MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF DECATUR TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

The Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township School Board convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Decatur Township School for Excellence Community Room, 5106 S. High School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana on April 13, 2021.

MEMBERS PRESENT:  ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:
Mrs. Estella Vandeventer  Dr. Matthew Prusiecki, Superintendent
Mr. Dale Henson  Mr. Tony Burchett, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Judith Collins  Mr. Kirk Farmer, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Larry Taylor  Mrs. Stephanie Hofer, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Jimmy Ray  Mr. Chris Gearlds, Director of Human Resources
Mrs. Susan Strube, Director of Elementary Education
Dr. Chris Duzenbery, Dir. of College and Career Readiness
Ms. Amie Kiefer, Coordinator of Special Services

REGULAR MEETING

1. OPENING ITEMS
1.01 Mrs. Vandeventer, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All five board members were present.

1.02 Mrs. Vandeventer led in the pledge of allegiance.

1.03 There were no patron comments.

2. DECATUR PROUD
2.01 Mrs. Hofer was proud to recognize Shannon Shimer, head custodian at Stephen Decatur Elementary, for her life-saving actions. She stated that Shannon works incredible hard, leads her team, and keeps the building clean and safe. During lunch, she saw a choking student and stepped into action. She took safety to a whole new level by performing the Heimlich Maneuver to save a child who could not breathe. We truly appreciate Shannon for her heroic actions.

Mrs. Hofer was pleased to recognize the DCHS Varsity Cheer squad: Coach Payton Livingston, Assistant Coach Madison Michalic, Assistant Coach Antania Sims, Reese Adams, Caitlin Ferguson, Sammi Gibson, and Asher Stevens as well as the DMS Competition Cheer squad: Coach Carrie Kelly, Savannah Bowlin, Ava Burns, Madisyn Clark, Sophia Estes, Abbie Evans, Delaney Gerst, Annika Johnson, Marissa Kratowicz, Khylie Morris, Kyndle Powell, Emily Swartz, Mylee Titus, Jocelyn Vandeventer, and Faith Wenzlick. Our cheer programs teamed up to raise funds for the Heather Sebanc Family Fund and the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Together, the girls were able to raise nearly
$1,500 (donating $740 to each organization). Both squads performed halftime routines to raise awareness and to honor those in our community who have been impacted by breast cancer. DC Cheer is excited to continue this tradition each October throughout Breast Cancer Awareness Month. She was Decatur Proud to also recognize our DMS competitive cheer squad for being named Cascade Middle School Cheer Invitational Champions. Their hard work and determination are to be commended.

3. ACTION ITEMS
   3.01 Mr. Taylor moved that the minutes for the March 9, 2021 regular meeting and executive session and the March 23, 2021 work session be approved. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

   3.02 Mr. Gearlds presented the staff report and addendum for approval. Mr. Henson made a motion to approve the staff report and addendum as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

   3.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of $4,120,264.49 and payrolls in the amount of $3,340,338.83 for approval. Mr. Ray made a motion that the claims and payrolls be accepted as listed. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

   3.04 Mr. Farmer presented farm land rental bids for approval. He stated that two bidders, Mills Family Farms, LLC and Bangle Farms, Inc., responded. Based on Indiana law the bid goes to the highest and most responsive bidder which is Mills Family Farms, LLC at $225 per acre. Mr. Henson made a motion that the district continue to utilize Mills Family Farms, LLC for the 2021, 2022, and 2023 crop years. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

   3.05 Mrs. Hofer presented the 2021-22 K-12 textbook rental and fees for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the textbook rental and fees as presented. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

   3.06 Dr. Prusiecki asked approval of elementary 3-tiered bus routes for the 2021-22 school year with West Newton, Gold and High Ability starting at 7:30am/dismissing at 2:25pm, Stephen Decatur and Valley Mills starting at 8:15am/dismissing at 3:10pm, and Blue and Liberty starting at 9:00am/dismissing at 3:55pm. Mr. Taylor moved the elementary 3-tiered bus routes for the 2021-22 school year be approved as presented. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. REPORT
   4.01 Mr. Farmer presented a financial report for the Education Fund, Referendum Fund, Operations Fund, and Rainy Day Fund.

5. OTHER
   5.01 Dr. Prusiecki recommended the Board approve the settlement agreement that took place on April 5, 2021. Mrs. Vandeventer made a motion to approve the settlement agreement as discussed. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. CLOSING ITEMS

6.01 Dr. Prusiecki expressed his appreciation to Shannon Shimer for saving a child from choking and is Decatur Proud of her actions. He thanked our DCHS and DMS cheerleaders for raising funds for breast cancer awareness and congratulated the DMS cheerleaders on their invitational championship. He thanked everyone for attending and thanked the Board members for their support. He stated it is great to work with a team of leaders who care and have a sense of community. He is pleased to bring new members to the ranks who will continue our mission of helping our students be tomorrow ready. He then welcomed and congratulated the following individuals who were approved on tonight’s Staff Report:

- Dr. Kenneth Folks, Director of Operations effective May 21, 2021, thanked Dr. Prusiecki and the School Board for the opportunity to serve the school community of Decatur Township. He is honored and will put his experience in education to work for everyone in the district. He has been a lifelong educator and is very excited to join the Decatur Proud team.

- Mrs. Marissa Richey, Valley Mills Elementary School Principal effective for the 2021-22 school year, is excited for this opportunity. Working 17 years in the district has made her truly Decatur Proud and she has worked for this moment for several years. She has been supported by many individuals here this evening and looks forward to many more years to serve Decatur Township students and families.

- Mrs. Rachel Nesbit, High Ability Coordinator, is very excited to be back in Decatur Township to serve our families and students and is ready for this opportunity to elevate our High Ability program. After spending 15 years as a teacher, she looks forward to this new opportunity for our students and can’t wait to get started.

- Mr. Jacob Apollos, High Ability Coordinator, has been a teacher for 12 years and is very excited about this new opportunity. He is pleased to be part of the Decatur Township team and is anxious to see what we can accomplish together.

6.02 Mr. Ray congratulated Dr. Folks, Mrs. Richey, Mrs. Nesbit and Mr. Apollos and is anxious to work with them. He offered congratulations to our DCHS and DMS cheerleaders and thanked Shannon Shimer for her quick action to save one of our students. He expressed his appreciation to Dr. Prusiecki and his team for their work.

Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for attending. He thanked Shannon Shimer for saving one of our students and congratulated our DCHS and DMS cheerleaders. He welcomed the newly-hired staff members to the district and thanked Dr. Prusiecki and his team for their hard work. He is anxious to see the success of the High Ability program.

Mrs. Collins offered congratulations to our new hires and is Decatur Proud to have them working in our district. She invited everyone to Alice Emmert’s 102nd birthday drive-by celebration on April 15th from 6:30-8:00pm. She thanked everyone for their donations to DTSA and stated there will be a celebration to honor our students with scholarships.
Mr. Henson thanked everyone for attending. He welcomed Dr. Folks and Mr. Apollos to the district, congratulated Mrs. Richey on her appointment, and thanked Mrs. Nesbit for returning to our district. He appreciated the quick action of Shannon Shimer and was glad to know she was willing to step up to assist one of our students. He thanked the DCHS and DMS cheer teams for their great work. He welcomed everyone to participate in the DTEF golf outing on June 4th beginning at 2:00pm at Winding River and expressed his appreciation for support of this event.

Mrs. Vandeventer welcomed Dr. Folks and looks forward to working with him. She congratulated Mrs. Richey on her new position as principal. She congratulated Mrs. Nesbit and Mr. Apollos and stated the Board members have high expectations for our High Ability program and are excited to watch it develop. She thanked Shannon Shimer for her actions, which demonstrate how our staff members serve our students in so many ways, and she is happy to recognize the difference Shannon made. We are Decatur Proud of our cheer squads as they are top athletes who work very hard. She thanked Dr. Prusiecki and his team for their leadership.

6.03 Mr. Henson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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Mrs. Estella Vandeventer, President                  Mr. Dale Henson, Vice President

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Mrs. Judith Collins, Secretary                       Mr. Larry Taylor, Member

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Mr. Jimmy Ray, Member

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