

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MOKENA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #159
MOKENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
June 10, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. Tim King – President	√	
Mrs. Katherine Moore – Vice President	√	
Mr. Scott Peters – Secretary	√	
Mr. Les Kazmierczak	√	
Mr. Kevin Pajeau	√	
Mr. John Troy	√	
Mr. Frank Ventura	√	

STAFF PRESENT

Gary Bradbury, Superintendent; James Connelly, Asst. Supt., Linda Ytterberg, Asst. Supt., Ellen Belotti, Director; Steve Stein, Principal; Charles Vitton, Asst. Principal; Julia Wheaton, Principal; Scott Pritchard, Asst. Principal; Michael Krugman, Principal; Patti Bogdan, Asst. Principal; Barbara Germany, Supt. Sec'y.

VISITORS PRESENT

Michael Rolinitis.

PRESS

Kristen Moore, Mokena Messenger.

OPENING AND ROLL CALL

Mr. King called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Mokena Public School District 159 to order at 7:00 p.m. June 10, 2009 at Mokena Elementary School.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Education, staff, and visitors recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Kazmierczak moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 13, 2009. Mr. Peters seconded this recommendation.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Dr's. Wheaton and Bradbury sent thank you notes to the Board of Education for the rockers received in honor of their doctorate and retirement.

INFORMATION REPORTS

FINANCIAL REPORT

The revenue for the month of May, in all funds, was \$1,770,249 which represents 9.2% of the total annual amended revenue budget of \$19,215,268. The expenditures for the month, in all funds, were \$1,946,260 or 9.7% of budget.

- Page 3 – ISDA – This is our annual liability and casualty and boiler plate insurance coverage for next year. Mrs. Moore questioned if the ISDA offered the district a three-year contract. Mr. Connelly informed her that a three-year contract would have to be put out to bid. Consideration will be made for this in the future.
- Page 3 – J. Merle Jones & Sons, Inc. is payment for our bus maintenance.

STUDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

No items of discussion – details can be found in the Board packet.

TREASURER'S REPORT

No items of discussion – details can be found in the Board packet.

LINCOLN-WAY AREA SPECIAL EDUCATION MINUTES – May 26, 2009

Mrs. Moore reported on the following items:

- The Board reorganized and new members were seated.
- Mrs. Bintz stated that she has selected five lead mentors. The first meeting will take place on May 29, 2009 to put a preliminary schedule in place. They will begin working in the fall and be available to all of the districts' staff.
- The bid for the remodeling of Pioneer Grove was awarded to Larsen Contracting, Inc.

REVISED CURRICULUM PROCESS TIMELINE

The Board of Education was provided with a revised curriculum cycle for District 159. The previous cycle was five (5) years in length and was limiting in terms of its flexibility with regard to the curriculum review process. The new cycle is seven (7) years in length and should allow for a more reflective curriculum process and will ensure that all components of the process are implemented completely before the cycle starts over again. The MTA President was provided with a copy of this revised cycle since the curriculum process is referenced in the Professional Negotiations Agreement with the teachers. Since the stipends for curriculum positions have not changed, the MTA President did not foresee any problems with this revision.

COURSE REIMBURSEMENT

The Board of Education was provided with a summary of the Winter/Spring 2008-09 course reimbursement.

UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN

Included in the board packet was an update on the Strategic Plan activities that have occurred throughout the 2008-09 school year. While 4 activities and measurements were chosen to target in the Data Dashboard, it was determined to still be important to have a handle on all the activities contained in the Strategic Plan. Administration will also be looking at the Measurements for each Goal over the summer in order to determine how to best report on these in the future. The Administrative Team feels very confident in the overall progress of the District's Strategic Plan.

HEALTH INSURANCE

On May 1, the district was officially informed from our health insurance broker, Mesirow Financial, that the district's current carrier, Blue Cross/Blue Shield had announced the district's policy premium would be increased by twenty-four (24) percent. Via the process of negotiations on our behalf, Mesirow was able to convince Blue Cross/ Blue Shield to reduce the premium increase from twenty-four (24) to sixteen (16). This sixteen (16) percent increase represents an increased cost of \$234,442.80.

