

BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 20, 2007

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Metamora Twp. High School was called to order on this date at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Grebner	
Malone	
Whittington	
Curtis	
Doty	Christ
	Winkler

Doug Doty is Acting President. He has appointed Gary Grebner as Secretary for this meeting.

Motion by Grebner; seconded by Whittington:

Resolve that we approve the minutes of the August 16, 2007 meeting as presented.

VOTE: All voting yea; resolution adopted.

Claudia Christ joined the meeting at 7:02 P.M.

Ron Bachman spoke for the Guidance Department. He believes that the Guidance Department is working hard as an effective team and praised the new Credit Recovery Program. He next handed out a document showing expectations and demands on the department and the students who may be missing out on Guidance services because of some of those demands. Ron thinks that part of the success of the Math tutor study hall is that the tutor is taking a parental role that the student may be missing. He concluded that it will be difficult to add more duties to the Guidance staff and still adequately serve the students who tend to be overlooked. The floor was opened up to questions. Discussion included group counseling sessions, new programs, follow up with new students as to how they are integrating into the student body, the diversity of the position, prioritizing student counseling, and contact with the failing students. Goals for the year included improvement of student counseling groups, follow up on the value of current programs, and stronger career and college focus.

President Scott Winkler joined the Board Meeting at 7:55 P.M.

The addition of SIS and STI to the duties of the Guidance Department was addressed. The Guidance Department felt that these duties should be a function of Administration and suggested that an additional Administrator should be considered.

As the representative from First Mid-State was waiting to speak on the general obligations school bonds, IV(B), Letter from East Peoria, and the Action Item V(A) Payment of Bills, were tabled until later in the meeting. The representative went through the document, explaining the salient points, and answering questions.

Motion by Grebner; seconded by Curtis:

Resolve that we authorize the issuance of General Obligations School Bonds.

VOTE:

<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Christ	
Curtis	
Malone	
Winkler	
Whittington	
Grebner	
Doty	

Motion by Malone; seconded by Winkler:

Resolve that we approve the Resolution Abating Working Cash Fund of the District.

VOTE:

<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Winkler	
Curtis	
Christ	
Whittington	
Malone	
Grebner	
Doty	

A break was taken while numerous documents were signed for the Bonds and Abatement.

At 9:01 P.M., the meeting reconvened with discussion on IV(B), the letter from East Peoria High School concerning the possibility of our accepting students from East Peoria. Superintendent Maurer explained that we are not obligated to accept students from East Peoria and that East Peoria High School was required to send the letter to school districts neighboring East Peoria.

Motion by Curtis; seconded by Grebner:

Resolve that we pay the bills in the amount of \$155,821.05.

VOTE:

<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Malone	
Curtis	
Whittington	
Christ	
Grebner	
Doty	
Winkler	

Motion by Christ; seconded by Winkler:

Resolve that we approve the Application for Recognition of Schools.

VOTE: All voting yea; resolution adopted.

Under Education, VI, the Board discussed the necessity of incorporating math into all subjects to raise test scores by reinforcing basic problem solving and math skills. The Board asked what they could do to help improve student learning. Superintendent Maurer said that the Board had worked toward this goal by hiring an additional math teacher to tutor every period, hiring a reading specialist to teach students and train teachers to teach reading across the curriculum, and instigating the Credit Recovery Program to help failing students catch up.

After a brief discussion of the mission, beliefs, and local learner outcomes, the financial reports and report on natural gas rates were reviewed.

The Building Committee led the presentation of the five-year plan. The replacement of the bleachers was discussed. Soil testing will be done shortly, with the results available in two weeks. The architects' findings and specs will be completed about two weeks after that. At that point, the project will be put out for bids. In regard to the possibility of adding skyboxes, the Board requested estimates on the cost and the potential revenue.

The air conditioning quotes for the cafeteria and commons areas, ranging from \$58,000 to \$214,000, were reviewed. Project Lead-the-Way, a Student Engineering Program, was introduced; the fact that a space would have to be found for this program, with some remodeling likely to be required, was discussed.

In other business, the Superintendent presented the Legal Summons from LowPoint-Washburn appealing to a technical error in the petition to move property from Washburn to Metamora.

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The letters from Germantown and Metamora Grade in response to our request to form a unit district were briefly discussed.

Motion by Winkler; seconded by Curtis:

Resolve that we adjourn at 11:16 P.M.

VOTE: All voting yea; resolution adopted.

President

Secretary