

# Meridian Public Schools

Board of Education Organizational Meeting

Meridian Early College High School Learning Lab – Room 403

January 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Michael Bowen, Dennis Cole, Rebecca Hitsman, Janice Goodall, Debbie Passmore, and Stephen Grubaugh  
Absent: Ryan Holzinger  
Staff: Craig Carmoney, Sarah Glann, Dana Weisenberger, and Patrick Malley

## **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Michael Bowen.

## **\*Organizational Format\***

Superintendent Carmoney stated that during this portion of the meeting, we will follow a format similar to that used in the past.

## **Election of Officers**

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the officers of the Meridian Board of Education for the 2018 Calendar year are as follows: President – Michael Bowen, Vice President – Ryan Holzinger, Treasurer – Rebecca Hitsman, and Secretary – Dennis Cole."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

## **Establishing Depositories for District Funds**

WHEREAS, there may now be in and may hereafter, from time to time, come into the hands of the Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Meridian Public Schools, Sanford, Michigan, certain public monies belonging to or held for the Meridian School District, or otherwise held according to law, and

WHEREAS, under the laws of the State of Michigan, this Board is required to provide, by resolution, for the deposit of all public monies, including tax monies coming into the hands of said Treasurer, in one or more banks (hereinafter called bank):

- A. Chemical Bank & Trust Company (Sanford Branch)
  - General Fund, General Fund Money Fund, Depositories, Food Service, 2005 Debt Retirement, 2006 Debt Retirement, Activity Accounts, Payroll, Debt 2014, General Fund Withholding and Capital Improvement Fund
- B. Huntington National Bank
  - Debt 2014 Refunded
  - Debt 2014
  - Debt 2015 Refunded

Motion by Stephen Grubaugh, supported by Rebecca Hitsman, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education establish Depositories for District Funds for the 2018 Calendar year, as presented."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

**Authorization for Withdrawal and Designation of Funds**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funds from the below listed account be withdrawn from said banks by checks signed by Rebecca Hitsman as Treasurer and Michael D. Bowen as President.

General Fund Voucher Checks

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that authorization from Superintendent Craig D. Carmoney or Business Manager Sarah M. Glann, be given for withdrawal of funds by bank money order from the below listed accounts:

Capital Improvement Fund  
Benefit Fund  
Capital Projects  
Debt Retirement Accounts  
Food Service Accounts

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that authorization from Superintendent Craig D. Carmoney, be given for withdrawal of funds by bank money order from the below listed account:

Activity Account

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all payroll checks be signed by Superintendent Craig D. Carmoney or Rebecca Hitsman as Treasurer.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Business Manager Sarah M. Glann be designated the EFT Supervisor for Electronic Funds Transfer.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Meridian Public Schools Superintendent or Business Manager, be permitted to initiate activity accounts with the Chemical Bank and Trust, Sanford Branch and will be one of the signees on each account.

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Dennis Cole, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education authorize the Withdrawal of Funds and the Designation of Funds for the 2018 Calendar year, as presented."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

**Setting the Meeting Days for Regular Monthly Board Meetings**

MERIDIAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

**2018 Calendar year**

MEETING DATES

7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 15, 2018 (Organizational Mtg.)	Monday, July 16, 2018
Thursday, February 8, 2018	Monday, August 20, 2018
Monday, March 19, 2018	Monday, September 17, 2018
Monday, April 16, 2018 Budget Workshop 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Monday, October 15, 2018
Monday, May 21, 2018	Monday, November 19, 2018
Monday, June 25, 2018	Monday, December 17, 2018 (Year End Mtg.)

