

Meridian Public Schools

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Meridian Early College High School Learning Lab – Room 403

March 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Michael Bowen, Dennis Cole, Ryan Holzinger, Rebecca Hitsman, Janice Goodall, Debbie Passmore, and Stephen Grubaugh
Absent: None
Staff: Craig Carmoney, Sarah Glann, Dana Weisenberger, Patrick Malley, Kent Boxey, Joshua Hook and J Cole

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.

Public Communication

None

Consent Agenda

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move adoption of the consent agenda as presented."
Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Old Business

None

New Business

2017-2018 Budget Amendment

Board President Michael Bowen stated that the Finance Committee met for an hour and a half to go through the entire Budget Amendment in detail and he stated that Business Manager, Sarah Glann, did a great job with explaining the updates to the committee. Business Manager Glann stated that revenues are up since the original budget was done in June, mostly due to additional CTE money and an increase in Title I and Early Literacy Funding. She also stated that there have been some additional expenses such as the purchase of another bus and additional hours from a part-time mechanic to help keep our buses running smoothly.

Motion by Ryan Holzinger, supported by Rebecca Hitsman, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education adopt the March Budget Amendment for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, for all funds, as presented."
Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

2018 School Building and Site Bonds – Series B Resolution

Superintendent Carmoney stated that this Resolution to authorize the sale of the 2018 School Building and Site Bonds represents the 2nd in the Series of bonds passed in February of 2014. He stated that the sale of these bonds will not take place until after the election in May and if the Bond Proposal passes, the bonds will be sold together in June, which will lower the issuance cost. Superintendent Carmoney stated that these bonds can still be sold in late May in the event that the Bond Proposal does not pass and this still allows for the much needed bus and technology purchases with the rest of the remodeling to be completed in the summer of 2019.

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the 2018 School Building and Site Bonds – Series B Resolution as presented."

Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

E-Rate Bid Approval for District Wireless Network and UPS Replacement

Superintendent Carmony stated that we have recommendations from SISD to approve bids totaling \$97,885.40 for District Wireless Network and UPS Replacement with E-Rate funding expected to cover 70% of the costs. He stated that the final commitment is determined after the invoices are submitted post-installation and the cost can be covered by the Building and Site Bonds, Series B. Superintendent Carmony stated that it is best for the approval to say "not to exceed" a specified dollar amount. Director of Technology, J Cole, added that the wireless network replacement means that they will be replacing the access points in the buildings with new ones that will have more memory, higher speed, and larger capacity and he shared the two recommended bids:

- **Moss Telecommunications - *District Wireless Network Replacement: \$88,810.40***
- **Vector Tech Group - *District UPS Replacement: \$9,075.00***

Motion by Stephen Grubaugh, supported by Ryan Holzinger, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the bid for District Wireless Network and UPS Replacement and authorize up to \$40,000 in funds from the Series B Bonds to pay for these upgrades."

Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Athletic Trainer Bid Approval from Mid-Michigan Health

Superintendent Carmony stated that the District put out an RFP for Athletic Trainer Services for the 2018-2019 school year and three bids for services were received. Business Manager Sarah Glann stated that the recommendation is to award the bid to Mid-Michigan Health who had the lowest bid and will take great care of us. She also stated that the Athletic Trainer contract that was enclosed in the Board Packet has been reviewed by our attorney.

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Stephen Grubaugh, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the 2018-2019 Athletic Trainer Contract as presented with Mid-Michigan Health for \$11,275 which includes 1,320 hours of services."

Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Superintendent Contract Amendment

Superintendent Carmony stated that the MASB recommended timeline for the evaluation of the Superintendent is to complete the process at the end of the calendar year rather than near the end of the school year. He stated that the current Superintendent Contract calls for evaluations to be completed by the Board in March.

Motion by Ryan Holzinger, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education amend the Superintendent Contract by adjusting the deadline for completing the evaluation from March to December as recommended by the MASB Evaluation Tool."

Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Administrator Contract Renewals

Superintendent Carmony stated that he is recommending the renewal of the 2-year contracts for all the building principals due to their contracts having a 90 day notification clause in their contract.

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the renewal of the 2-year contracts for all of the building principals with compensation to be determined."

Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

2018-2019 School Calendar

Superintendent Carmoney stated that the 2018-2019 School Calendar that was included in each Board Packet has been approved by the Meridian Education Association. He stated that we are beginning the 2018-2019 school year with 2 professional development days and our Spring Break now aligns with all of the counties around us due to the MCESA Common Calendar aligning with SISD and CGRES.

Motion by Stephen Grubaugh, supported by Dennis Cole, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the 2018-2019 District school calendar as presented."

Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Board Resolution – Withdrawal of District from lawsuit Adair v. State of Michigan

Superintendent Carmoney stated that the Administration is requesting approval of the Board Resolution withdrawing Meridian Public Schools as a plaintiff from the lawsuit known as Adair v. State of Michigan. Business Manager Sarah Glann stated that this lawsuit has been going on for over 20 years and has still not been settled.

Motion by Ryan Holzinger, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the Board Resolution, as presented, withdrawing Meridian Public Schools as a plaintiff from the lawsuit known as Adair v. State of Michigan."

Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Closed Executive Session – Student Disciplinary Hearing

Superintendent Carmoney stated that the Board of Education, at the request of a parent, has been asked to enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss a student discipline issue.

Motion by Dennis Cole, supported by Ryan Holzinger, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss a student discipline issue at 7:26 p.m."

Roll Call Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

The Board of Education returned to Open Session at 7:40 p.m.

Motion by Ryan Holzinger, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education expel the high school student for a student conduct violation for 180 school days."

Roll Call Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Closed Executive Session – Negotiations

Superintendent Carmoney stated that the Board of Education will enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss negotiation strategy as permitted under the Open Meetings Act.

Motion by Janice Goodall, supported by Stephen Grubaugh, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education enter into Closed Executive Session to discuss negotiation strategy at 7:41 p.m."

Roll Call Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

The Board of Education returned to Open Session at 8:03 p.m.

Announcements/Communications from Board Members or Superintendent

Superintendent Carmoney shared that it has been an exciting month so far for Meridian sports: The Meridian Varsity Competitive Cheer Team won the Regional title and came home as State Runner-ups at the State Cheer Competition, the Meridian Wrestling Team is District Champs and the Boys Varsity Basketball Team also recently won the Regional title and will compete in the Quarterfinals this week.

Superintendent Carmoney also stated that Bond Proposal information is now available on the website and there will be a 4-page special edition Meridian Reporter going out in the mail the first part of April with all of the Bond information in it. He also stated that parent groups have been at the recent High School and Junior High Band concerts and other school and sporting events in order to get the information out and be available to answer any questions. Superintendent Carmoney added that flyers are available in all of the building offices and are being passed out to anyone who would like more information.

Motion by Ryan Holzinger, supported by Rebecca Hitsman, "I move to Adjourn at 8:09 p.m."

Vote: 7 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Dennis J. Cole
Secretary, Meridian Board of Education