

August 22, 2007  
West Norriton, PA

## **MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD MINUTES**

### 1. Call to Order

Board President, Joseph Chmielewski, called the meeting to order at 7:51 p.m. on August 22, 2007 and welcomed new board member, Mr. David Hakes of the Upper Moreland School District.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Roll Call

Joseph Chmielewski, President, Upper Dublin School District	Present
John Grispon, Vice President, Spring-Ford School District	Present
Tracy G. Cole, Secretary, Souderton Area School District	Present
Marie A. Knox, Treasurer, Upper Merion School District	Present
Randy Bennett, Perkiomen Valley School District	Present
Russel S. Bleiler, Hatboro-Horsham School District	Absent
Frances Boo Crofton, Wissahickon School District	Present
Diane DiBonaventuro, Lower Merion School District	Present
Malcolm Gran, Springfield Twp. School District	Absent
David Hakes, Upper Moreland School District	Present
Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Pottstown School District	Present
Marc Lieberon, Cheltenham School District	Absent
Vicki Lightcap, Upper Perkiomen School District	Absent
Cedric McKeever, Lower Moreland School District	Absent
Jeannette Maitin, Abington School District	Present
Margaret Martinez, Methacton School District	Absent
Ted Miller, Jenkintown School District	Present
Janice Pearce, Norristown Area School District	Absent
Thayer Pendleton, Bryn Athyn School District	Absent
Vincent Sherpinsky, North Penn School District	Present
Gordon Whitlock, Pottsgrove School District	Absent
Mitch Zimmer, Colonial School District	Absent

### Others

Jerry W. Shiveley, Executive Director	Present
Jeffrey Sultanik, Solicitor	Present

4. Presentation of Annie Sullivan Award

The IU Public Relations Consortium and the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units jointly sponsor the Annie Sullivan Awards. This award recognizes an individual in education who exemplifies caring involvement with disabled students, and who has helped others in the community to understand and accept students with disabilities.

The 2007 Annie Sullivan Award recipient is Anderson School teacher, Karen Stover-Perri. Anderson School Director, Mary Ann Franklin, introduced Ms. Stover-Perri and spoke of her outstanding abilities and dedication to children with special needs

5. Approval of Minutes of July 25, 2007

**Motion:** It was moved by Mrs. Cole and seconded by Mrs. Maitin that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the minutes of the June 27, 2007 and July 25, 2007 board meeting.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mr. Chmielewski asked if there were any public comments regarding agenda items. Since there were none, the board proceeded with the agenda.

7. Approval of Payment of Bills as Included in the June 2007 Treasurer's Report and Approval of Bills as Included in the July 2007 Treasurer's Report

Ms. Knox presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. The cash balance as of July 31, 2007 was \$11,557,950.32.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Knox and seconded by Mrs. Maitin that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the June payment of bills and approve the July Treasurer's Report and the payment of bills.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

8. Personnel Report

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Knox that the Intermediate Unit Board ratify the July Personnel actions taken and approve the personnel recommendations as listed as Item 2.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## 9. Reports of Staff

### a. Dr. Jeanmarie Mason

Dr. Mason's report reflects on the accomplishments of the Special Education staff during the 2006-2007 school year. Dr. Mason's report also highlighted a letter from the Office of Child Development and Early Learning which indicated that the final review of the Early Intervention Improvement Plan had been completed and all action steps were marked as approved. In addition, Dr. Mason thanked Mr. Chmielewski and Dr. Shiveley for welcoming the Special Education staff at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Summer Academy.

### b. Mr. Stan Wisler

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Sherpinsky and seconded by Mr. Miller that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the Action Items, Continuing Projects, and Project Approvals listed below.

#### **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### 1. Management Services

Recommendation to accept the following bid of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit School Entities Joint Purchasing Board on Heating Oil, Unleaded Gasoline, Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel and Bio-Diesel.

Bid specifications for heating fuel oil, diesel fuel and gasoline were prepared and sent to nineteen (19) vendors. Six (6) bids were received and opened at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 19, 2007.

The Montgomery County School Entities Joint Purchasing Board met on Friday, July 20, 2007 and is recommending acceptance of the fixed price and variable bids for the 2007/08 fiscal year as described on the attached sheet.

#### 2. Technology Information Systems (TIS)

##### Recommendation to Accept Project Management Grant Funds

Approval is requested to accept funds in the amount of \$221,573.76 from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for providing project management for the "Classrooms For The Future" statewide initiative. This project management grant is for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

### 3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development

#### Project Continuation - Adult Basic and Literacy Education Application

Approval is requested to accept a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education in the amount of \$60,228.00 for continuation of the Adult Basic and Literacy Education project. The grant provides for Adult Secondary Education (ASE) and General Education Development (GED) instruction which includes instruction at grade levels nine through twelve point nine and is designed for the adult who is literate and can function in everyday life, but is not proficient in English, or Mathematics; or does not have a certificate of graduation or its equivalent from a school providing secondary education. The grant is for the time period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

#### c. Dr. Sharon Richardson

Dr. Richardson reported that H.R. 2272, known as the American Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology Education and Science (COMPETES) was signed into law on August 2, 2007.

Dr. Richardson also brought attention to the workshop being hosted on November 8th by MCIU for board members and superintendents. Information flyers were attached to Dr. Richardson's report.

Board President, Joseph Chmielewski, announced at this point that the Legislative Policy Council will meet October 3-4 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. He asked board members to let him know if they are interested in representing MCIU on this council.

#### d. Mrs. Gail Kennedy

Mrs. Kennedy reports that TIS is working to submit the Act 183 eFund Grant in an effort to connect the remaining school districts to the county regional network. Mrs. Kennedy also reported that the TIS division is busy processing the child accounting data for the new school year.

#### e. Dr. Peter Grande

Dr. Grande reports that CIPD offers a variety of school improvement services, emphasizing the "Getting Results" school improvement planning model being used as a proactive approach to help students succeed. Dr. Grande reported on the State Board Roundtable Hearings held on June 27<sup>th</sup>, noting that no changes will be made until all of the hearings are completed and the information is compiled.

f. Mr. Tom Padden

Mr. Tom Padden was not in attendance. His board report stands as sent.

g. Dr. Janet Sloand

Dr. Sloand's report focused on PaTTAN's continuing work to insure that schools have the support and training needed to support Autism Disorders. Attached to Dr. Sloand's report was an information brochure entitled, "*Autism on the Web*".

h. Mr. Tom Bauer

Mr. Bauer reported that the Communications' Division is preparing a marketing brochure and a style book to help unify both internal and external communication and print messages. In addition, the 2007 Annual Report is in production.

10. Report of the Solicitor

Mr. Sultanik had no report.

11. Report of the Executive Director

Dr. Shiveley reported on the governor's Good Cents Bill, which was designed to help the school districts and intermediate units look at strategies to economize. The bill did not pass, but a \$1 million appropriation was approved. Mr. John M. Troxel, PDE's Deputy Secretary of Administration, is writing the rules on how to distribute these funds. Dr. Shiveley has recommended that the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit participate in the pilot program.

Dr. Shiveley reported that his individual meetings with the superintendents are ongoing. He has a list of six questions which he poses to the superintendents regarding the IU's services. Feedback and suggestions have been positive, particularly with regard to the IU staff.

Regarding the Division Spotlights for the upcoming year, Dr. Shiveley asked the board members for topics they would like addressed, and said to contact his secretary, RoseAnn Westerfer with their suggestions.

Dr. Shiveley informed the board that he and Dr. Richardson are working with Tom Sullivan, Director of Montgomery County Emergency Preparedness, to establish a school safety staff position to work with the school districts on school safety issues.

Dr. Shiveley mentioned that an article regarding the Anderson School move to the Valley Forge Corporate Center appeared in the Times Herald. It was a balanced report written by the paper's business reporter.

Dr. Shiveley announced that the AESA Annual Conference is scheduled for November 28<sup>th</sup> - December 1<sup>st</sup> in Tampa, Florida. The IU would like to take two board members to this conference and asked if anyone is interested to contact his secretary, Rose Ann, and let her know. Mr. Chmielewski expressed an interest in attending.

Dr. Shiveley informed the new board members that a New Board Member Orientation would be scheduled for late September or early October.

Dr. Shiveley complemented Dr. Jean Mason on the Summer Academy.

12. Report of Board Committees

Mr. Chmielewski reported that the Finance Committee met prior to tonight's board meeting to review the Management Services Report.

An Executive Session was held prior to tonight's board meeting to discuss the Anderson School facilities.

13. Old Business

There was no old business.

14. New Business

Mr. Chmielewski announced that the Finance Committee is looking for a volunteer to replace him since he is now the Board President. Mr. Vince Sherpinsky volunteered to take a position on the Finance Committee.

Mr. Chmielewski announced that a Board Retreat would not be necessary this year unless a burning issue or goal arises that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Chmielewski brought attention to the Monte Carlo Night flyer included in the board packet and asked the board members to consider attending this event which raises money for special needs children.

15. Additional Public Comments

Mrs. Maitin handed out brochures for an organization on which she serves as vice president. She mentioned that the group is a social organization for adults age 18 and up with developmental disabilities.

16. The date of the next Intermediate Unit Board Meeting will be **September 26, 2007, West Norriton Conference Room at 7:45 p.m.**

17. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mrs. Maitin and seconded by Mr. Miller, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.