

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

**MILAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION**

**AUGUST 18, 2014**

**The Board of School Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 18, 2014.**

**Attending were Board members Gregory Lewis, Edward Amberger, Randy Kirk and Jason Honeycutt. Timothy Tuttle was absent. Also attending was Superintendent Paul Ketcham. Vice-president Gregory Lewis presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Mr. Amberger motioned to approve the minutes from the regular and executive meetings on July 21, 2014, and the executive session on July 24, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Kirk. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Comments from Patrons/Staff:**

**Donald Swisher commented about the ISTEP scores noting after several lackluster years of scores, we now have stellar results. He thanked the Board and Mr. Ketcham for the guidance and wisdom of setting a school environment where academics are the main focus. He congratulated the teachers, staff and students who had worked so hard for improvement. He expressed his hope this attitude would be contagious and continue.**

**Linda Baker asked if the school bus drivers had viewed the recent active shooter videos from the State. Mr. Ketcham informed her he would check on this, but noted the drivers attend sessions on blood borne pathogens, bullying, and other training information, so this would be something for consideration in the future.**

**Old Business: None**

**New Business:**

**Mr. Kirk motioned to approve the following lease agreements: (1) Request from Pastor Susan Socha of St. Paul's Lutheran Church to use the high school cafetorium for a free will concert on Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. They will be billed for custodial fees of \$11.00 per hour, plus \$9.00 per hour for a lighting operator. There will be no charge for use of the facilities. (2) Request from Bridget Back of the Child Evangelism Fellowship to use the elementary facilities for *Good News Club* from 2:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: October 9, 23, 30, November 6, 13, 20, February 5,12, 19, 26 and March 5 and 12. There will be no charge. (3) Request from Debbie Gregg to permit St. Nicholas to use the**

elementary gym for their home volleyball games from 4:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. on the following dates: August 20, 25, 26, September 9, 10, 22, and October 6. There will be no charge. Milan patrons may use their sports passes to enter the games free of charge. (4) Request from Tracey Gobel to use the elementary gym for Indianettes practice. Mr. Prifogle and Mrs. Rogers have approved the following: 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. on all Wednesdays until the end of December, except October 22 and December 10. Also, on August 20 and September 10, the time will be 3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. There will be no charge. Seconded by Mr. Honeycutt. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Honeycutt motioned to approve the following fundraising requests: (1) MES PTO to hold a student mini-triathlon on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> to raise money to remodel the nurse's office. (2) MES PTO to have the students sell various items from *Believe Kids* from August 22 – September 8 to raise money to fund field trips, celebrations and the nurse's office. (3) Shannon Lonneman, on behalf of the high school wrestling team, to hold an open auction at the 6-way meet on December 6<sup>th</sup>. (4) Yatzie Roysden, girls softball coach, to hold Split the Pot raffles at all home football and basketball games. (5) Terry Wullenweber and Karissa Voss to hold trash bag sales from August 4-14 for the girls' volleyball teams. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Kirk asked why fundraisers were being held to remodel the elementary nurse's office. Mr. Ketcham stated school nurse, Mrs. Hughes, felt there was a need to refurbish the room and, at present, the corporation does not have the \$20,000 to improve this setting. Mr. Lewis stated every year the PTO chooses a project to use their fundraising money on and this year, it is the nurse's office. Mr. Kirk stated it seemed odd to him that students were raising money to remodel the nurse's office. Upon the request of the Board, Mr. Ketcham will get quotes for the cost remodeling of the nurse's office and report at the September meeting.

Mr. Amberger motioned to accept a \$500.00 donation from Patterson's Landscaping to be used towards the completion of the press box. Seconded by Mr. Kirk. Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Kirk asked if a total cost of the press box project had been established. Mr. Ketcham stated the corporation would only spend \$6000 on the project and the rest would come from the athletic department and donations. The project will probably not be completely finished this year, but will eventually have finished inside walls and flooring.

