

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MT. PULASKI UNIT OFFICE  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

President David Meister called the meeting to order on September 24, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Unit Office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Kathy Boward, Diane Deppe, Jeff Haley, David Meister, Mike Toohey, and Doug Martin. Superintendent Phil Shelton and Principals Terry Morgan and Gene Newton were also present.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Jeff Haley to enter Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. for employment, evaluation, dismissal, compensation of personnel, and litigation. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Diane Deppe to exit Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The meeting reconvened in Open Session, and the fiscal year 2010 Budget Hearing was held. President David Meister asked for any comments or questions from the public regarding the proposed budget. Hearing none, the Budget Hearing was closed.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Kathy Boward to accept the resignation of Charissa Howe as Jr. High Assistant Volleyball Coach. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to accept Julie Wubben's maternity leave request. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to adopt the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approve August 24, 2009 Minutes
- B. Approve Payment of Bills

Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

District Parent Teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. There will be early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday and no student attendance on Friday.

This summer three laptop computers and two overhead projectors were stolen from The Ag classroom at the high school, and one overhead projector was stolen from Mrs. Schilling's room. A police report was filed with serial numbers listed. The total cost of equipment stolen is over \$4,000. In the future the custodians are to make sure rooms are locked after cleaning them, and teachers are to have equipment secured and locked up in the summer. Sometime during the Fall Festival weekend the English classroom had a window broken and some paperback books thrown outside. Another problem at the high school has been skateboarders getting access to the roof by way of the ramp. A security gate that keeps access away from this asphalt ramp may have to be installed.

A new law recently passed requires school districts to post on their website by October 1<sup>st</sup> an annual salary compensation report for administrators. An annual salary compensation report for teachers must also be posted and sent to ISBE by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

School preventive measures for contagious disease include the wiping down of door handles and drinking fountains in the main traffic areas and the use of a different type of disinfectant. Principal Gene Newton reported that some of the preventive steps other districts are taking are already being done at the grade school.

The 2009-2010 budget was presented for approval. Superintendent Shelton said It's frustrating to develop a budget and try to make accurate projections considering the lack of timely funding from the State and the use of Federal money to pay State obligations. The EAV increased, but State Aid and corporate personal property tax revenue decreased. Employee salary and benefits are a large part of the budget expenses. The required employer Early Retirement Option contribution payable to TRS for retired employees added the cost of over \$77,000 for one retired employee and over \$9,000 for another to this budget. Capital building expenses for bleachers, boilers, generators, video security systems, and sidewalks may be budgeted in the future if anticipated maintenance grant money becomes available and Life Safety amendments allow the use of FPS funds.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Jeff Haley to approve the 2009-2010 Budget as presented. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

After discussions with the school attorney, an agreement was presented to the School Board in regard to the Elkhart TIF district. The signed agreement states the village of Elkhart will pay the School District \$100,000, and in return the School District agrees not to make any future claims against the village in regard to how the TIF district is operated.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to approve the Elkhart TIF settlement agreement in the amount of \$100,000. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Shelton said Roger Garrett's office did a good job in working with the three teachers on the health insurance committee in arriving at acceptable insurance coverage options. Employees can now choose between a PPO, HMO, or HSA plan.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to approve the group health insurance renewal with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Sixth day enrollment figures show 552 students, almost 200 less than 30 years ago. This reflects a rural population with fewer children in the household. It was noted that it takes a substantial number of families moving into a school district to increase the student population.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Jeff Haley to approve the 2009-2010 Application for Recognition of Schools for Mt. Pulaski High School and Mt. Pulaski Elementary School. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Board members are to notify Superintendent Shelton as soon as possible if they will be attending the Abe Lincoln dinner meeting at Pleasant Plains Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, so reservations can be made.

A fund raising request form to be used within the School District was presented by HS Principal Terry Morgan. Some Board members said they thought it was an excellent idea.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Kathy Boward to approve the District Fund Raising Request form. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Phil Shelton reported on a future computer lease to upgrade the computer labs and GS server. This is paid for by the Facility Lease levy. He will probably have something ready by the October Board meeting regarding the computer technology lease.

Motion by Mike Toohey, 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