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 7:03 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices of the School Corporation, 5275 Kentucky Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana on October 5, 2021.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mrs. Estella Vandeventer
Mr. Dale Henson (via video conference)
Mrs. Judith Collins
Mr. Larry Taylor
Mr. Jimmy Ray

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:
Dr. Matthew Prusiecki, Superintendent
Dr. Stephanie Hofer, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Kirk Farmer, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Kenneth Folks, Director of Operations
Mr. Chris Gearlds, Director of Human Resources

REGULAR MEETING

1. OPENING ITEMS
1.01 Mrs. Vandeventer, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All five board members were present, with Mr. Henson participating via video conference and excluded from voting.

1.02 Mrs. Vandeventer led in the pledge of allegiance.

1.03 There were no patron comments.

2. DECATUR PROUD
2.01 Mr. Rick Anderson with Johnson-Melloh Solutions stated he was grateful for the opportunity to work with Decatur Township Schools and presented a rebate check in the amount of $80,350.40 to the District. These funds were generated from the Guaranteed Energy Savings project completed at DCHS and the DELC during the 2020-21 school year.

Dr. Prusiecki recognized our School Board members for earning the Indiana School Boards Association’s (ISBA) 2020 Exemplary Governance Award with Commendable Honors. This award is earned when a school board displays continued dedication to great boardsmanship for students and their community. He congratulated our School Board Members for being recognized for their commitment to our students and community.

Dr. Prusiecki stated the pinnacle of education is being able to earn a doctoral degree. He was Decatur Proud to announce that Mrs. Stephanie Hofer received and earned her degree from Oakland City University and is now Dr. Stephanie Hofer. He stated we have all been impacted positively through this process and congratulated Dr. Hofer on her achievement.
3. PUBLIC HEARING FOR 1028 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
3.01 Mrs. Vandeventer opened the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m.

3.02 Mr. Farmer presented information on renovations to Liberty Early Elementary School, construction of the Career Pathway Facility at DCHS, and renovations to Valley Mills Elementary School.

3.03 The public was asked for any feedback and there were no questions or comments.

3.04 Mrs. Vandeventer closed the hearing.

4. ACTION ITEMS
4.01 Mr. Taylor moved that the minutes for the September 7, 2021 regular meeting and executive session be approved. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.02 Mr. Gearlds presented the staff report and addendum for approval. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve the staff report and addendum as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of $4,001,200.53 and payrolls in the amount of $3,603,317.92 for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion that the claims and payrolls be accepted as listed. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.04 Mr. Farmer reviewed the budget, tax levy, and tax rate totals with the Board and recommended approval of the Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve the Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.05 Mr. Farmer presented the 2022 Budget Expense Reduction Resolution for Board consideration. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget Expense Reduction Resolution as presented. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.06 Mr. Farmer presented 1028 Bond Reimbursement Resolutions and Additional Appropriation Resolutions for the Liberty Early Elementary School renovation, Career Pathway Facility project at DCHS, and Valley Mills Elementary School renovation. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the Resolutions as presented. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.07 Mr. Farmer recommended the Board approve AECOM Hunt to provide construction management services for Liberty Early Elementary School. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve AECOM Hunt as Construction Manager for Liberty Early Elementary School as presented. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.08 Dr. Hofer presented the 2021-22 DCHS and DMS School Counseling Program Handbooks for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the DCHS and DMS School Counseling Program Handbooks as presented. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.
4.09 Dr. Folks asked approval of new/revised NEOLA Board Policies that presented for first reading at the September meeting. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve the policies upon second reading as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.10 Dr. Folks presented Standard Operating Procedures for the Decatur Township School Police Department for approval. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve the Standard Operating Procedures for the Decatur Township School Police Department as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

5. REPORT
5.01 Mr. Farmer presented a financial report for the Education Fund, Referendum Fund, Operation Fund, and Rainy Day Fund.

6. OTHER
6.01 Dr. Prusiecki stated the November Board meeting has been moved to Thursday, November 11, 2021, due to a scheduling conflict and the Board has scheduled a public hearing for the teacher contract on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

7. CLOSING ITEMS
7.01 Dr. Prusiecki thanked everyone for attending. He thanked Johnson-Melloh Solutions for the work they’ve done with our energy efficiency so we may recoup and bring money back to the District. He was pleased to recognize our School Board for their work through ISBA and being recognized as Commendable in their service to our community. He congratulated Dr. Stephanie Hofer for earning her Ed.D. from Oakland City University and encouraged everyone to continue their education. He wished everyone a safe and restful fall break. This has been a challenging school year and thanked everyone for rising to the occasion. He welcomed and congratulated the following school resource officers who are joining the Decatur Township School Police Department:

- Officer John Dunker stated he was happy to be here, hopes to be an asset for Decatur Township, and looks forward to starting.

- Officer Jejuan Westmoreland is excited for this opportunity to build and grow with everyone and to do great things in Decatur Township. He looks forward to flying high as a Hawk.

Chief of Police Terance Smith thanked the School Board for allowing us to add to our small, but mighty team. He stated we didn’t just choose the best candidates, but chose the candidates best for our students. He then administered the Oath of Office for School Resource Officer to John B. Dunker and Jejuan L. Westmoreland.

7.02 Mr. Ray thanked Mr. Anderson with Johnson-Melloh Solutions for the check to the District and congratulated Dr. Stephanie Hofer on her accomplishment. He wished everyone an enjoyable fall break. He congratulated his fellow Board members for earning the ISBA Exemplary Governance Award with Commendable Honors and congratulated our newly hired staff members and school resource officers.
Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for attending. He thanked our new officers for coming on board and is pleased to see that department fully staffed. He congratulated Dr. Stephanie Hofer and is very proud of her accomplishment. He thanked Mr. Anderson and Johnson-Melloh Solutions for the check to the District. He stated the Board approved the building projects for Liberty Early Elementary and Valley Mills Elementary, as they are the two schools that need it the most, and he is anxious to begin the improvements to those buildings. He thanked the School Board and administrative team for doing a great job.

Mrs. Collins thanked everyone for attending. She is Decatur Proud to have our two new officers and thanked them for coming on board. She thanked everyone in attendance for all they do. She hopes everyone enjoys their time off over fall break and comes back rejuvenated.

Mr. Henson stated he had some health issues and decided to stay home this evening to join the meeting remotely. He congratulated our newly hired police officers and staff members. He thanked Dr. Prusiecki and his team for all they do and congratulated his fellow Board members for being recognized by ISBA.

Mrs. Vandeventer thanked everyone for attending. She congratulated Officer Westmoreland and Officer Dunker. She is excited to have them on our team and to have a full team moving forward. She stated a lot went on behind the scenes while working with Johnson-Melloh Solutions and she thanked Mr. Farmer, Dr. Prusiecki and the rest of the team for partnering with them and allowing that to move forward. She congratulated Dr. Hofer and is so proud of and excited for her. She is pleased to work with her fellow Board members and to have ISBA recognize their hard work.

7.03 Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

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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