**Mr. Langferman presented a change in the high school attendance policy to the Board for approval. The change is to revert to a policy that was used previously and had good results. Mr. Kirk motioned to table this item. The motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Honeycutt motioned to approve the change. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 3-1, with Mr. Kirk opposed.**

**Mr. Kirk motioned to approve a resolution authorizing Mr. Ketcham to attend the budget hearings and make changes to lines 1 and 2, if needed. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 4-0.**

#### **Superintendent's Report:**

**Mr. Ketcham informed the Board the ISTEP results were phenomenal. He noted, in Grade 3, Milan was 5<sup>th</sup> out of 300 schools in the state with 96% of the students passing the math portion of the test. He gave credit to the teachers and aides for their diligence and the students for their hard work. He commented the 7<sup>th</sup> grade scores still need improvement and there will be a focus on this group this school year. He stated he was very proud of these results and he expressed hope that the teachers and students would accept the challenge to maintain these high standards.**

**Mr. Ketcham reported on the P.L.C.'s from the past two Wednesday's. He noted the first professional development meeting was on setting rules for the P.L.C. meetings, and the second dealt with addressing standards in individual curriculums. The focus of the upcoming PLC will be 'character counts'. He praised the guidance departments for addressing bullying in schools and taking the time to educate the staff on how to recognize the signs, as well as giving students coping strategies.**

**Mr. Ketcham informed the Board 700 Chromebooks had been distributed to the students and they were all actively engaged in learning how to use them properly.**

**Mr. Kirk asked for an update on the proposed agriculture greenhouse. Mr. Ketcham stated the committee was waiting to receive the floor plan proposal. He noted he was in the process of meeting with Cheryl Obendorff from Eco15 and Ivy Tech about students getting an associate's degree from Ivy Tech. He would like to do more for the agriculture students besides just building a greenhouse. Mr. Kirk asked if everything would be in place by the 2015-16 school year, and Mr. Ketcham stated it would depend on funding.**

#### **Personnel:**

**Mr. Ketcham stated he had accepted the resignations of Cody Drake as an elementary special needs aide and Todd Callahan as a middle school custodian.**

**Mr. Kirk motioned to approve the retirement of middle school guidance counselor Carol Jackson effective July 25, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Mr. Honeycutt motioned to approve Mr. Murphy's recommendation to move Gayle Healy from high school guidance counselor to the vacant middle school guidance counselor position; and Mr. Langferman's recommendations to employ Melissa Bowman as the special needs teacher to fill the vacancy of Brianna Kraushar, and Fran Moore as the Student Services Coordinator to fill the void of Gayle Healy moving to the middle school. Seconded by Mr. Kirk. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Mr. Amberger motioned to approve the following classified recommendations: Jessica Bowling - high school special education aide; Mary Beth Frondorf -middle school special education aide; Casey Gilmour and Brady Johnson - elementary special education aides; Timmi Elbright -ALC aide; Stacey Gilday and Kendra Porter - high school cafeteria; Charles Jeffries - the full time high school custodian vacancy created by Dave Redwine's retirement; and Hershel Byrd -the full time middle school custodian vacancy of Todd Callahan. Seconded by Mr. Kirk. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Mr. Kirk motioned to approve the following extracurricular recommendations: Carol Jackson – senior class co-sponsor, Lori Tharp – sophomore class sponsor, and Josie Weiler – MHS SADD sponsor. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Mr. Kirk motioned to approve a maternity leave request from Christine Wilhelm from July 31 – October 3, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Mr. Amberger motioned to approve Linda Swisher to fill the maternity leave of Christine Wilhelm. Seconded by Mr. Kirk. Motion carried 4-0.**

#### **Claims and Financial Report:**

**Mr. Kirk motioned to approve vendor checks #37298 through #37409, deposit advice #46656 through #46951, and the financial report. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 4-0.**

#### **President's Prerogative:**

**Mr. Ketcham reiterated how proud he was of the staff and students for the ISTEP results.**

**Mr. Lewis thanked everyone for attending, thanked Mr. Swisher and Mrs. Baker for their comments, and stated his hopes for maintaining the high standards that have been set.**

**Mr. Kirk motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Amberger. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Meeting adjourned 7:31 p.m.**