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Stephen Grubaugh, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education meet on the dates listed above for the 2018 Calendar year at 7:00 p.m. in the Meridian Early College High School Learning Lab, Room #403 in Sanford, Michigan, except as noted."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### **Delegates to the Michigan Association of School Boards (2)**

Motion by Stephen Grubaugh, supported by Dennis Cole, "I move that the Board elect Rebecca Hitsman and Debbie Passmore as delegates to the Michigan Association of School Boards for the 2018 Calendar year."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### **Selection of Legal Counsel**

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Debbie Passmore, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education retain Thrun Law Firm, P.C., as legal counsel for the Meridian Public Schools for the 2018 Calendar year."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### **Board Committee Appointments**

Committee Appointments are made by the Board President to the following Committees:

##### **Facilities Committee**

Dennis Cole  
Ryan Holzinger  
Debbie Passmore

##### **Finance Committee**

Michael Bowen  
Rebecca Hitsman  
Ryan Holzinger

##### **Personnel Committee**

Janice Goodall  
Rebecca Hitsman  
Debbie Passmore

##### **Policy Committee**

Michael Bowen  
Dennis Cole  
Steve Grubaugh

##### **Discipline Committee**

Janice Goodall  
Debbie Passmore

##### **Weighted Grading Committee** (Short-Term Comm.)

Janice Goodall  
Stephen Grubaugh  
Ryan Holzinger

Superintendent Carmoney added one comment in the Committee Appointments area, stating that there are two Contracts expiring at the end of the school year so the Personnel Committee will be involved in the negotiations with these two contracts.

#### **Facilities Use and Rental Charges**

These charges, which were updated in 2013, should be reviewed annually:

#### **Meridian Public Schools Facilities and Grounds Fee Structure**

##### **Class I-School Groups/Teams**

- K-12 Meridian Public Schools school sponsored groups and teams
- Non-school teams with 80% Meridian students (i.e.: Little League, Meridian Youth Basketball, Meridian Youth Football, etc.)
  - \*\* May incur personnel fee. Fee confirmed at time of rental agreement.

#### Class II-Non-profit School Affiliated Groups

- Non-Meridian sponsored groups/teams with less than 80% district students.  
\*\* May incur personnel fee. Fee confirmed at time of rental agreement.

#### Class III-Non-Profit or Non-Meridian Affiliated Community Groups

- Community Groups-civic groups, service clubs, religious groups, dance studios, political groups, homeowners association, etc.  
\*\* May incur personnel fee. Fee confirmed at time of rental agreement.

#### Class IV-Commercial

- Private, for-profit businesses, vendors, entrepreneurs, etc.
- For-profit instructional clinics.  
\*\* May incur personnel fee. Fee confirmed at time of rental agreement.

\*\* For all classes: Custodian fees, and kitchen staff fees, if required, are a 2-hour minimum.

Please note\*

- School sponsored groups/teams have priority for facility use and scheduling.
- All non-school sponsored student gym usage must conclude by 8:30 p.m.
- Usage of facilities is always dependent upon availability and staffing.
- Summer rates may incur additional staffing fees.

#### Class I-School Sponsored Groups and Teams

Facility	Elementary	Jr. High	High School
Gyms	No fee	No fee	No fee
Cafeterias	No fee	No fee	No fee
Classrooms	No fee	No fee	No fee
Media Centers	No fee	No fee	No fee
Ball fields	NA	NA	No fee

#### Class II-School Affiliated Groups and Teams

Facility	Elementary	Jr. High	High School
Gyms	\$30 per hour	\$30 per hour	\$30 per hour
Cafeterias Kitchen	\$15 per hour Staffing fees apply	\$15 per hour Staffing fees apply	\$15 per hour Staffing fees apply
Classrooms	\$10 per hour	\$10 per hour	\$10 per hour
Media Centers	\$15 per hour	\$15 per hour	\$15 per hour
Ball fields	NA	NA	Seek quote

#### Class III-Non-Meridian School Sponsored Tournament/Clinic

Facility	Elementary	Jr. High	High School
Gyms	\$35 per hour	\$40 per hour	\$40 per hour
Cafeterias Kitchen	\$15 per hour Staffing fees apply	\$15 per hour Staffing fees apply	\$15 per hour Staffing fees apply

Classrooms	\$10 per hour	\$10 per hour	\$10 per hour
Media Centers	\$15 per hour	\$15 per hour	\$15 per hour
Ball fields	NA	NA	Seek quote

#### Class IV-Commercial Rentals

Facility	Elementary	Jr. High	High School
Gyms	\$100 per hour	\$100 per hour	\$100 per hour
Cafeterias	\$50 per hour	\$50 per hour	\$50 per hour
Kitchen	Staffing fees apply	Staffing fees apply	Staffing fees apply
Classrooms	\$50 per hour	\$50 per hour	\$50 per hour
Media Centers	\$50 per hour	\$50 per hour	\$50 per hour
Ball fields	NA	NA	Seek quote

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Dennis Cole, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the above Facilities Use and Rental Charges for the 2018 Calendar year."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### **Public Communication**

Dawn Crawford and Rebecca Gaumond, MEA Union co-Presidents, thanked the Board of Education for all of their effort, time, and commitment to the students at Meridian.

