

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MOKENA SCHOOL DISTRICT 159  
MOKENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
January 31, 2011**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

|                                       | <b>PRESENT</b> | <b>ABSENT</b> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Mr. Tim King – President              | ✓              |               |
| Mrs. Katherine Moore – Vice President | ✓              |               |
| Mr. Scott Peters – Secretary          | ✓              |               |
| Mr. Tony Bruozas                      | ✓              |               |
| Mrs. Denise Falbo                     | ✓              |               |
| Mr. John Troy                         | ✓              |               |
| Mr. Frank Ventura                     | ✓              |               |

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Karen Perry, Superintendent; Chuck Vitton, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction; Ellen Belotti, Student Services Director; Barbara Germany, Business Manager; Michael Krugman, Principal; Mike Rolinitis, Principal; Steve Stein, Principal; Patti Bogdan, Asst. Principal; Judy Splayt, Asst. Principal; Chris Clavenna, Asst. Principal; Ryan Adkins, Technology Administrator, Ann Lewandowski, Director of Food Services, Mary Louise Knoerzer, Board Secretary.

**VISITORS PRESENT**

David Balis, Kim Klappauf, Sue Isdonas, Steve Roberts, Erin Darling, Maureen McDonough, Debi Blank, Rhonda Pars, Shirley McDonnell, Deborah Hocking, Jenny Daley, Erin Menozzi, Stephanie Pote, Caryn Hill, Tammy Vermeire, Joseph Spalla, Lora Grabowski, Kate Wojtulewicz, Kym Janky, Jen Gorman, Sandy Liden, Janet Grice, Nicky Vusko, Karen and Jared Bachman, Ursula Damico, Jill Moran, Lisa Papp

**PRESS**

Amanda Jacobs, Mokena Messenger; Caroline Evans, Patch.com; Susan Lafferty; Southtown Star.

**OPENING AND ROLL CALL**

Mr. King called the Special Meeting of the Board of Education of Mokena Public School District 159 to order at 7:00 p.m. on January 31, 2011.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Perry led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session for purposes of negotiations was cancelled.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- *Maureen McDonough* teacher for 14 years, spoke on behalf of her administration at MIS; thanked them for their support; Children are first priority.
- *Erin Darling* spoke as a resident, student and teacher of Mokena community for half her life; asked for decisions to be made.
- *Sue Isdonas* teacher at MJH for 17 years , spoke on behalf of her administration; provide leadership, and Team climate; common goals.
- *Kim Klappauf* along with students, Jared Bachman and Garrett McCrea presented a petition to Board with 300 student signatures wanted MIS to continue to stand and operate.

- *Sarah Boldman* a social worker at MJH spoke on behalf of her administration; creating a positive environment; everyone at MJH has a crucial role in children's development.
- *David Balis* 15 years of teaching experience; economic situation causes for tough decisions, spoke on behalf of his administration and guiding them through some tough times in last 18 months; offended by negative comments made in public.

#### **INFORMATION REPORTS**

##### **DISCUSSION ON THREE YEAR PLAN**

Ms. Germany presented an update three year deficit reduction plan with additional scenarios requested by the Mr. Troy and Mrs. Moore. Discussion was held among the Board; questions were answered by Administration.

#### **ACTION REQUESTS**

##### **CLOSING OF MOKENA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

Mr. Ventura motioned to close Mokena Intermediate School (MIS) and transfer all students to Mokena Elementary School beginning with the 2011-2012 school year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peters.

##### **On Roll Call**

Ayes: Mr. King, Mr. Peters, Mr. Ventura

Nays: Mr. Bruozas, Mrs. Falbo, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Troy

Abstain: None

**MOTION FAILED 3-4**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:35 p.m. Mrs. Moore moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Peters the January 31, 2011 meeting. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote.

  
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President

  
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Secretary