SICK LEAVE BANK

Discussion tabled until July Board of Education meeting.

REFERENDUM UPDATE

Dr. Bradbury informed the Board of the following:

- On May 27th the fourth quarter edition of the district newsletter, Sound the Bell which contained a wealth of information about the financial challenges we now and anticipate encountering in the future was posted on the district website.
- Cindy Hoyle had agreed to be one of the co-chairs of the Referendum Committee. Bob Garcia has also pledged his willingness to co-chair the Referendum Committee.
- A Referendum Committee Organizational Meeting was conducted on May 28th. Eighteen community members and staff were in attendance. The referendum timeline was shared with everyone in attendance. A referendum slogan was discussed and agreed upon, which is – **“Keep the tradition – Continue the quality.”** A number of great ideas were generated as to how this slogan can be woven into our educational and campaign literature, etc.

HONOR OF DR. BRADBURY

In accordance with the action of the May Board of Education meeting, the junior high was renamed to Mokena Junior High School. Based upon input received subsequent to this renaming, Mr. King recommended to the Board to replace the current, faded lettering, and include the wording “in Honor of Dr. Gary L Bradbury” underneath the school name on the exterior of the building. In addition, a plaque would be placed next to the building dedication plaque that explains Dr. Bradbury’s service to the district and will allow for children and visitors to understand the purpose of the honorarium.

Discussion ensued among Board members with regard to the size and cost of the new/additional lettering. Mr. Pajeau voiced concern over where the money would come from for the lettering. Mr. Troy expressed his opinion that the above-referenced idea had merit, however it should be presented to a committee and let the community decide. The Board concurred to perform a survey of as many community members as feasible in order to determine what they felt would be an appropriate measure of honor for Dr. Bradbury. These results will be reported back at a special meeting in July – most likely July 8. The Board will be informed of the exact date and time and appropriate notice will be posted once confirmed.

Mr. Krugman spoke as a representative of the administrative team with reference to creating an honorarium wall for retirees with 25 or more years of service. Mr. Krugman informed the Board that the initial cost for this wall would be higher (approximately \$375), but then once the honorarium is created, the cost moving forward would be minimal. All past retirees would be sent a note informing them of this honor. The Board agreed that this was an excellent manner of honoring past retirees of the district.

BREAK FOR RECEPTION FOR RETIREES

At 8:30 p.m., the Board held a reception for retirees Dr. Bradbury and Mrs. Ytterberg.

ACTION REPORTS

DISTRICT BILLS

Mrs. Moore reviewed the bills for the month. Mrs. Moore moved to approve the bills, seconded by Mr. Kazmierczak.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Moore moved to approve the following consent agenda items. Mr. Troy seconded this motion.

1. Memorandum of Understanding for Music Teachers
2. 2009-10 Parent/Student Handbook
3. AIMSWEB (Universal Screener for Rtl)
4. Second June Bills List Pre-Approval
5. Resolution Designating Interest Earnings for 2009-10
6. Prevailing Wage
7. GradTrak Contract

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED**CLOSED SESSION**

At 9:05 p.m. Mrs. Moore moved to adjourn to Closed Session for the purpose of personnel, to return to Open Session. This motion was seconded by Mr. Troy.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED**OPEN SESSION**

At 9:30 p.m. Mrs. Moore moved to resume the Open Session. This motion was seconded by Mr. Peters.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED**PERSONNEL**

