



Minutes of the
Mt. Vernon Township High School District #201
March 17, 2009
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:00 P.M.

Mission Statement

*The Mission Statement expresses the purpose for which we exist
and the functions we perform in a learning process.*

Mt. Vernon Township High School is a community including students, parents, staff, and citizens. The mission is to provide challenging educational and social experiences that will create in all students lifelong learning and responsible citizenship in a diverse and changing world.

President Hoffman called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members answering roll call were: Greg Backes, Ron Copenhaver, Pat Garrett, Karen Goodwine, Jon Hawthorne, Robert Stewart, and Dan Hoffman. Also present were Superintendent Terry Milt, Principal Ron Daniels, Board Secretary Shirilyn Holt and guests.

Recognition of Public Comments: There were no comments.

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

- A. Minutes – Open and Closed Special Meeting minutes of February 12, 2009; Regular Open and Closed Board Meeting minutes of February 17, 2009; Open and Closed Student Discipline minutes of February 23, 2009.
- B. Bills
- C. Treasurer's report

Backes made a motion to approve the consent agenda with a second by Copenhaver. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)

Measurable outcomes: Recorded on charts and graphs
Assistant Principal Talley passed out information regarding the measurable outcomes. The school is at 90% attendance at this time.

Administrative Reports: Principal/Superintendent

- The school will meet with teachers on March 26 to begin making plans for Freshmen home visits. Hopefully the school will start before end of 4th quarter.
- \$968.97 library grant from the Secretary of State's Office.
- Letters have been sent out to 148 seniors who owe fees.
- The school may see part of the stimulus money by end of the month. Maintenance money appears to be gone from the stimulus package. Title 1 money of \$228,000 and \$325,000 in Special Education money is available. We are receiving state aide payments and most of the lunch program money.
- Statement of Economic Interest forms need to be turned in to Mrs. Holt.

- Principal Daniels handed out an outline of the Freshman Academy Plans and Needs and gave a short presentation.

There was a short discussion regarding the Administration bringing a list of books to purchase to the Board for approval. Garrett stated he believes there is a policy regarding the Board voting on the purchases of text books. Superintendent Milt will research this and bring it back to the Board at the April Board meeting.

- Rockin' Rams won 4th place at the State Competition.

Old Business:

5.1 2nd reading of policy updates (discussion/action)

One change on punctuation – 3.6 - Individual employee contract will control– this is the only change.

Backes made a motion to approve the policy updates with a second by Stewart.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Stewart, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, and Hoffman)

5.2 Driver's Education update/request (discussion/action)

Principal Daniels handed out different scenarios and suggestions from the Driver Education Department regarding summer school driving. Action taken at the last meeting was to allow up to 50 students to take classroom and behind the wheel training in the summer.

This item was tabled until after closed session.

New Business:

6.1 Parent request to address the Board of Education (discussion/action)

Parent and daughter were present to ask permission for a 21 year old to accompany her daughter to this year's Prom. She stated exceptions have been granted and wondered if one could be made now. Parent stated that because the student and young man were special needs, she and the parent of the young man would attend the prom as chaperones if permission was granted. Discussion centered on looking at the policy and putting exceptions on paper.

After discussion, Stewart made a motion that due to the special needs of both student and date the Board would agree that the young man could attend, provided a parent of each person attend the Prom, with a second by Copenhaver.

The motion passed by a vote of 6, with one no vote. (Stewart, Copenhaver, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, and Hoffman. Hawthorne-no)

6.2 FGM presentation on roof bids (discussion/action)

Milt stated the bids had been reauthorized from last year. Nine companies had bid. The lowest bid was Joiner for \$179,000.00. Joiner did not include their contingency bid of \$20,000.00 in original bid. They have asked for their bid to be pulled. The Board has the right to force the company to honor the bid, while the company can refuse and surrender their bid bond. The next bid is Singles Roofing for \$230,145.00. This is an increase of \$51,145.00. The consensus of the Board was to table this item.

8:14 p.m.