Rhonda Sturgeon, MESPA Union President, thanked the Meridian Board of Education for everything that they do.

Mindy McLaughlin, paraprofessional at Meridian, expressed her concerns over the possible raising of substitute driver wages, as well as, other transportation union wages, stating that the Board of Education needs to consider all MESPA wages, not to single out the one department.

#### **Consent Agenda**

Motion by Janice Goodall, supported by Rebecca Hitsman, "I move adoption of the consent agenda as presented."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### **Old Business**

##### Board Resolution for Opposition to Senate Bills 584-586, 366

Superintendent Carmony stated that the Legislature concluded their business for the year without taking any action on these Senate Bills and it is not likely that they will be taking action any time soon as they will need to spend a good portion of 2018 balancing the State budget and adjusting for the Federal Income Tax changes recently passed. The Board Members stated that they will table this issue for now and watch how the Senate Bills change before they are brought to the House of Representatives later this year.

#### **New Business**

##### Board Recognition – January is Board Recognition Month

Superintendent Carmony stated that he would like to thank our Board of Education Members for their hard work, commitment, and dedication to the students of Meridian Public Schools. He then presented the Board of Education members with MASB certificates on behalf of the district in honor of Board Recognition Month.

High School Executive Council and Student Council representatives, Riley Hopkins and Sydney Laplow, were in attendance at the meeting. The girls thanked the Board of Education for their time and hard work serving the students of Meridian and showed their appreciation by presenting the Board of Education with gourmet cupcakes on behalf of the staff and students of Meridian Early College High School.

#### Application for Preliminary Qualification of Bonds

Superintendent Carmoney stated that the entire Application for Preliminary Qualification of Bonds was included in each Board packet. He stated that the meeting with the Michigan Department of Treasury to review the financial summary, enrollment projections, and project summary took place on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 and the Board will be adopting the Resolution calling for an election for the Bond proposal at the next scheduled meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2018. Superintendent Carmoney then stated that this proposal is very similar to the previous one with only a few minor changes which include better ventilation in the Industrial Arts room at the Junior High, updating of the P.A. systems at the secondary buildings, and natural resurfacing of the football field.

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Stephen Grubaugh, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the Application for Preliminary Qualification of Bonds as presented."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### New Tech Leadership Summit

Superintendent Carmoney stated that the New Tech Contract includes professional development and training for the leadership team. He also stated that the Superintendent Contract has language which states that the Board of Education must approve out-of-state conferences. Superintendent Carmoney stated that the Spring New Tech Network Leadership Summit is in Anaheim, California on February 21-23, 2018 and he stated that this expense will not come out of General Fund money, there are Title II Funds available to be used for Professional Development.

Motion by Stephen Grubaugh, supported by Rebecca Hitsman, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the Superintendent to attend the New Tech Network Leadership Summit in Anaheim, California on February 21-23, 2018."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### Board Resolution to Support the School Finance Research Study

Superintendent Carmoney stated that a more comprehensive study will be released later this week. He stated that this more comprehensive study was grant funded with the backing of businesses and educators and uses multiple measures, as well as, being more thorough than the previous study with its limited scope. Superintendent Carmoney stated that the previous study showed that schools in the state were underfunded and that the base foundation level needs to increase by more than \$1,000 per student. He stated that MASA is collecting the Resolutions and sending them on to the state to show school districts' support of this study and he stated that Michigan is one of the only states that has not implemented the recommendation.

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education adopt the Resolution to support the School Finance Research Study."

