHS student band fee is designated for bus driver expenses. He recommended that present practices continue which includes charging costs associated with bus driver salaries and FICA benefits back to the music programs. It was the Board's general consensus to continue the current practice to reimburse the Corporation for the bus drivers' salary/benefit costs for band and music field trips.

Dr. Riggs gave the second reading of *MVCSC Policy 8000-Operations*. Mrs. Werner inquired about disease control preparation and asked if it would be reasonable to consider the need for a corporation plan addressing a pandemic outbreak. Mr. Horton replied that the Hancock County Safe School Committee has reviewed the topic. When specified numbers of students are absent, the school would be closed. Additionally, the School Board also agreed to serve as a site coordinator for health care facility should it be needed to assist with overcrowded hospitals. As a result, the countywide effort addresses the issue. Input was requested. Mrs. Werner asked if the current policy addresses legal requirements for approved religious activities held on school property. Dr. Riggs replied that the current policy follows the Supreme Court decision, based on an open forum permitting the community to use school facilities. Operational guidelines and restrictions are applicable for all groups. Mrs. Werner moved to approve *Policy 8000-Operations*, as per the attached. Mr. Riddle seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Riggs gave the second reading of *MVCSC Policy 9000-Relations*. Input was requested. Mrs. Werner asked if the new section providing a diploma for veterans should be publicized for Policy 9800. The Indiana General Assembly decided a couple of years ago to provide diplomas for Korean and Vietnam veterans who were unable to complete high school due to their military service. It was the Board's general consensus to publicize said policy. Mr. Riddle moved to approve said *Policy 9000-Relations*, as per the attached. Mrs. Werner seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Burk moved to approve the following field trip requests, contingent upon a 10:1 student/teacher ration: MVMS to Kings Island, Ohio on May 16, 2009; MVHS/MVMS to Louisville Skate Park on September 27, 2008; MVMS seventh grade trip to Chicago on April 17, 2009; and, MVMS eighth grade trip to Gettysburg and Washington D.C. on April 30 – May 3, 2009. Mr. Riddle seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Riggs reminded Board Members of the ISBA Annual Fall Conference scheduled for September 29-30, 2008.

Mr. Riddle moved to approve an overnight event for MVHS band members in the MVHS gymnasium on October 10-11, 2008, and, an overnight trip for MVHS band members to travel to Chesterton, Indiana on October 17-18, 2008 to participate in the ISSMA regionals, each event contingent upon a 10:1 student/teacher ratio. Mr. Oakes stated he does not see the need for the overnight stay at MVHS. Mrs. Werner seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Riddle moved to approve the following *Resignations*: Christi Socks-MES technology associate; Julie Bishopp-MES teacher; Dr. Lori Boyland-MVIS principal; Dwayne Garrity-MVHS assistant softball coach; Mary Wade-MVIS event sponsor; Mark Noesges-MVMS eighth grade assistant football coach; Nick Stadler-MVMS eighth grade assistant basketball coach; Jennifer Garst-MCE Pentathlon coach; and Joe Smith-MVMS cross country coach. Mr. Burk seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Riddle moved to approve the following *Hires*: Leah Glassburn-MVMS resource teacher; Megan Bull-MVHS temporary contract for English/speech; Maggie Haley-MVMS temporary contract for eighth grade; Jennifer Garst-MES teacher; Becky Siestma, Mike Depew, Cathy Berish, and, Meredith Beck-MVHS lunch room assistants; Mary Hopper, Kathy Aldrich and Daycee Garner-MVMS lunch room assistants; Melissa Ralstin-MES kindergarten temporary contract; Robert Dragoo-MVIS physical education temporary contract; Julie Russell-FES social worker temporary contract; Caylan Paugh-MVIS fifth grade

