

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
MONDAY JANUARY 23, 2006  
6:00 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION  
7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Executive Session (Evaluation of Personnel, Administrative Evaluations, Bus Transportation Contract)
- IV. Recognition of the Public
- V. Adoption of Consent Agenda
  - A. Approve December 19, 2005 Minutes
  - B. Approve Payment of Bills
- VI. Reports
  - A. Abe Lincoln IASB Dinner Meeting – Lincoln High School
  - B. Construction Update
  - C. Annual Health Life Safety Compliance Visit
  - D. A.E.D. Project
- VII. Unfinished Business
  - A. Health Life Safety Amendment Approval by ISBE
- VIII. New Business
  - A. Staffing 2006-2007
  - B. Staffing 2007-2008
    - 1. Transfer of Elkhart Grades 6-7-8 to MPGS (2007-2008 School Term)
  - C. Warrensburg-Latham Football Co-op
  - D. HS – Curriculum Recommendations
  - E. Transfer of \$300,000 From Working Cash Fund to O Maintenance Fund - (Construction Expense)
- IX. Items of Information
- X. Adjournment

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MT. PULASKI UNIT OFFICE  
JANUARY 23, 2006

President Meister called the meeting to order on January 23, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the Unit Office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Laurie Rhodes, Tina Smith, Jeff Haley, David Meister, Mike Toohey, and Julian Wubben. Joe Olson arrived late. Superintendent Phil Shelton and Principals Scott Doerr, Russell Galusha, and Gene Newton were also present.

Motion by Jeff Haley, second by Tina Smith to enter Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for the purpose of evaluation of personnel, administrative evaluations, and discussion of the bus transportation contract. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Tina Smith, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Julian Wubben, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Joe Olson to exit Executive Session at 7:08 p.m. Voice vote. All aye. No nay. Motion carried.

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:11 p.m.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Jeff Haley to adopt Consent Agenda Items A and B:     A: Approve December 19, 2005 Minutes  
                  B: Approve Payment of Bills

Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Tina Smith, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The IASB Abe Lincoln dinner meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Lincoln High School. Board members were reminded that it would be a good idea if the entire Board would plan to attend this meeting. Superintendent Shelton will phone members prior to the February 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting so reservations can be made.

Superintendent Shelton reported on the construction progress at MPHS. The weather has been almost as good in January as it was bad in December. The masonry block work should be finished by the end of next week with the brick work starting about February 1<sup>st</sup>. The projected finish date for the project is the third week in May.

The annual Health Life Safety compliance visit was conducted by the Regional Office today. Every four years a compliance visit is done which involves checking personnel files, teacher evaluations, school policy, and compliance with building life safety rules.

The automatic defibrillator law requires school districts to have an automated external defibrillator in each indoor physical fitness facility, and to have a trained user during school sponsored activities. Total compliance in all three buildings is mandatory by July 1, 2008. The Elkhart Needs and Goals committee purchased a defibrillator for EGS last year, and teachers were trained at their January in-service.

Principal Gene Newton expressed his thanks to Stan Anderson, Mt. Pulaski EMT, for the grant he obtained which will pay for defibrillators at MPGS and MPHS. In addition, the rescue squad is paying for signs and the necessary mounting equipment for the defibrillators; and Stan Anderson is volunteering his time to conduct the training for coaches and administrators.

The Health Life Safety amendment sent to ISBE over two months ago has yet to be approved. If the District doesn't have approval by February 1<sup>st</sup>, First Midstate won't have time to file the necessary paperwork to get it on the 2005 tax levy for 2006 tax bills. If approval should be received in time, a special Board meeting will have to be scheduled.

The District does not anticipate any increase in staffing needs for 2006-2007, other than possibly special education since it is dependent on student numbers.

A lengthy discussion followed on the possible transfer of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades at EGS to MPGS for the 2007-2008 school year. With a 2007-2008 EGS projected class size average of ten for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades and no students for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, academic and social issues need to be addressed. Academic competition and social interaction, which is all a part of a junior high school, would be enhanced at MPGS. Due to the lack of boys to field sports teams at EGS, a basketball and baseball co-op with MPGS has been necessary for the past few years. For the next school year volleyball may have only eleven girls total for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> EGS volleyball team. The economic feasibility of reducing students at EGS while still having the same costs in maintaining a building which houses fewer students was discussed. The financial gain would primarily be the cutting of two to three teaching salaries and benefits. Even if there were to be a housing construction boom in the village of Elkhart, the fact is it takes a tremendous amount of new homes with families to increase the student ratios. Moving the EGS junior high to MPGS is a viable solution. The reality is numbers tell the tale.

Superintendent Shelton reported that the football co-op with Warrensburg-Latham will probably not continue. Only eight MPHS students participated this past year. With the lack of commitment by students, the player and co-op fee expenses, and the bus transportation costs to and from practice which are equivalent to adding a bus route, the District does not appear to have a choice. Add to this the fact that the co-op with MPHS causes the playoff classification of W-L High School to go from 2A to 3A.

Principal Russell Galusha and MPHS guidance counselor Nancy Baker presented the Board with some curriculum recommendations for the 2006-2007 school year. State mandates, the enhancement of existing programs, and student choice were noted as the reasons for the proposed changes. The Board will review the recommendations and discuss them at the February meeting.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Jeff Haley to abate \$300,000 from the Working Cash fund to the Operations and Maintenance fund for MPHS construction costs. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Tina Smith, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried. Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Tina Smith to enter Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. for the purpose of administrative evaluations. Roll call vote.

Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Tina Smith, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Tina Smith to exit Executive Session at 9:39 p.m. Voice vote. All aye. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Mike Toohey to approve Executive Session minutes as reviewed tonight in Executive Session. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Laurie Rhodes, Tina Smith, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Tina Smith, second by Laurie Rhodes to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Voice vote. All aye. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted By

  
Board Recording Secretary

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MT. PULASKI UNIT OFFICE  
FEBRUARY 7, 2006

President Meister called the meeting to order on February 7, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. in the Unit Office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Tina Smith, Jeff Haley, David Meister, and Mike Toohey. Laurie Rhodes, Joe Olson, and Julian Wubben were absent. Superintendent Phil Shelton and First Midstate Sr. Vice President Kevin Heid were also present.

Motion by Tina Smith, second by Jeff Haley to approve the Resolution of \$225,000 Life Safety bonds as presented. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Tina Smith, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeff Haley, second by Tina Smith to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. Voice vote. All ayes. No nays. Motion carried.

Submitted By

  
Board Recording Secretary