

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES with Revision
MUSCATINE SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION
December 14, 2015

The Board of Education of the Muscatine Community School District, in the County of Muscatine, State of Iowa, met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2015 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. President Tammi Drawbaugh called the meeting to order. Directors Tim Bower, John DaBeet, Aaron Finn, Nathan Mather, Randy Naber, and Mary Wildermuth were present. Also present were Superintendent Jerry Riibe and Director of Finance Jean Garner.

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Drawbaugh welcomed visitors and media representatives.

No one spoke during Citizens Speak.

Student Council Representatives Lizzie Utley and Kya Stecher updated the board on recent and upcoming student council activities.

House Representative Gary Carlson provided information to the board regarding the state budget, education funding, and the upcoming session.

A motion was made by Director Naber and seconded by Director Bower to approve the consent agenda to include: the minutes of the November 9, 2015 regular session; the student teaching agreement with Western Governor's University; the bills and claims against the district dated December 14, 2015; and the following Employment Recommendations:

The resignations of: Ann Goodman – Principal at Mulberry Elementary at the end of the 2015-16 school year; and Michelle Haugen – 3rd grade teacher at Washington Elementary on December 22, 2015; Ryan Reifert – Middle School Basketball Coach; Wesley Phipps – MHS Assistant Forensics Advisor.

The Schedule C hires of: Spencer Lloyd o- MHS Boys Assistant Basketball; Colin Hagerty – MHS Assistant Wrestling; Josh Battern – Model UN (shared position); and Elizabeth Thomas – Student Council Advisory (shared position).

All ayes; motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Naber and seconded by Director **Mather** to approve casting a vote for Tim Bower as the IASB Board of Director Representative. All ayes; motion carried.

Superintendent Riibe explained the purpose of the Early Retirement Incentive. Due to the district losing 177 students in certified enrollment, it is requesting the board to approve offering an early retirement incentive package to certified staff (teachers, administrators, and directors) for fiscal year 2016. He noted that this incentive package is different from past years as it is a

straight amount and not based on salary. It is the hope of administration that enough staff will participate in the program to help alleviate stress on the budget from the drop in certified enrollment. The deadline for those qualified employees to take advantage of the incentive is January 15, 2016.

A motion was made by Director Bower and seconded by Director Wildermuth to approve the Early Retirement Incentive Program for FY 16. All ayes; motion carried.

Tyler Riley with FEH Architects provided information regarding the Jefferson Deconstruction project.

A motion was made by Director Bower and seconded by Director Naber to approve the Jefferson Elementary Deconstruction Plans and Specifications. All ayes; motion carried.

Central Middle School Principal Terry Hogenson, Guidance Counselor Troy Kulland, and At Risk teachers Cara Shepherd and Micaela Haight presented information on Central's At Risk Student Program. A student also spoke regarding the program's field trip incentives.

Superintendent Riibe updated the board on the School Improvement Advisory Committee meeting that took place last month. He shared data received through staff and student surveys and noted that the parent survey is currently being conducted. He noted that the staff survey was very positive and that one of the areas the district will be focusing on next year is to continue to improve the culture of the district and improve the connections between teachers and leadership roles. He also shared that the student survey responses were primarily positive and that the focus has been on the academic work that was needed and now administration and teachers need to make certain relationships are being built with the students.

The board reviewed the available dates to meet in January to review the district's policy manual. The date for this work will be Thursday, January 21st at 6 p.m. at the Administration Center.

Director of Finance Jean Garner reviewed the financial statements for the month of October and November, 2015.

Mrs. Garner and Food Service Supervisor Alisha Eggers updated the board on the food service budget.

Superintendent Riibe provided information on the Washington School Study specifically answering Frequently Asked Questions. The FAQs will be posted on the district's website and will be updated as needed. He also noted that the district will hold a Washington Study Forum for Washington parents and the community on January 7, 2016 at 6 p.m. at CMS Auditorium.

Superintendent Riibe shared information regarding the Iowa State Report Card. He noted that the intent of the report card is to rank each attendance center in the state of Iowa from exceptional, high performing, commendable, acceptable, needs improvement, and priority. He stated that he felt that rating the schools in this context is unethical because the ratings do not take into consideration barriers to learning that many students face (i.e. poverty, disabilities, etc.). He commended district teachers and principals as non-gap students in our schools are

performing very well on the Iowa Tests. The State Report Card will be released to the public on Wednesday, December 16, 2015.

President Drawbaugh announced the following meetings and upcoming important dates:

December 23 – Winter Break Begins

January 4 – School Resumes

January 7 – Washington School Study Forum at 6 p.m. at CMS Auditorium

January 8 – Last Day of First Semester

January 11 – School Board Regular meeting at 7 p.m. at City Hall

January 18 – No School – Teacher Inservice

January 20 – MCSD Job Fair for Non-Certified Staff, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. – Administration Center

January 21 – School Board Policy Work Session – 6 p.m. – Administration Center

January 23 – MCSD Job Fair for Non-Certified Staff, 9 a.m. to Noon – Administration Center

January 25 – School Board Work Session – 6 p.m. – Administration Center

A motion was made by Director DaBeet and seconded by Director Finn to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; motion carried; Time: 9:38 p.m.

Tammi Drawbaugh, President

Lisa Mosier Bunn, Secretary