temporary contract; Amy Mozingo-MVMS science temporary contract; Tracy Adamson and Deanna Stanley-MVMS instructional assistants; Alana Lashaway, Jennifer Musselman, Phyllis Payne, and Anne Ashe-MVHS instructional assistants; Jeff Slinker-MVIS instructional assistant; cafeteria employees-as per the attached list; and FES, MCE, and MES instructional assistants-as per the attached lists. Mr. Oakes seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Burk moved to approve the following *Extra-Curricular Assignments*: Mark Calder-MVMS assistant football coach; Josh Kendall and Mark Garrison-MVHS volunteer cross country coaches; Josh Kendall and Mark Garrison-MVHS volunteer track coaches; Ryan Snider-MVHS assistant football coach; Amanda Wise-MCE Pentathlon coach; Amy Lynch-MVMS girls' track coach; Diana Myers-MVMS girls' assistant track coach; Amy Mozingo-MVMS cross country coach; Craig Blanton-MVMS team leader; Bronwyn Truex-MVMS writing club sponsor; Emily Stanley and Mark Noesges -MVMS Super Bowl coach; Ashley Plank-MVIS webmaster; Brenda Kelly-MVIS Academic Competition sponsor; Jessica Kendall-MVIS Fine Arts Team chair; Carla Renforth-MVIS events sponsor; Pay Ryznar-MVHS dance team sponsor; Greg Wolfe-MVHS indoor percussion director; Krista Carruthers-MVHS assistant summer band director (eff: 2008); Nick Ragan-MVMS team leader; and Brooklyn Doup-MVHS softball assistant coach. Mrs. Werner seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Riddle moved to grant a professional development leave request for MVIS teacher Heather Whitaker; and, a maternity leave request for Pamela Quigg, October 14-December 1, 2008. Mrs. Werner seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Riddle moved to approve 2008-09 temporary contracts for Heather Whitaker-MVIS administrative assistant with her current teacher salary and benefits and an additional \$3,000; and, Scott Shipley-MVIS interim principal with his current salary and benefits with an additional \$4,000. Mr. Oakes seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Baugh reviewed the 2009 Budget Calendar with important dates as follows: August 18 – budget presentation; August 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> – first and second legal publications for the 2009 budgets, the School Bus Replacement Plan 2009-2020, and the CPF Plan 2009-2011; September 4<sup>th</sup> – formal budget hearing; and September 15<sup>th</sup> – budget and Plan adoptions.

It was the Board's general consensus to conduct the budget hearing on September 4 at 6:00 pm.

Ms. Baugh presented the first draft of the 2009 budget as follows: General Fund-\$21,446,400; Debt Service-\$1,197,791; Retirement/Severance Bond Fund-\$509,810; Capital Projects Fund-\$5,098,010; Transportation Operational Fund-\$1,499,000; Transportation Bus Replacement Fund-\$739,810; and, Special Ed-Pre-School Fund-\$247,500. She noted that the General Fund includes \$106,145 for a MCE new facility appeal (2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2008), \$263,788 for an MVHS new facility appeal (2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2008), and \$200,000 for a 2008 tax shortfall appeal. The DLGF recommended corporations advertise the tax shortfall appeals if there was any potential for tax appeals of significant amounts prior to the end of the 2008 calendar year. The Transportation Operational Fund includes \$104,257 for an excess tax levy appeal due to increased fuel costs, and \$50,000 for a potential tax shortfall appeal, should it be necessary.

The Debt Service budget amount includes the estimated payments for bonds should the MVMS pool and real estate purchase be approved. It also includes \$250,000 for temporary loan interest for cash flow purposes. The Retirement/Severance Bond Fund amount is reflective of the pension bond payments due for 2009, and the tax levy for such will be neutralized by the Transportation Bus Replacement Fund. A tax rate of .4167 will be advertised for the 2009 Capital Projects Fund as the director of DLGF recommended all schools publish the State's maximum tax rate for CPF. Each fund will be advertised with inflated budgets, tax rates, and levies as recommended by the DLGF.

Dr. Riggs reviewed the Capital Projects Fund Plan 2009-2011, as per the attached. He analyzed the Plan for each school building, the Administration Building, the bus barn, and corporation additional needs for the following areas: Land acquisition/development, professional services, education specifications, building needs, rental of buildings/equipment, equipment purchase, utility services, equipment maintenance, school sports facilities, property and casualty insurance, staff services, technology, and allocations for future projects. He noted the need for a new floor surface in the cafeteria, and installation of additional security cameras and outside lighting at Fortville Elementary. The middle school building includes funds to continue roof replacement and utility costs. The high school includes the continued use and rental of portable classrooms, utility costs, and equipment replacement costs for the high-tech academy. The Administration Building and Bus Barn include asphalt for the much needed additional space for a secured bus lot, the technology associates salaries and benefits for all buildings, and corporation technology equipment. Additional needs include the rental paid to Hancock-South Madison Joint Services for rooms in buildings outside of the district and their administrative offices, and an emergency allocation. The CPF budget is inflated \$1,253,510 to achieve the legal publication for the State maximum tax rate of .4167 as directed by DLGF. Mr. Riddle moved to direct Ms. Baugh to legally publish the 2009 budgets, CPF Plan 2009-2011, and the Bus Replacement Plan 2009-2020, as per the attached. Mrs. Werner seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Burk moved to approve the 2008 Annual Report and grant permission to submit said report to the Department of Local Government, as per the attached. Mrs. Werner seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Riddle moved to declare the Dixie Chopper mower from the MVHS athletic department as surplus material. Mr. Oakes seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Werner moved to grant permission for MVHS, MVIS, MCE, and MES to open change drawers for the 2008-09 school year and to close said drawers out at the completion of the school year or for a specific event. Mr. Burk seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Riddle moved to adjourn to executive session at 8:50 pm. Mrs. Werner seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.