

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MOKENA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #159
MOKENA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
April 14, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

STAFF PRESENT

Karen Perry, Superintendent; Dr. Charles Vitton, Asst. Supt. of Curriculum; Ellen Belotti, Student Services Director; Michael Krugman, Principal; Mike Rolinitis, Principal; Steve Stein, Principal; Patti Bogdan, Asst. Principal; Judy Splayt, Asst. Principal; Scott Pritchard, Asst. Principal; Ann Lewandowski, Foodservice Director; Ron Kaczorowski, Transportation Director; Ryan Adkins, Technology Director; Barbara Germany, Executive Secretary.

VISITORS PRESENT

Laurel McGowan, Ally Shipley, Rachel Brusich, Amber Heimberg, Lena Thompson, Clair Ansborg, Mike Ford, John Kroen, Bob Garcia, Mary Louise Knoerzer.

PRESS

Amanda Jacobs, 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. April 14, 2010 at Mokena Intermediate School.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ally Shipley, Rachel Brusich, Amber Heimberg, Lena Thompson, and Clair Ansborg led the Board of Education, staff, and visitors in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASE

Mrs. Perry provided the Board of Education with an overview of the current economic status of the district and addressed many comments/concerns that she has become aware of.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

- Mr. King provided a commentary to the public that noted budget reductions for the 2008-09 and future school years. This document will be provided as a link on the district web page.
- Superintendent's Report – Mrs. Perry thanked all administration and staff for their assistance April 10 during the soft lockdown.
The new sign outside of MES is a nice welcome to the building.

Jumprope for Heart has raised \$12,595.20

At MIS, the Talent Show was such a joy to observe and be a part of.

- MTA – no comments.
- Public Commentary – Laurel McGowan offered commentary to the Board regarding the recent changes in the district and the manner with which placements for next school year were handled.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Troy moved, seconded by Mrs. Falbo to approve the following meeting minutes:

Regular Meeting March 10, 2010

Special Meeting March 16, 2010

Special Meeting March 22, 2010

Special Meeting March 30, 2010 (as amended)

Closed Session March 10, 2010

Closed Session March 22, 2010

Closed Session March 30, 2010

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Falbo, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy, Mr. Ventura

Nays: None

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

INFORMATION REPORTS

FINANCIAL REPORT

The revenue for the month of March, in all funds, was \$390,549, which represents 2% of the total annual revenue budget. The expenditures for the month, in all funds, were \$1,450,728. The April bills were normal for this time of year. The following items are noteworthy:

Page 3 – J. Merle Jones & Sons, Inc. This is the company that we had been using for bus maintenance and parts. We have started using Midwest Transit for bus maintenance and parts.

Page 4 – School Nurse Supply- This is for the purchase of an additional defibrillator that will be located by the MES South Gym. Part of the expense is being paid from MES Student Activity Funds.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Barbara Germany reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the Board of Education.

STUDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Barbara Germany reviewed the Student Activity account with the Board of Education. The school Principals noted that there were no noteworthy items to report.

LINCOLN-WAY AREA SPECIAL EDUCATION MINUTES – March 23, 2010

Mrs. Moore reported on the following items from the March 23 meeting:

- Dr. Bintz reported on the status on the Transition House.
- Dr. Bintz reviewed the proposed program projections for the 2010-11 school year.
- The Board approved the establishment of the Lincolnway Area Special Education Foundation.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on April 27, 2010.

2009 TAX EXTENSION

Barbara Germany reported to the Board that the 2009 Tax Extension has been received from the Will County Clerk's Office. For 2009, the EAV for the property in Mokena is \$631,663,087. This is \$3.0 million or .5% increase from the 2008 EAV of \$628,651,721. The 2009 Levy Extension provides \$138,472 more in operating

funds and \$88,433 more in Bond & Interest for a total increase of \$226,905. Of this amount, we will receive half in this fiscal year and half next fiscal.

ACTION REQUESTS

DISTRICT BILLS

Mr. Troy reviewed the bills for the month. Mr. Troy moved to approve the bills as presented, seconded by Mrs. Falbo.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Falbo, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy, Mr. Ventura

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

STUDENT FEES 2010-11

Mr. Ventura moved, seconded by Mrs. Moore to approve student fees for the 2010-11 school year as presented.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Falbo, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy, Mr. Ventura

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

BUILDING USAGE FEES 2010-11

Mrs. Falbo moved, seconded by Mr. Peters to approve building usage fees for the 2010-11 school year as presented.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Falbo, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy, Mr. Ventura

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

SUMMER 2010 TEMPORARY CUSTODIAL POSITIONS

Mrs. Moore moved, seconded by Mrs. Falbo to approve the hiring of summer custodial assistance in the district.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Falbo, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy, Mr. Ventura

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

Mrs. Falbo moved, seconded by Mr. Troy to approve the board self-evaluation as presented.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Falbo, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy, Mr. Ventura

Nays: None Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

SUMMER 2010 OFFICE HOURS

Tabled until the May Meeting

QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO ACTION REPORTS

No questions.

