



Mt. Vernon Township High School  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
August 19, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.

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

Robert Stewart entered the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

2. Teacher Megan Clodi was present to introduce student Antonio Moore and share information regarding Antonio, who represented the school and the United States at the Special Olympics in China.
3. Approval of Consent Agenda:
  - a. Minutes - Open and Closed Session minutes from July 15, 2008, Open minutes from July 29, 2008 and August 7, 2008.
  - b. Bills
  - c. Treasurer's Report

Backes made a motion to approve the consent agenda with a second by Copenhaver

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Goodwine

No - None      Absent: Dan Hoffman

**Motion Carried**

4. Measureable Outcomes  
At this time there was no measureable outcome information.
5. Administrative Reports:
  - Milt stated the Drivers Education program has had approximately 100 students in the auditorium for the early morning classes.
  - Milt mentioned personnel from Fazoli's pasta restaurant have been serving lunch at the school.
  - Principal Daniels spoke regarding the PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) program and components.

6. Old Business

- 6.1 Area Vocation Center Budget Approval

Milt stated the budget had been on review for 30 days and there were no changes.

Copenhaver made a motion to approve the Area Vocation Center budget with a second by Backes.

Roll Call: Yes – Copenhaver, Backes, Garret, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Goodwine.

No - None

Absent: Hoffman

**Motion Carried**

7. New Business

7.1 Discussion of staff and student PBIS education

Principal Daniels had given this discussion under the Administrative reports.

7.2 Discussion of school improvement classroom interventions for 2008-2009 school year

Principal Daniels passed out a calendar detailing the school improvement schedule for the 2008-2009 school year. Each department has assignments to accomplish to prepare the students for the PSAE test.

7.3 Discussion of AYP and the department grade span

Superintendent Milt passed out AYP information and stated the school did not make AYP in Math or Reading. Milt gave a short report on the schools percentages versus the state percentages. This is the third year the school has not made AYP, which makes us a choice school. We have sent out letters to area school asking them if they will take our students. We also will send letters to parents explaining the school did not make APY, why we have not made AYP, what the schools improvement activities will entail. The school will also need to offer supplementary education from outside sources around the State of Illinois. Letters will be sent out to these supplementary education sources approved by the State Board of Education.

7.4 Update of strategic planning

Superintendent Milt gave the Board an update regarding the strategic plan meeting. He stated Dave Love will be sending him sample mission statements and goals. Milt mentioned the strategic planning group had been a good mix of the community members.

7.5 Student request to take courses out of sequence

Student Alexis Weinstein spoke regarding taking AP Language and Comp courses out of sequence.

After discussion, Stewart made a motion to approve the request to take courses out of sequence with a second by Backes.

Roll Call: Yes – Stewart, Backes, Copenhaver, Goodwine

No - Garrett and Hawthorne

Absent: Hoffman

**Motion Carried**

7.6 Discussion of possible graduation changes for 2008-2009

Superintendent Milt mentioned the letter that had been sent from parents with concerns regarding behavior of the audience at the recent graduation ceremony and concerns regarding honor students not being recognized. Milt stated he and Daniels had discussed what precautions to take at the next graduation.

Discussion was centered on how to curtail the noise and movement during the ceremony. Next month the board will talk about who will give the speeches during the ceremony.

7.7 Parent request for special consideration for project graduation

Sgt Jim Hawkins spoke regarding the low attendance at project graduation. Hawkins had contacted Disney World in Florida, which is the only park that has a graduation night celebration. The students would miss one day of school and Hawkins is asking for the day to be an excused day. A \$50 deposit is required from each student and fund raisers are planned. The Board, at this time, made no decisions regarding the item.

7.8 Proposed budget for 2008-2009

Superintendent Milt led the Board in discussion of the proposed budget.

The Board set September 9 at 7:00 p.m. and September 23 at 6:30 p.m. as special board meeting dates. Milt will have two or more versions of budgets to look at on September 9, which will include the projection of savings and projections of any revenue savings.

Garrett made a motion to tentatively approve the proposed budget with a second by Stewart

Roll Call: Yes – Garrett, Stewart, Copenhaver, Hawthorne, Stewart, and Goodwine.

No - None

Absent: Hoffman

**Motion Carried**

8. Closed Session: (9:05 p.m.) Information in regard to negotiations 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2)

Backes made a motion to enter Closed Session with a second by Stewart.

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Stewart, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, Goodwine

No - None

Absent – Dan Hoffman

**Motion Carried**

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

Roll Call: Yes – Backes, Copenhaver, Garrett, Hawthorne, Stewart, Goodwine

No - None

Absent – Dan Hoffman

**Motion Carried**

9. Adjournment (10:13 p.m.)

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

All present voted yes.

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Karen Goodwine, Vice-President

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Shirilyn Holt, Board Secretary

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Date Signed