6.3 Closed session for personnel issues 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

Backes made a motion to enter into Closed Sessions for personnel issues with a second by Goodwine.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)

9:00 p.m. – Open Session

Copenhaver made a motion to enter Open Session with a second by Backes.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Copenhaver, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)

6.4 Retention/resignations/dismissals (discussion/action)

Backes made a motion to accept the resignation of volunteer volleyball coach Kristen Kaskie with a second by Copenhaver.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)

Goodwine made a motion to accept the resignation of Special Education teacher Nathan Boldt, with a second by Stewart.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Goodwine, Stewart, Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, and Hoffman)

Backes made a motion to accept the resignation of Special Education teacher Lois Baugh with a second by Goodwine.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)

Stewart made a motion to accept the resignation of P.E. teacher Bridget Ahlfield with a second by Copenhaver.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Copenhaver, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, and Hoffman)

Backes made a motion to honorably discharge Social Worker Sara Watts with a second by Copenhaver.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)

6.5 Grant Tenure (discussion/action)

Superintendent Milt recommended tenure for the following teachers:

Jena Allen – Guidance

Debbie Backes – Special Education

Brittany Boldt – Child Care

Lance Boldt – Special Education

Sean Docherty – History

Scott Gamber – Business

Julie Holmes – Culinary Arts

Holly McKay – Math

Melanie Norman – Special Education

Christine Renth – Social Worker

Deb Richardson – Special Education

Hannah Rodgers – Art

Copenhaver made a motion to approve tenure of the teachers mentioned with a second by Stewart.

The motion passed by a vote of six, with one abstention. (Copenhaver, Stewart, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, and Hoffman. Backes-Abstained)

Items 6.6 and 6.7 were tabled.

6.6 Approve hiring of a Science teacher (discussion/action)

6.7 Approve hiring of a Spanish teacher (discussion/action)

- 6.8 Approve hiring of an head girls basketball coach (discussion/action)
Goodwine made a motion to approve the hiring of P.E. teacher Jeff Lonnon as head girls basketball coach with a second by Stewart.
The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Goodwine, Stewart, Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, and Hoffman)
- 6.9 Approve hiring of an head wrestling coach (discussion/action)
Copenhaver made a motion to approve the hiring of History teacher Sean Docherty as head wrestling coach with a second by Backes.
The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Copenhaver, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)
- 6.10 Approve hiring of an assistant coach for football (discussion/action)
Backes made a motion to approve the hiring of History teacher Ryan Goodisky as paid assistant football coach with a second by Stewart.
The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Stewart, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, and Hoffman)
- 6.11 Approve a volunteer assistant football coach (discussion/action)
Goodwine made a motion to approve Scott Tickner as volunteer assistant football coach with a second by Hawthorne.
The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Goodwine, Hawthorne, Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Stewart, and Hoffman)
- Item 6.12 was tabled.
- 6.12 Approve cost reduction measures with staff (discussion/action)
- 6.13 Approve the purchase of AEDs for athletic fields (discussion/action)
Superintendent Milt stated as of January 1, the athletic fields must now have AED's and staff trained to use them. He stated 95% of the athletic staff is trained, but the school at this point, does not have enough AED's. After a short discussion, Backes made a motion to approve the purchase of six AED's with cases and pads at the \$6,387.00 bid cost from *School Health* which is a state bid, with a second by Copenhaver.
The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)
- 6.14 Approve an out of state trip for the track team (discussion/action)
Backes made a motion to approve the trip to an out of state theme park with a second by Goodwine.
The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)
- 6.15 Approve a SkillsUSA overnight conference (discussion/action)
Stewart made a motion to approve the SkillsUSA overnight trip to Springfield with a second by Garrett.
The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Garrett, Backes, Copenhaver, Goodwine, Hawthorne, and Hoffman)

6.16 Approve dates for special Board of Education meetings on April 3, 4 2009. The times are:
April 3, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. and April 4, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. (discussion/action)

The consensus of the Board was to approve the dates and times.

6.17 Approve the permanent transfer from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund. (discussion/action)

Superintendent Milt read the Resolution to approve the permanent transfer of \$600,000.00 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund. He mentioned he had not asked for \$700,000 to be transferred because if the school had issues with roof's etc., the school would have to pay for it from the Operations and Maintenance Fund.

Backes made a motion to approve the permanent transfer of funds with a second by Goodwine.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Backes, Goodwine, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)

6.18 Approve the Science Department head (discussion/action)

Copenhaver made a motion to approve Ryan Robinson as Science Department head with a second by Backes.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Copenhaver, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Hoffman)

6.19 Teacher assignments for 9th grade academy

Superintendent Milt mentioned Principal Daniels had already discussed this item.

Principal Daniels recommended the proposal to offer a Spring, before and after school drivers education program be approved.

Goodwine made a motion to approve the recommendation with a second by Stewart.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Copenhaver, Stewart, Backes, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, and Hoffman)

9:24 p.m.

Adjournment

Stewart made a motion to adjourn with a second by Backes.

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (Stewart, Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Goodwine, Hawthorne, and Hoffman)

Dan Hoffman, Board President

Shirilyn Holt, Board Secretary