

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

MILAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

FEBRUARY 13, 2012

The Board of School Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 13, 2012. Attending were Board members Douglas Norman, Gregory Lewis, Timothy Tuttle, Edward Amberger, and Randy Kirk. Also attending was Superintendent Dr. Thomas Reale. Board president Douglas Norman presided.

Mr. Amberger motioned to approve the minutes of the Board of Finance meeting and the regular meeting on January 16, 2012. Seconded by Mr. Tuttle. Motion carried 5-0.

Comments from Patrons/Staff:

Middle school teacher, Linda Oelker, thanked the Board, the staff, and the community for their support of the recent 8th grade chili supper, stating the class made over \$3000.00 towards their trip to Washington D.C. in the spring.

Dr. Reale thanked the custodians and the Milan Fire Department for saving the school during the recent elementary kitchen fire.

Old Business:

Dr. Reale requested approval of the proposed policy #6580 – Early Graduation that was presented at the January meeting. Mr. Kirk asked if the policy conformed to state law and if the policy would be automatic henceforth. Dr. Reale assured this would be the case. Mr. Kirk motioned to approve the policy as written. Seconded by Mr. Tuttle. Motion carried 5-0.

New Business:

Dr. Reale reported Jeff Poole of the Poole Group had read in the local paper about the need to replace or refurbish the '53 and '54 banners. Mr. Poole presented a check to Dr. Reale for \$2000 to order replacement banners until the originals can be restored. Mr. Amberger motioned to accept the donation. Seconded by Mr. Tuttle. Motion carried 5-0. Mr. Norman stated he and Dr. Reale had met with the '54 Museum Committee after the January Board meeting to discuss the banners. It was noted it might not be economical to restore the banners, but a grant is being sought from the Rising Sun

Foundation for this purpose. Meanwhile the original banners will be removed for storage and the replacement banners will be hung. When the time comes the original banners are restored, the replacement banners will be hung in the middle school gym which is named after Marvin Woods, the coach of the '54 team.

Mr. Kirk motioned to approve the following lease agreements: (1) The '*Good News Club*' to use the elementary facilities, free of charge, on February 23, March 1, 8, 15, and 22. All dates have been cleared with Mr. Prifogle. (2) The Church of Christ at Milan to use the Middle School gym facilities for the annual visit from the Minnesota college students on Saturday, March 17-18. Their charge will be for custodial clean up only, with a minimum of \$51.00. Seconded by Mr. Tuttle. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Reale informed the Board that Milan had been selected by the State as one of two Indiana districts to be a pilot for the design of a compensation model for teachers. He noted the State changed the teacher compensation system last year, which was traditionally based on a salary schedule of years of service and degree, to a model that compensates good teachers based on performance. Dr. Reale stated MEA representatives would meet throughout the summer to work on the program. He noted all levels of teachers and all three buildings would be represented by Sherri Zornes, Zachary Wade and Matthew Hurst. He remarked we would not be legally bound by the findings of the committee, but he is hoping for good participation from the MEA, so everyone feels comfortable with the model. He commented he would give the Board progress reports.

Dr. Reale informed the Board that varsity football coach, Ryan Langferman, would be giving a presentation on the status of the football program after the adjournment of the meeting.

Dr. Reale gave an update on the fire that occurred in the elementary kitchen area in the evening hours of Thursday, February 9th. He noted the night custodial staff had taken terry cloth towels out of the dryer and placed them on a plastic cart. When they returned to the area an hour later, they noticed a strong smell, but after making phone calls were told the smell would probably dissipate by the next day. They returned to the kitchen area to find the towels and the cart afire. They pulled the fire alarm and then called 911. The Milan volunteer fire department responded very quickly and put out the fire;

damage was limited to the towels, cart, a couple light fixtures and a few ceiling tiles. Due to the lingering smell of the burning plastic, the fire department recommended closing school for the next day. On Friday, the cafeteria staff cleaned the entire kitchen area and the board of health gave them a clean bill. Dr. Reale expressed his appreciation to the fire department for their quick response and the staff for their cooperation. He noted there would be a check on the fire alarm system, henceforth towels would be folded, and as a precautionary measure, the dryer had been replaced.

Dr. Reale presented a report from high school principal, Paul Ketcham, highlighting the events of the recent search done at the high school by the State police. Mr. Ketcham noted this was a preventive measure to promote a safe and drug free environment. The search was kept confidential, and once the buildings were 'locked down', lockers, classrooms and vehicles were thoroughly searched by the police and the dog teams. The report notes there is not a major drug problem, with only one student found with illegal pills, and we will continue to take this approach in the future.

Personnel:

Dr. Reale informed the Board he had accepted the resignation of Marie Shelp as the corporation bus driver for route #15, and Jeremiah Loehmer as reserve baseball coach. It was also noted that route #17, the town route, had been eliminated, and drivers reassigned. Linda Rohrig will now drive route #1, Susie Starkey will drive route #15, and a new driver, James Gayheart, will be driving route #14. Dr. Reale stated routes would be looked at this summer to try to make them more efficient and effective.

Mr. Lewis motioned to approve the employment of James Gayheart as the driver of route #14.

Seconded by Mr. Tuttle. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Kirk motioned to approve Brian Henkel as the reserve baseball coach. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 5-0.

Claims and Financial Report:

Mr. Tuttle motioned to approve vendor checks #34487 through #34588, payroll checks #21899 through #22052, deposit advice # 36676 through #36904, and the financial report. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 5-0

President's Prerogative:

Dr. Reale expressed his gratitude to everyone who helped with the fire situation at the elementary – the fire department, the custodians, others who weren't working, but showed up to assist with the initial clean up, and all those who helped with the clean up on Friday. He stated the quick response and willingness to work to get school ready was most appreciated. It was noted the make-up day would be May 21st.

Mr. Amberger thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Mr. Tuttle thanked everyone for attending, congratulated the 8th grade on a successful chili supper, and stated his appreciation to the fire department.

Mr. Lewis thanked the fire department for its quick response, the Poole Group for its monetary donation, and everyone for attending.

Mr. Norman stated Marianne Wiggers was on the '54 Museum committee and felt there would be a good chance of obtaining funding through the Rising Sun Foundation for the refurbishing of the '53 and '54 banners. He expressed his appreciation to the Mrs. Rogers, the teachers and the staff at the elementary for making it a learning environment where the children felt loved and wanted.

Mr. Amberger motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Kirk. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned 7:28 p.m.

Mr. Langferman made a presentation on the status of the football program. He noted the goals set by the Friends of Milan Football that had been achieved over the past couple of years. He stated they were an outstanding booster group, and he highlighted their activities. He explained his goal to keep ahead of the other area football teams by continuing to improve the program. He noted he would like to have another paid assistant coaching position in the future to help with the number of players involved. He addressed the weightlifting situation at the high school, stating there needs to be classes during the day, because there is not enough time or room space to accommodate all the athletes before or after school. He remarked an ultimate goal of building an athletic complex for weightlifting purposes that would be located where the present shot put pit is. The initial cost of the facility would be around \$100,000, and the boosters would investigate donation and grant ideas to help fund the building of the

facility. The Board thanked Mr. Langferman for his presentation and stated he had given them a great deal to consider.