ITEMS FOR THE MAY AGENDA

- Policies for first reading.
- Stratplan Presentation.
- Summer office hours.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE MOKENA AREA

- Mr. Ventura complimented the staff and administration for the manner with which the soft lockdown was handled on April 10.
- Mrs. Falbo thanked Mrs. Moore for all of her efforts on the LW 843 Special Education Board.
- Mr. Peters commented that many of the decisions this Board has been required to make during the last several months have been extremely difficult. He asked that the media be respectful and sensitive to employees' privacy when disclosing sensitive personnel information. He also commended all the support organizations for all of their outstanding efforts to garner support for the district and raise funds. Their help is needed and much appreciated.

CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Moore moved, seconded by Mrs. Falbo to adjourn to Closed Session for matters pertaining to Superintendent's evaluation, litigation, and personnel, to return.

PERSONNEL

NAME	POSITION	BLDG.	EFFECTIVE DATE	SALARY
A. Leave of Absence				
Sarah Boldman	Social Worker	MJHS	8/18/10 through 9/29/10	Medical Leave
B. Resignations/Retirements				
Melaine Black Jane Sanchez	Bus Drivers		At the conclusion of the 2009-10 School Year	
Darlene Cain	Cook		At the conclusion of the 2009-10 School Year	
C. Administrative Recommendations for the 2010-2011 School Year				
Barbara Germany	Assistant Business Manager and District Office Manager			12 months
Ryan Adkins	Network Administrator			12 months
Ken Stanley	Director of Buildings and Grounds			12 months
Ronald Kaczorowski	Director of Transportation			11 months
Ann Lewandowski	Director of Foodservice			200 days

Mrs. Moore moved to approve personnel recommendations A through C, as amended, subject to Board approval of an appropriate administrative contract. Motion was seconded by Mr. Peters.

On Roll Call

Ayes: Mrs. Falbo, Mr. King, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Peters, Mr. Troy, Mr. Ventura

Regular Meeting
April 10, 2010

Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED

Abstain: None

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 p.m., Mrs. Moore moved to adjourn the April 10, 2010 Board of Education Meeting, seconded by Mr. Ventura. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote.



President



Secretary

The reductions made include, but were not limited to:

Eliminated Assistant Principal positions at MJHS and MES	190,000	
Eliminated teaching positions due to declining enrollment	540,000	
Eliminated outside contractor for painting of exterior metalwork at MJHS. Work completed by district employees.	20,000	
Eliminated outside technology consulting	30,000	
Eliminated employee Years of Service Awards, Staff Appreciation Week activities, Holiday cards	16,660	
Eliminated Roof Maintenance Program	11,000	
Eliminated 2nd Grade Terra-Nova testing	6,500	
New Superintendent Contract	60,554	
New Assistant Superintendent Contract	50,593	
Canceled Phase IV Roof Resurfacing Program	80,000	
Canceled Phase IV Blacktop resurface and sealcoat	25,000	
Switched to a managed print program throughout the district	8,544	
Renegotiated Utility Gas Contract	3,525	
Discontinued district quarterly publication, <i>Sound the Bell</i> (printing and postage costs)	9,000	
Total saved:		1,051,376
Revenue was increased by:		
Increased student/lunch fees	28,800	
Charged non-qualifying transportation fees	15,400	
Total increased revenue:		44,200
Total		\$1,095,576

In December 2009, the Board prepared for additional reductions to be made if the majority of the voting community did not support the February referendum. The additional planned reductions included:

Eliminating teachers due to reduction to half day kindergarten and increased class sizes	705,287	
Eliminating Schedule B activities and Band/Chorus	250,000	
Reallocating Title II funds from professional development activities to Class Size Reduction	87,858	
Reduction in number of Classified Staff	168,536	
Eliminating 1.0 FTE Administrators	76,539	
Total planned reductions:		1,288,220
Planned revenue increases:		
Increasing Building Usage Fees	17,152	
Increasing Registration Fees	121,385	
Total increased revenue:		138,537
Total following referendum		\$1,426,757

Additional actions following the reductions and increases of December:

Administrative Staff wage freeze	26,404	
Classified Staff wage freeze	72,817	
Reduction of school purchased supplies from \$78 per child to \$50 per child	60,000	
Reduction in Board Training	7,700	
Reduction in copy paper	11,993	
Reduction of technology acquisition	29,500	
Elimination of painting of classrooms	1,300	
Total additional reductions:		209,714
Total combined increases and reductions to date		\$2,732,047

In addition to the above defined measures, the Board of Education has also examined the possibility of outsourcing transportation. We have found that by providing our own transportation we are saving approximately \$200,000 per year.

In continued examination of our programs and expenditures, a previously approved action item from 2001 was found that was never formally adopted into Board Policy which gives retiring administrators health insurance coverage. The Board will rescind this immediately by adopting new policy to be approved at the May Board of Education meeting.