

Meridian Public Schools

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Meridian Early College High School Learning Lab – Room 403

September 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Michael Bowen, Dennis Cole, Rebecca Hitsman, Janice Goodall, Deborah Passmore and Stephen Grubaugh
Absent: Ryan Holzinger
Staff: Craig Carmoney, Sarah Glann, Dana Weisenberger, Kent Boxey, Jared Goff, Joshua Hook 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.

Public Communications

None

Consent Agenda

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Dennis Cole, “I move adoption of the consent agenda as presented.”

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

Old Business

None

New Business

Meridian Early Childhood Center – Resignation of GSRP Teacher

Superintendent Carmoney stated that we have received a resignation letter from Stacy Creighton who was a GSRP Teacher last year at our Early Childhood Center and has taken a full time teaching position.

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Stephen Grubaugh, “I move that the Meridian Board of Education accept the resignation of Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Teacher, Stacy Creighton, effective immediately.”

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

Meridian Early Childhood Center – New Hires – 2 GSRP Teachers

Superintendent Carmoney stated that we have received two recommendation letters from Julie Sheets, Director of the Early Childhood Center, to fill her two open GSRP teaching positions. Julie is recommending Karri Spooner and Sarah Rogers to fill these GSRP teaching positions.

Motion by Janice Goodall, supported by Debbie Passmore, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the hire of Karri Spooner and Sarah Rogers as our two new Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Teachers, effective immediately."

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

Winter Coaching Renewal Recommendations

Superintendent Carmoney stated that we have received the coaching recommendations from Athletic Director, Mitch Bohn, for the coaches that are up for renewal for the 2018-2019 winter season and I recommend approval for all.

Motion by Stephen Grubaugh, supported by Rebecca Hitsman, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the Winter Coaching renewal recommendations as presented for the 2018-2019 school year."

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

New Tech Network Leadership Advisory Council

Superintendent Carmoney stated that the Board of Education approved the appointment of Patrick Malley and Craig Carmoney to the New Tech Network Advisory Council this past summer and there are two required meetings that will occur during the school year.

Motion by Janice Goodall, supported by Debbie Passmore, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the recommendation of Patrick Malley and Craig Carmoney to attend the out of state New Tech Network Leadership Advisory Council meetings in October in South Carolina and in February of 2019 in California."

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

Maintenance Plow Truck Corrected Invoice – General Fund

Superintendent Carmoney stated that included in the Board Packet is the corrected invoice for the purchase of the new 2018 GMC Plow Truck that was approved in July. We originally approved the purchase price for this plow truck not to exceed \$31,392.80 and the corrected invoice shows the purchase price of \$33,649.20 due to an addition error by Todd Wenzel Buick GMC of Westland. We are asking for the Board to approve the additional \$2,256.40 out of General Fund for this purchase.

Motion by Debbie Passmore, supported by Janice Goodall, "I move that the Meridian Board of Education approve the additional amount of \$2,256.40 for a total of \$33,649.20 for the new 2018 GMC Plow Truck from Todd Wenzel Buick GMC of Westland to be purchased out of General Fund."

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

Discussion on Updating the Strategic Plan

Superintendent Carmoney stated that a lot can happen in the course of 3 years and he asked the Board Members their opinion of updating the Strategic Plan for another 3 years or do they think it should be for a shorter time period. Board Member Passmore stated that having a 1 year Strategic Plan is too narrow and we should always focus on a 3-5 year plan but still have annual goals that we need to

accomplish in a year and the other Board Members were all in agreement with her. The Board Members were also in consensus to have a facilitator this time but still keep staff, parents, and community members involved, and Superintendent Carmoney stated that he will reach out and see who is available to facilitate. Superintendent Carmoney also stated that our school system needs to work on eliminating the Achievement gap, as well as, the Opportunity gap; we need to give all students the same opportunities and focus on the many barriers that are in the way and try to eliminate them. Board Member Rebecca Hitsman stated that we need to focus on opportunities starting right at the elementary level. The Board Members also agreed that we still need to have the same 5 major areas as before in the next Strategic Plan and perhaps think about the areas that may be the most critical to the success of our students. Superintendent Carmoney stated that the timeline is that he will reach out to possible facilitators within the week and if we are able to start updating the Strategic Plan in December and January, we will be able to have an updated Strategic Plan in early 2019.

Announcements/Communications from Board Members or Superintendent

Superintendent Carmoney informed the Board that he just hit the submit button for an \$800,000 grant, and if selected for the grant, our district will be able to put shatterproof security film on all windows in all buildings in our district, as well as, update/upgrade locking mechanisms, building PA systems, and add buzzer systems to the entrances of all school buildings.

Board President Bowen shared some passages out of the book “Why We Sleep” by Matthew Walker that supports the importance of sufficient sleep for kids of all ages and that a later start time for school is so much better for students.

Motion by Rebecca Hitsman, supported by Janice Goodall, “I move to Adjourn at 7:40 p.m.”
Vote: 6 – yes, 0 – no. Motion Carried.

Dennis J. Cole,
Secretary, Meridian Board of Education