

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION- MOKENA SCHOOL DISTRICT 159
MOKENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
September 14, 2011**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. John Troy – President	✓	
Mr. Joseph Spalla – Vice President	✓	
Mr. Frank Ventura – Secretary	✓	Left at 7:10 p.m.
Mr. Michael Ford	✓	
Mr. Patrick Markham	✓	
Mrs. Katherine Moore	✓	Via phone
Mr. Scott Peters	✓	

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Stein, Interim Superintendent; Chuck Vitton, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction; Karen Perry, Assistant to the Superintendent; Mike Rolinitis, Principal; Chris Clavenna, Principal; Nancy Chibe, Interim Principal; Judy Splayt, Asst. Principal; Ann Lewandowski, Director of Food Services, Ken Stanley, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Ron Kaczorowski, Director of Transportation; Steve Hastings, Director of Technology, Mary Louise Knoerzer, Board Secretary, Jen Thomas, Julie Tiberi, Joyce Siska, Diane Leo, Erin Menozzi, Nicole Kmiec, Kim Rueth.

VISITORS PRESENT:

Madeline Kral, Bob Kral, Chuck Lief, mark Kowal, Dorelle Ackerman, Jenney Daley Jenney Fitzpatrick, Stacy Cesta, Carrie Zakula, Jenney Karnezis, Jack McDermott, Anna Briscoe .

PRESS

Amanda Jacobs, Mokena Messenger; Ginger Brashinger, Southtown Star; Paul Darling, Mokena Patch

OPENING AND ROLL CALL

Mr. Troy called the Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Mokena Public School District 159 to order at 7:01 p.m. on September 14, 2011.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Stein led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2011-2012 BUDGET HEARING

Board President Troy declared the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget Hearing opened at 7:02 p.m. September 14, 2011. He asked if there were any public comments. Hearing none, President Troy asked for a motion to adjourn the hearing. A motion was made by Mr. Peters and seconded by Mr. Spalla to close the 2011-2012 Budget Hearing.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:06 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Public –Dorelle Ackerman, a parent, thanked the teachers of MPS 159 on behalf of her daughter for the wonderful education she received; asked the Board and teachers to come to an agreement as to not jeopardize the education all the children at Mokena schools.

MTA- Joyce Siska on behalf of MTA thanked the parents and the community for their continued support.

Board of Education –Mr. Peters spoke to the breach of etiquette that transpired last month with Mr. Markham; disapproved of his behavior; stated the Board needs to move forward in a positive a way; Mr. Ventura publically announced his resignation effective September 16, 2011 due to his illness; he wishes to spend his energies and time with his family.

Mr. Ventura left the Board of Education meeting at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mr. Markham moved, seconded by Mr. Peters to approve the following meeting minutes:

Regular Meeting – June 9, 2011

Special Meeting – July 14, 2011

Special Meeting – August 4, 2011

Closed Session 1 – June 9, 2011

Closed Session 2- June 9, 2011

Closed Session 1 – July 14, 2011

Closed Session 2- July 14, 2011

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Troy

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Mr. Ford moved, seconded by Mr. Spalla to approve the following meeting minutes:

Regular Meeting – August 11, 2011.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Troy

Nays: None

Abstain: Mr. Peters

MOTION CARRIED 5-0- 1

INFORMATION REPORTS

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Hendrick reviewed the Financial report with the Board of Education.

TREASURER REPORT

Mr. Hendrick reviewed the Treasurer's report with the Board of Education.

LINCOLN WAY SPECIAL EDUCATION MINUTES

Mrs. Moore, via phone, reviewed the important points:

- Mentoring program; Parent University
- Opening day went very well
- approved 2011-2012 Budget
- Amended school calendar

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT

Mr. Hendrick explained the process of a flexible spending account; which is approved by the IRS. Program to shelter money- pre-taxed dollars for employees that may need for medical bills, childcare, etc. Mr. Ventura and Mrs. Moore ask the school district to look into the possibilities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Finance-** Chairman Peters covered the budget process and the thought process behind the contingency fund for each major category. The committee is presenting the final 2011-2012 Budget at this meeting. Mr. Hendrick also passed out graphs regarding revenue sources and expenditure by fund; year 2007-2011. Chairman Peter thanked Kirt Hendrick, Steve Stein,

Peggy Ryan and Donna Dockus for their hard work to get the changes implemented for tonight's 2011-2012 Final Budget approval. Mr. Troy thanked the committee for their diligent work as well. The tax levy is the next focus of the committee. The next meeting will be mid-October.

- **Policy**-Mr. Markham presented policies:
 - a. 2:220 BOE Meeting Procedures
 - b. 2:230 Public Participation at BOE Meetings

There was still discussion among the Board regarding suggested changes and how to control the additional public participation. These policies were revised June, 2011.

- **Building & Grounds/Transportation**- Chairman Ford thanked Kirt Hendrick, Steve Stein, and the rest of District staff for providing additional data needed to be considered for the possibility of closure of MIS; next meeting September 22 at MIS; Public forum will be scheduled late October.
- **Parent Advisory**- Chairman Spalla and committee met with Mark O'Donnell from Mokena Police dept. needing a liaison; Mr. Rolinitis and Mr. Stein will work w/police; next meeting October 20.
- **Curriculum** – Chairman Troy and Kathy Moore along w/Dr. Vitton will determine the scope, parameters for this committee.
- **Technology**- Chairman Spalla and committee will meet September 20; will consider 2011-2012 Budget in relation to tech dept.

