

BOARD
RE-ORGANIZATION



Mokena School District 159

Action Request

Date: May 1, 2013

To: Board of Education

From: Steve Stein, Superintendent

RE: Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings –June 2013 through May 2015

Listed below are the recommended dates for our regular meetings of the Board of Education from May 2013 through May 2015. After conferring with Dr. Omar Castillo, we both feel Board business can be accomplished in a single meeting per month. Regular Board of Education meetings will be held the third Wednesday of the month. All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the MES Band room. The other option is to rotate the monthly meetings among MES, MIS and MJH.

Date

June 19, 2013
July 17, 2013
August 21, 2013
September 18, 2013
October 16, 2013
November 20, 2013
December 18, 2013
January 15, 2014
February 19, 2014
March 19, 2014
April 16, 2014
May 21, 2014
June 18, 2014
July 16, 2014
August 20, 2014
September 17, 2014
October 15, 2014
November 19, 2014
December 17, 2014
January 21, 2015
February 18, 2015
March 18, 2015
April 15, 2015
May 20, 2015



Mokena School District 159

Date: May 1, 2013

To: Board of Education

From: Steve Stein, Superintendent

RE: Special Education Representative and Alternate

As part of the Board's Organizational process, we are required to appoint a Special Education Representative and an Alternate.

The current appointments are:

Kathy Moore – Board Representative
Patrick Markham – Board Alternate

We are hereby appointing _____ to fill the position as the Board of Education Special Education Representative.

We are hereby appointing _____ to fill the position as the Board of Education Special Education Alternate.

INFORMATION
REPORTS



Mokena School District 159 Information Report

Date: May 1, 2013

To: Board of Education

From: Steve Stein, Superintendent

Re: 2013-2014 Parent/Student Handbook

After meeting with the Administrative team on a few occasions, we made the necessary changes for the 2013-2014 Parent/Student Handbook. I also met with the Teacher/Parent Advisory Committee in February and April to clarify the updates. The additions and changes are highlighted in yellow.

I will be happy to answer any questions you might have regarding the handbook. I would hope to adopt the 2013-2014 Parent/Student Handbook at the next regular Board meeting.



Mokena School District 159 Information Report

Date: May 1, 2013

To: Board of Education
Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent of Schools

From: Dr. Charles J. Vitton, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

RE: New Reading Program

For the past few months, the ELA Curriculum Committee has been meeting to review our current Reading curriculum with the end goal of making a recommendation for a new Reading program. With the advent of Illinois' adoption of the Common Core State Standards, it is imperative that we have instructional resources that are aligned to the new standards and that we provide our teachers with the tools to meet the rigor of the PARCC assessment.

Members of the ELA Committee are:

Kathy Arduino	Cathy Lark
Sheree DeSalvo	Kim Rueth
Jane Conroy	Stacey Curtis
Kim Truffa	Patti Novak
Erin Menozzi	Pat Haiser
Heather Sullivan	Tracy Driver
Maureen McDonough	Kate Flaherty
Anna Kirchner	Judy Splayt
Eric Melnyczenko	Mike Rolinitis
Mari Jo Hanson	

To date, the committee has:

- Discussed current research and best practice in the area of Reading instruction
- Reviewed each of the Reading programs using two documents:
 - Guidelines for Reviewing a Reading Program (Florida Center on Reading Research)
 - Publishers' Criteria for the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy (Coleman and Pimentel)
- Reviewed our district Reading data (ISAT, AIMSweb, Terra Nova)
- Met with publishers representing three different Reading programs
- Analyzed the various Reading programs' strengths and weaknesses

At this time, on behalf of the ELA Curriculum Committee, I am presenting to the Board of Education **Journeys 2014** (Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt) as the new Reading program for grades K-5.

The implementation plan for the new K-5 Reading series is:

- Kindergarten – Third Grade: FY14 (purchased out of FY13 budget)
- Fourth Grade – Fifth Grade: FY15 (purchased out of FY14 budget)

In the fall of 2013, it will be imperative that the MJHS ELA department begin the process to determine which curriculum resources will best serve our students (and serve as a “bridge” between the K-5 program and what is being offered at Lincoln-Way East).

The implementation plan for a new Reading program at MJHS will be:

- Sixth Grade – Eighth Grade: FY16 (purchased out of FY15 budget)

I have been in negotiations with Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt with regard to a budget proposal for the K-3 series for next year. I have been able to get a reduction in the publisher’s initial proposal by 36% and we now stand at a total cost (including shipping) of \$137,342.52 (their original proposal was for \$216,274.63). This final proposal is for the exact same components in the original proposal, so the integrity of the program has not been altered. The total cost for this implementation for next year does not exceed our original budget amount in the workbook/textbook accounts for FY13.

I will bring this information to the Board of Education for action at the May 15th meeting.