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### Updated 2017-2018 Wage Provisions

Superintendent Carmoney stated that we are updating the wage provisions after looking at the recommendations from the Transportation Committee. He stated that the Board of Education has approved wages for these employees that are not included in other employment/labor agreements on an annual basis or whenever there

are necessary updates, it was last updated at the beginning of the fiscal year. He stated that this update contains a recommendation to increase bus driver substitute wages to \$15 per hour, which is in line with substitute bus driver wages in nearby districts, as well as, recommendations to raise other substitute wages to be above minimum wage. Superintendent Carmoney stated one thing to note about a substitute bus driver is that the sub needs to have the same CDL license and training as a regular bus driver, whereas, other substitute positions do not have these same requirements.

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Rebecca Hitsman, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the enclosed wage provisions that are not included in other employment/labor agreements as presented."  
Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### Band Performance Trip

Superintendent Carmoney stated that Band Director Matthew Shephard is asking the Board of Education to approve an out-of-state band trip to Chicago for May 24-26, 2019 for a performance that they have been asked to do. He stated that the band has had similar opportunities in the past to perform throughout the country and these trips have greatly benefited our students.

Motion by Janice Goodall, supported by Dennis Cole, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the out-of-state Band Performance trip to Chicago in May 24-26, 2019."  
Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### MPSERS Health Care 3% Refunding Update

Superintendent Carmoney stated that the Michigan Supreme Court recently ruled that the health care collection of 3% of employee wages from July 2010 to September 2012 was unconstitutional and that those employees are entitled to receive that money back. He stated that the State of Michigan will be sending that money back to the school districts who are responsible to distribute the money to current and former employees. Business Manager, Sarah Glann, then shared that the Office of Retirement Services originally told employers to collect this 3% of employee wages and that the entire refunding process is going to take a lot of time; it is basically an unfunded mandate for schools. She stated that the district's first priority is to refund this money back to current employees and then worry about past and deceased employees. She stated that the Supreme Court has ruled on this but hopefully, the state will guide us on the process with so many details that still need to be ironed out.

#### First Reading – Updated NEOLA Technology Policies

Superintendent Carmoney stated that there are several updated Technology Policies from NEOLA that he has reviewed with Technology Director, J Cole. He stated that they met to review the policies and make any necessary changes to reflect our district's current practices and they both recommend approval on this first reading.

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the First Reading of the updated Technology Policies as presented."  
Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

#### Meridian Educational Support Personnel Association Request

Renaye Baker, Midland-Michigan Education Association UniServ Director, requested, on behalf of Rhonda Sturgeon, MESPA President, and the rest of the MESPA Union, to go into Closed Executive Session with the Board of Education to discuss issues related to negotiations. Board President Michael Bowen stated that because the Negotiation process has not officially began, the Board would like to collect the information that the Union wants to share so that they can review it during their Closed Executive Session.

Closed Executive Session – Negotiations

The Board of Education will enter into Closed Executive Session for the purpose of negotiation strategy of a collectively bargained agreement.

Motion by Dennis Cole, supported by Debbie Passmore, “I move that the Meridian Board of Education enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss negotiation strategy at 7:58 p.m.”

Roll Call Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

The Board of Education returned to Open Session at 8:39 p.m.

**Announcements/Communications from Board Members or Superintendent**

Early College High School Principal Patrick Malley stated that the high school has been implementing the new legislation around Discipline Restorative Practices and feels like they finally have a handle on discipline this year. He also stated that he is looking forward to the March MEMCA meeting that will provide Class of 2016 high school data to share, along with other data with this year being year 6 of the New Tech implementation and it will be a great opportunity to evaluate our next steps.

**Announcements/Communications from Board Members or Superintendent**

Superintendent Carmoney shared that the district has recently been approved for another CTE course – GeoDesign, thanks to Andrew LaFave’s hard work to get this class approved. Superintendent Carmoney stated that Andy is one of the current teachers of this class and after all of the work involved in the CTE approval process, it is nice to benefit from the substantial state and federal money that is spent on these courses.

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Dennis Cole, “I move to Adjourn at 8:40 p.m.”

Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Dennis J. Cole  
Secretary, Meridian Board of Education