ENROLLMENT

Mr. Stein presented the 6th day enrollment numbers for Mokena School District 159

	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Average Class Size</u>
Kindergarten	135	3 a.m./p.m.	22.5
1 st Grade	154	6	25.6
2 nd Grade	189	7	27
3 rd Grade	187	7	26.7
4 th Grade	185	7	26.4
5 th Grade	208	7	29.7
6 th Grade	230		
7 th Grade	221		
8 th Grade	240		
Total	1749		

Also included MJH class size breakdown by subject areas; Mr. Rolinitis explained some of the disparity on some class sizes.

TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Stein reviewed with the Board of Education, a transportation update on bus service; numbers of students being transported at each building. He thanked Dr. Chibe and Mrs. Perry for making adjustments at MIS to help facilitate a quicker dismissal at MES.

GRANT SUMMARY

Dr. Vitton reviewed with the Board of Education the Grant summary. Early Childhood grant is now a competitive which we will not be eligible for. District 159 has lost over \$100,000 in State grants since 2010.

UPDATED JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Dr. Vitton reviewed with the Board of Education the updated job descriptions for Director of Business Operations, Director of Technology and Technical Support Personnel. Minor changes were made to all.

ACTION REQUESTS

PERSONNEL

Recommended Motion:

Mrs. Moore moved to approve personnel recommendations 1 through 7 as presented, subject to successful background check, drug screening (if applicable) and physical". The motion was seconded by Mr. Spalla.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Troy

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	EFFECTIVE DATE	EMPLOYMENT DETAIL
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1. Administrative- Hiring

Shaughnessy, Don	Dean of Students	MJH	September 15, 2011	\$53,000/year 10.5 months
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2. Certified - Reinstate

Meehan, Lori	Teacher	MES	2011-2012 School year	Lane 1, Step D Salary Pending Negotiations
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3. Certified- New Hire

Hiotis-Jochum, Georgia	Social Worker	MIS	August 30 through November 30, 2011	149.84/day (long term sub rate)
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4. Classified-- New Hire

Simester, Sandy	Building aide	MES	August 29, 2011	6.75/date \$8.31/hr 174 days/yr
McGee, Pamela	Sub Food Server	Food Service	August 22, 2011	Sub rate \$8.31/hr

5. Classified – Re-assignment

Gabrys, Sandra	Food Server	Food Service	August 22, 2011	3 hrs/day \$10.38/hr 166 days/yr
Haugh, Julie	Assist. Cook	Food Service	August 22 , 2011	4.5 hrs/day \$8.72/hr 166 days/yr
Walenga, Susan	Assist. Cook	Food Service	August 22, 2011	4.5 hrs/day \$8.46/hr 166 days/yr

6. Classified-- Resignation

Cook, Lisa	Food Server	Food Service	August 15, 2011
McGrath, Beth	Building Aide	MES	August 26, 2011

7. Certified-- Resignation

Lavery, Leanne	Teacher- 4 th grade	MIS	August 9, 2011
Hagemaster, Megan	Social Worker	MIS	August 17, 2011

DISTRICT BILLS

Recommended Motion:

Mrs. Moore reviewed District bills this month. Mrs. Moore moved to approve the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peters.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Troy

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

ANNUAL APPLICATION FOR RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS

Recommended Motion:

Mr. Peters moved, seconded by Mrs. Moore to approve the Annual Application for Recognition of Schools for Mokena Elementary School, Mokena Intermediate School, and Mokena Junior High School for the 2011-2012 school year as presented.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Troy

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT

Recommended Motion:

Mrs. Moore moved to grant permission to Administration to identify costs and potential vendors for flexible spending account for eligible employees, with the potential adoption of a FSA beginning January 2012. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spalla.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Troy

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

POLICY 2:220 AND POLICY 2:230

Recommended Motion:

Mr. Markham moved to approve the following policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ford.

1. 2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedures
2. 2:230 Public Participation at Board Of Education and Petitions to the Board

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Troy

Nays: Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 4-2

MIDWEST CONTRACT

Recommended Motion:

Mr. Markham moved to approve the one year electric power contract starting after December 2012 with Ameren Energy Services, at the fixed rate indicated. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Moore.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy

Nays: Mr. Spalla Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 5-1

The Board thanked Mr. Hendrick for only signing a one year contract. Dr. Vitton, Mr. Stein and Mrs. Moore and Mr. Peters thanked Mr. Mike Perry for his diligent efforts on maintaining good pricing for our district en gracious.

HAZARDOUS WALKING ROUTES

Recommended Motion:

Mr. Spalla moved that we inform the Superintendent of the Will County Regional Office of Education that the hazardous conditions requiring the transportation of students approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation for the 2011-12 school year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peters.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Ford, Mr. Markham, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Spalla, Mr. Troy

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Recommended Motion:

