

**MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009
6:00 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Executive Session (Employment, Resignation, Retirement, Evaluation, Dismissal of Personnel, Litigation)**
- IV. Recognition of the Public**
- V. Adoption of Consent Agenda**
 - A. Approve February 23, 2009 Minutes**
 - B. Approve Payment of Bills**
- VI. Reports**
 - A. IASB - Delegate Recognition – Diane Deppe**
 - B. IASB – Abe Lincoln Dinner & Meeting – March 5**
- VII. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Section 5 Board Policy Adoption**
 - B. School Board Election – April 7, 2009**
 - Candidates – Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Doug Martin**
- VIII. New Business**
 - A. Graduation Dates – Grade School and High School**
 - B. 2009-10 School Calendar – (April Approval)**
 - C. 2009-10 Semester and Quarter Dates**
 - D. Property Casualty Insurance Renewal**
 - E. Resolution to Transfer \$40,000 Interest from Working Cash Fund to the Transportation Fund**
 - F. Non-Certified Salary Increase 2009-10**
 - G. Section 6 Board Policy Review**
- IX. Items of Information**
- X. Adjournment**

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MT. PULASKI UNIT OFFICE
MARCH 16, 2009

President David Meister called the meeting to order on March 16, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Unit Office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: David Meister, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Diane Deppe, and Jeff Haley. Superintendent Phil Shelton and Principals Gene Newton and Scott Doerr were also present.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Doug Martin to enter Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for employment, resignation, retirement, evaluation, dismissal of personnel, and pending litigation. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Diane Deppe to exit Executive Session at 7:09 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Doug Martin to hire Craig Erlenbush as HS Boys P.E. teacher and Assistant Boys Basketball Coach for the 2009-2010 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Diane Deppe to approve the resignation of Brian Alexander as HS Cheerleading Coach at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to approve GS teacher Bill Rucks letter of intent to retire at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Jeff Haley to appoint Kathy Miller as Head Librarian and approve the position of a full-time Library Clerk for the 2009-2010 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Doug Martin to re-employ non-tenure teachers Julie Wubben, Brandy Westen, Kendra Updegraff, David Helm, Heath Houck, Brooke Eeten, Jean Beccue, Rebecca Ashley, Michelle Clark, and Brian Alexander for the 2009-2010 school year and grant tenure status to Sheila Myers, Ryan Deibert, and Ralph Allen for the 2009-2010 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. Answering present: Julian Wubben. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Doug Martin to adopt the Consent Agenda:

A. Approve February 23, 2009 Minutes

B. Approve Payment of Bills

Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Phil Shelton congratulated Diane Deppe and presented her with a certificate he received from the Illinois Association of School Boards for her service as a delegate during the School Board convention.

Julian Wubben and Doug Martin reported on the Abe Lincoln Division dinner meeting they attended March 5th. They thought the meeting was worthwhile, and the presenters did a good job.

Superintendent Phil Shelton asked for any questions regarding Section 5 of the Board Policy which deals with Personnel. He said it's very similar to the Board Policy which is currently in place.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Doug Martin to adopt Section 5 of the School Board Policy. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The School Board election for four seats on the School Board is Tuesday, April 7, 2009. Candidates are Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, and Doug Martin. The School Board will meet on Monday, May 4th, at 7:00 p.m. to reorganize by seating new members and electing officers.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Jeff Haley to approve the graduation dates of Friday, May 29th, for Mt. Pulaski Grade School and Saturday, May 30th, for Mt. Pulaski High School with a starting time of 7:00 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The proposed 2009-2010 school calendar is very similar to the calendar two years ago except the end of the first semester would be at Christmas time. The proposed calendar will be given to the teachers for their input with approval requested in April. Proposed semester and quarter dates will depend on calendar approval.

Property casualty insurance coverage with Selective Insurance brokered through Dimond Brothers Insurance Agency will renew this month with a 4.8% increase in premium and a 4% increase in building values.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Joe Olson to renew the property casualty insurance with Selective Insurance. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Due to the shortfall in the Transportation Fund, \$40,000 must be transferred from Working Cash Fund interest to cover transportation expenses this month. The State has made only one of the four transportation payments due the School District by June 30th, the end of the fiscal year.

Motion by Joe Olson, second by Diane Deppe to adopt the Resolution to transfer \$40,000 interest from the Working Cash Fund to the Transportation Fund. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Phil Shelton recommended a 4% increase in non-certified salaries and a \$10 a month increase in the health insurance benefit for next year. He said he appreciates the good work the non-certified do, and he appreciates their loyalty. President David Meister agreed.

Motion by Jeff Haley, second by Doug Martin to approve a non-certified 4% salary increase for 2009-2010 and a \$10/month increase in the health insurance benefit. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Board members will review Section 6 of the Board Policy which deals with Instruction and direct any changes or questions to Superintendent Phil Shelton prior to the adoption of the policy at the April Board meeting.

Discussion followed about the recent farmland assessment notices that were mailed out from the Logan County Assessors office. There should be some relief for the School District since farmland assessments seem to be on the rise with increases noted from 13% to 17%. With decreasing farmland assessments for the past seven years, an increase in the EAV would be a welcome relief.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Doug Martin to enter Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. for employment, resignation, retirement, evaluation, dismissal of personnel, and pending litigation. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Doug Martin to exit Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Jeff Haley to approve Executive Session minutes reviewed tonight in Executive Session. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Olson, second by Diane Deppe to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Voice vote. All aye. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted By

Catherine J. Shull
Board Recording Secretary

**MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2009
6:00 P.M. SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Executive Session (Employment, Evaluation of Personnel, Pending Litigation)**
- IV. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Employment of Personnel – 2009-10 School Term**
- V. New Business**
 - A. Tentative School Budget 2009-10**
- VI. Adjournment**

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MT. PULASKI UNIT OFFICE
MARCH 25, 2009

President David Meister called the meeting to order on March 25, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Unit Office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Julian Wubben, Diane Deppe, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. Superintendent Phil Shelton and Principal Gene Newton were also present.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Julian Wubben to enter Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. for employment, evaluation of personnel, and pending litigation. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Julian Wubben to exit Executive Session at 6:45 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 6:46 p.m.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Julian Wubben to proceed with the school attorney's letter of intent to the Elkhart village attorney in regards to TIF district payments. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Jeff Haley to accept Scott Doerr's resignation as HS Principal effective June 30, 2009. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Doug Martin to approve Executive Session minutes reviewed tonight in Executive Session. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Diane Deppe to hire Jim Peck as elementary teacher for the 2009-2010 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Julian Wubben, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The tentative school budget and projection for FY2010 was presented and discussed.

General state aid will probably be decreasing due to declining enrollment and increasing EAV. The EAV should increase by an estimate of 6.7%. This would be the first notable increase in EAV since the annual 10% farmland reduction began in 2001. Our school district receives about \$1,500 per student in general state aid. The ISBE says districts are funded at \$5,400 per student. This is very misleading due to the funding formula. State payments for reimbursing transportation and special education are beyond delinquent. Four payments are to be received in each of the categories; only one has been received. Last fiscal year (FY08) only three transportation payments were received.

The Teacher Retirement System costs are predicted to rise dramatically to pay for lack of funding by the state legislature. Also, the early retirement option (ERO) is a regulation in TRS that forces school districts to pay (as a penalty) as much as or more than the entire additional salary of a retiring teacher if they do not meet the requirements of age (60) and/or teaching experience (35 years). The ERO costs for two of the five retirements this year are approximately \$77,000 and \$9,300.

Federal stimulus money that was supposed to go to school districts for school maintenance/construction projects this summer has been taken away by the state government and will be used to pay existing debt owed to schools; \$57,000 is the amount that has been diverted from our school district.

Classroom budgets and athletic budgets are cut by 25% for 2009-2010.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Jeff Haley to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Voice vote. All aye. No nay. Motion carried