

**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 7:02 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices of the School Corporation, 5275 Kentucky Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana on February 11, 2025.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Estella Vandeventer
Mr. Dale Henson
Mrs. Judith Collins
Mr. Larry Taylor

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Scott Collins, Superintendent
Mr. Chris Gearlds, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Kirk Farmer, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Justin Dixon, Director of Operations
Dr. Matthew McClendon, Director of Human Resources

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Chase Lyday

REGULAR MEETING

1. OPENING ITEMS

- 1.01 Mrs. Vandeventer, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Four 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 Mr. Gearlds was Decatur Proud to recognize two recipients of the Tomorrow Ready Award for this month:
 - Erika Hueston, Special Education Instructional Assistant at Stephen Decatur Elementary School - Goes above and beyond to provide individualized instruction for student success.
 - Lauren Murphy, 5th Grade Teacher at West Newton Elementary School - Goes above and beyond to provide a fun, compassionate, and effective learning environment.
- 2.02 Mr. Gearlds recognized Mrs. Diane Stebbe, Music Teacher at West Newton Elementary School, for receiving the 2025 Multi-Level Music Educator of Excellence Award by the Indiana Music Educators Association.

3. PUBLIC HEARING (1028) FOR RENOVATION OF ARMSTRONG PAVILION AND DISTRICT-WIDE LONG TERM CAPITAL MAINTENANCE & EQUIPMENT, VEHICLE, BUS PROJECT

- 3.01 Mrs. Vandeventer opened the Public Hearing at 7:13 p.m.

3.02 Mr. Farmer presented information on renovation of Armstrong Pavilion and district-wide long term capital maintenance & equipment, vehicle, bus project.

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 January 14, 2025 reorganization/regular meeting, executive session, and Board of Finance meeting and January 27, 2025 and February 3, 2025 work sessions be approved. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.02 Dr. McClendon 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 4-0.

4.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of \$4,119,311.53 and payrolls in the amount of \$4,120,987.63 for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion that the claims and payrolls be accepted as listed. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.04 Mr. Farmer asked Board authorization to write off outstanding checks more than two years old. Mr. Taylor made a motion to authorize writing off checks as listed. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.05 Mr. Farmer recommended approval of the Resolution to Issue First Mortgage Refunding Bonds, Confirm Fourth Amendment to Lease, and Related Matters. Mr. Henson made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.06 Mr. Farmer recommended approval of the 1028/Preliminary Determination/Reimbursement Resolutions for the Renovation of Armstrong Pavilion and the District-Wide Long Term Capital Maintenance & Equipment, Vehicle, Bus Project. Mrs. Vandeventer made a motion to approve the Resolutions as presented. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.07 Mr. Gearlds asked approval of new/revised NEOLA Board Policies that presented for first reading at the January meeting. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the policies upon second reading as presented. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

4.08 Mr. Dixon asked approval of an out of state trip request by Decatur High Ability Academy to the Destination Imagination Regional Tournament at Sinclair College in Dayton, Ohio on March 8, 2025 and out of state/overnight trip requests by DCHS Winter Guard to the WGI Winter Guard World Championships in Dayton, Ohio on April 3-5, 2025 and DCHS Winter Percussion Ensemble to the WGI Percussion World Championships in Dayton, Ohio on April 18-20, 2025. Mrs. Collins made a motion to approve the trip requests as presented. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

5. REPORT

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

6. OTHER

6.01 No items.

7. CLOSING ITEMS

7.01 Dr. Collins offered congratulations to Mrs. Murphy and Ms. Hueston as our Tomorrow Ready Award recipients. He congratulated Mrs. Stebbe for her recognition and stated she has great music programs and her passion for music education is outstanding. Our DCHS theatre students earned the Gold Distinguished Honor Thespian Troupe distinction. They are a talented group of students with a show "One Act" coming up and tickets are now available. He recognized Madyson Huskisson for receiving the Fred S. Klipsch Educators College Browning Tuition Scholarship for full tuition at Marian University. Madyson is going to major in elementary education at Marian. He appreciates the partnership and support from Marian as we work with them on some initiatives. He reminded everyone that Monday, February 17th, is Presidents' Day and we will not be in school that day. He expressed his appreciation for the work of our administrators, teachers, and all our support staff who continue educating and teaching our students and thanked the School Board members for their support.

7.02 Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for attending and congratulated our award recipients this evening. He thanked the administrative team and stated the new year is off to a great start.

Mrs. Collins offered congratulations to our award winners and thanked our administrators for all they do.

Mr. Henson offered kudos to our award recipients this evening. He shared that the DTEF Golf Outing will be held on Friday, May 30th, at Winding River Golf Course. He encouraged everyone to participate, as funds raised will go to our teachers and students. He thanked Dr. Collins and the administrators for their work.

Mrs. Vandeventer congratulated Ms. Hueston and Mrs. Murphy for receiving their Tomorrow Ready Awards and expressed appreciation for what they do in our township. She is so Decatur Proud of the work Mrs. Stebbe is doing with our music instruction. She thanked Dr. Collins and his team for their presentations these last couple of weeks, as she appreciates the information and the transparency with what we're doing and how we are moving forward in Decatur Township. She is proud of everyone and all their hard work.

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

Mrs. Estella Vandeventer, President

Mr. Dale Henson, Vice President

Mr. Chase Lyday, Secretary

Mrs. Judith Collins, Member

Mr. Larry Taylor, Member