

**MINUTES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MOKENA SCHOOL DISTRICT 159 - BOARD OF EDUCATION
MOKENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
December 5, 2012**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. Patrick Markham- President	✓	
Mr. Joseph Spalla – Vice President	✓	
Mr. Mike Ford– Secretary	✓	
Mr. Franceschini	✓	
Mrs. Kathy Moore	✓	Via phone
Mr. Scott Peters	✓	
Mr. Jeff Regan	✓	

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Stein, Superintendent, Eileen Parente, Director of Student Services; Mike Rolinitis, Principal; Judy Splayt, Asst. Principal; Eric Melnyczenko, Principal Mari Jo Hanson, Assist, Principal; Steve Hastings, Director of Technology, Ken Stanley: Director of Buildings and Grounds, Ann Lewandowski, Director of Food Services, Mary Louise Knoerzer, Board Secretary Kim Rueth, Laurel McGowan, Debi Blank, Toni Szostak

VISITORS: Jack McDermott, Jim Andresen, Anna Briscoe, Jack Morgan, Johnny Veitkus

PRESS: Ginger Brashinger, Southtown Star; Will O'Brien, Mokena Messenger

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Markham led the Board of Education and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN SESSION and ROLL CALL

Mr. Markham called the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education of Mokena Public School District 159 to order at 7:03 pm on December 5, 2012.

COMMUNICATIONS

Public: None

MTA: Kim Rueth, respectively requested to have the BOE conduct a professional search for a superintendent with the input and the involvement of the administrators, staff and community members.

Board of Education

- Mr. Markham thanked MTA and ask for representation for the superintendent search; wants the best outcome for the all; the district.
- Mr. Spalla announced the MIS winter concert is 12/18/2012; MJH Band concert is 12/20/2012
- Mr. Peters hopes 8th grade girls were victorious this evening; wishes 7th grade girls basketball well this week as well; questioned why Park District lease was not agenda; it was tabled from previous meeting to this meeting.
- Mr. Markham responded saying he was mistaken; he thought lease was "laid on the table".
- Mr. Spalla suggested Mr. Ford clarified the agreement next meeting; Mrs. Moore was in agreement.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Stein reported:

- A positive update on Dr. Vitton.
- Sent thank you note to Senator Kirk for American flag
- Reminded BOE that 1/2/2013 Board meeting is during break; staff attendance is sporadic that week and prior week

Mr. Markham suggested scheduling the follow-up of Board goals work session; waiving the 1/2/2013 Board meeting. He delegated Mr. Spalla to work out convenient date for all Board members to attend.

- Joint Committee met with MTA union rep as required by Senate Bill 7. Discussion regarding the evaluation process; continue to meet w/MTA.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Mrs. Splayt presented to BOE:

- Update on the FISH collection sponsored by the social workers of MES
- "Principals of the Day" was today; the Zimmer twins were the lucky participants; great exhausting experience.

Mr. Melnychenko presented to BOE:

- PASS began this week; concentration on math skills; 45min/day- 4days/wk.
- IEXCEL and Dream Box new programs for math technology- good for all

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mr. Spalla moved to approve previous minutes for Regular Meeting November 14, 2012 and Closed Session October 3 and November 14, 2012; the motion was seconded by Mr. Franceschini. The Board was all in favor. Mr. Ford abstained from November 14, 2012 meetings.

INFORMATION REPORTS

Truth in Taxation of Proposed Tax Levy ad was reviewed for BOE by Mr. Troy. The ad ran in the Southtown on November 11, 2012.

Mr. Rolinitis reported to BOE:

- Just returned from the 8th grade basketball play-off game; Happily reported they won 34-30 winning in the last 10 seconds!; team will be heading for playoffs in Springfield
- Will have a an assembly on the following day to send the girls off to victory

OPEN DISCUSSION FOR TEACHER INPUT

Mr. Markham wanted to conduct an open discussion with teachers stating we are all in this together; would like teachers to share ideas with the BOE in an open forum.

Ms. Szostak, MTA President, read a statement, stating she was surprised this item was on the agenda; the MTA does not feel public Board meetings are the proper forum; teachers have worked through the superintendent and their building principals for such requests. The current protocol in place is appropriate; they are confident in their building administrators and the superintendent to convey their needs to the BOE.

Mr. Markham wants to send a strong message the BOE will consider all requests; will continue to reach out; keep communication open.

Mrs. Moore agrees with MTA that they should continue to work through their administrators; teachers have been told for the last few years to streamline their requests due to the fiscal restraints of budget.