NAME	POSITION	BLDG.	EFFECTIVE DATE	SALARY
A. Administrative				
Michael Rolinitis	Principal	MJHS	7/1/2009	\$92,000
B. Certified				
Kate Flaherty	Rtl Coordinator/Diagnostician		2009-10 School Year	Lane 4, Step K \$50,735
C. Classified				
Denise Grein	Substitute Food Server			\$7.75/hour As needed
Sean Darby	} Summer Custodians (7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) Monday-Thursday		6/8/09-8/14/09	8.26/hour
Dan Fagan				8.26/hour
Adam Guca				8.14/hour
Alex Murphy				8.14/hour
Blake Ryan				8.14/hour

Joe Silvestri				8.14/hour
Debbie Mulvaney	} Summer Receptionists (alternating days)	MIS	6/15/09-8/7/09	\$8.69/hour
				17 days;
				7.5 hours/day
Diane Miller				8.31/hour
				23 days;
				7.5 hours/day
D. Leave of Absence				
Tanner Mitchell	PE Teacher	MJHS	5/13/09-6/5/09	FMLA
Jennifer Lucas	Psychologist		8/24/09-10/2/09	Sick Leave
E. Change in Position/Hours				
Stacey Stroud	Principal's Secretary	MJHS	7/1/09	Reduction in hours from 8.0 to 7.5
F. Retirement				
Cathy Guendling	2 nd Grade Teacher	MES	At the conclusion of the 2014-15 school year	
G. Resignation				
Melissa Briscoe	Teacher	MJHS	6/2/09	

Mr. Troy moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Ventura, personnel recommendations A through G.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED BUDGET HEARING

President King declared the Amended Budget Hearing open. There being no questions regarding the amended budget, Mr. Peters moved to close the Amended Budget Hearing, seconded by Mr. Pajeau.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

2008-09 INTEREST AND FUND TRANSFER HEARING

President King declared the Interest and Fund Transfer Hearing open. There being no questions regarding the interest and fund transfers, Mrs. Moore moved to close the Interest and Fund Transfer Hearing, seconded by Mr. Troy.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTEREST TRANSFERS

Mr. Ventura moved, seconded by Mrs. Moore, to approve the resolution authorizing the transfer of interest investments as presented.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF AMENDED BUDGET

Mr. Ventura moved, seconded by Mr. Pajeau, to approve the 2008-09 Amended Budget as presented.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

LINCOLN-WAY SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT 843 COOPERATIVE APPROVAL OF EARLY JULY 2009 PAYMENT

Mrs. Moore moved, seconded by Mr. Peters to pre-approve the payment of the Lincoln-Way Area 843 July billing early July 2009, prior to the July 8 Board of Education meeting.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A FORTY-EIGHT (48) CENT OPERATING TAX RATE INCREASE REFERENDUM

Mrs. Moore moved, seconded by Mr. Kazmierczak, for Board adoption of the resolution to authorize a forty eight (48) cent Operating Tax Rate Increase Referendum to be placed on the February 2, 2010 ballot, as presented.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

HONOR OF DR. BRADBURY

Tabled for further discussion.

QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO ACTION REPORTS

No questions.

ITEMS FOR THE JULY AGENDA

- Sick Leave Bank draft.
- Special Services Workload Plan.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE MOKENA AREA

- Dr. Bradbury commented that this would be Dr. Wheaton's last Board of Education meeting. He thanked Dr. Wheaton for her invaluable service as an administrator in the district.
- The golf outing sponsored by the Mokena Education Foundation will be held on Friday, June 12. Tickets are still available.

CLOSED SESSION

At 10:14 p.m. Mrs. Moore moved to adjourn to Closed Session for the purpose of personnel and student discipline, to return to Open Session. This motion was seconded by Mr. Troy.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

OPEN SESSION

At 10:50 p.m. Mrs. Moore moved to reconvene the Open Session, seconded by Mr. Peters.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

PERSONNEL

Mrs. Moore moved, seconded by Mr. Peters, to approve the administrative contracts as presented.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mr. Kazmierczak, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Pajeau, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy and Mr. Ventura


Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:59 p.m. Mrs. Moore moved to adjourn the June 10, 2009 Board of Education meeting, seconded by Mr. Troy. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote.



 President

 Secretary