TECHNOLOGY

At 7:41 pm Mr. Spalla moved to continue the Board of Education meeting to Science Room B105 for a demonstration of the interactive projector. The motion was seconded by Mr. Regan. The Board meeting regrouped in B105 for a demonstration of the interactive projector by 7th grade teacher Jessica Gibson and Mr. Rolinitis. Questions were asked and answered.

At 8:15 pm the BOE reconvened in the MJH library for the duration of the meeting.

Mr. Hastings provided a Technology update:

- met with Comcast regarding internet options; waiting for proposal
- working with a Mokena computer business to assess MPS 159 network
- attended a Technology Conference in Springfield; very informative and beneficial

CURRICULUM: No report

POLICY- Mr. Stein reported on the following policies as First Read:

- 2:200 Types of School Board meetings
- 2:200-AP Administrative Procedures for School Bd. meetings (new)
- 2:250 E-2 Immediately Available Public Records/Web-Posted Reports

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Troy presented to the BOE a detailed pictorial review of the "roofs of the district".

- 300,000 sq. ft of roofs; discussed the styles of the roofs and the maintenance program that needs to be considered for the future.
- Mr. Troy complimented Mr. Stanley, Director of Buildings and Grounds and his staff for the excellent job of maintaining the roofs to date.
- Mr. Troy would like to get back to a roof maintenance program which was discontinued two years prior due budget restraints.

LINCOLN WAY SPECIAL EDUCATION MINUTES

Mrs. Moore reported to the BOE:

- District #122 may be leaving District #843 and providing their own services
- Due to District 122 leaving; other districts will be effected; billing procedures need to be adjusted accordingly
- All remaining Districts will be attending a Special meeting on 12/7/2012
- A Special Meeting for the Advisory Committee will be held on 12/11/2012

MEDICAL AND INSURANCE /SALARY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Troy reported to BOE:

- Administration has met with MTA regarding salary and insurance
- Discussion regarding the steps on Salary schedule; certain criteria needs to be considered
- Insurance review of last year; working with Mesirow, our broker on 2013 rates; February is the renewal period;
- Questions were asked by the BOE; requested another update after the next meeting with District and MTA

FINANCE

Board Goals and Priorities were discussed among BOE. They agreed the goals need to be finalized prior to the budget discussion which will begin next month; all need to be considered. Discussion was held among the BOE. The goals need to be adopted and how the BOE will achieve these goals; the priorities need to match the goals. Mr. Markham appointed Mr. Spalla to get a consensus on a near future date for a Special Meeting. Mr. Markham asked Mr. Peters to work on the agenda for this future meeting. Mr. Peters said he would give it some thought.

JOINT CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. Regan reported to the BOE:

- attended the mandated Board Governance workshop and OMA
- Attended a seminar on the hiring a superintendent; very informative

ACTION REPORTS

Mr. Markham asked the Board of Education to pre-authorize money to be spent on a third Party for Superintendent Search. Discussion was held among BOE. A BOE consensus was that Mr. Spalla and Mr. Regan would bring back a recommendation to the 12/ 19/2012 Regular meeting.

Recommended Motion:

Mr. Spalla moved to have the Parent/Teacher Advisory Committee under the charge of the Superintendent. The motion was seconded by Mr. Franceschini.

There was discussion among BOE regarding this change. Mr. Peters said the BOE does not need to make this motion because it is a standing committee required under policy

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Franceschini, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Regan, Mr. Spalla

Nays: Mr. Peters

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-1

PERSONNEL

Mr. Franceschini moved to approve personnel recommendations 1 through 4 as presented, subject to successful background check, drug screening and physical. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spalla.

1. Administrative – Resignation

Steve Stein	Superintendent	District	6/30/2013
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2. Classified – New Hire

Steven Hay	Custodian	District	11/26/2012	\$10.15/hr, 4 hrs/day 228 days/yr
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3. Certified- Leave of Absence

Judy Splayt	Assistant Principal	MES	12/17/2012- 2/3/2013 or upon dr.'s release
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4. Certified- Leave of Absence

Kym Van DeWoestyne	Teacher	MJH	1/14/2013-4/5/2013
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On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Franceschini, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Regan, Mr. Spalla

Nays: None

Abstain: None

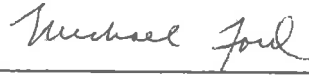
MOTION CARRIED 7-0

ADJOURMENT

At 9:40 pm Mr. Peters moved to adjourn to the Committee of the Whole meeting of December 5, 2012. The motion was seconded by Mr. Franceschini. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote.



President



Secretary

